PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part IB

Monday 27 May 2019

Paper 7

POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

Answer three questions only

Write the number of the question at the beginning of each answer. If you are answering an either/or question, indicate the letter as well.

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS

20 page answer book × 1
Rough work pad

You may not start to read the questions printed on the subsequent pages of this question paper until instructed that you may do so by the Invigilator.
1. If a majority persistently outvotes a minority group in some regime, can this regime count as a democracy?

2. ‘One person, one vote.’ Is this necessary or sufficient for a decision-making procedure to count as democratic?

3. Should a democratic representative legislate on the basis of their own conscience?

4. Did Rawls simply engineer the Original Position to deliver precisely those principles he already preferred? Would it be so bad if he had?

5. EITHER: (a) Are free exchanges justice-preserving?
   
   OR: (b) Does the idea that we own the fruits of our labour support or conflict with egalitarianism?

6. Is it unjust that you are better off than people in the past?

7. Equality of what?

8. How, if at all, can an agent be rendered unfree by their own desires?

9. EITHER: (a) ‘There is no liberty without the state.’ Discuss.
   
   OR: (b) ‘There is no liberty without the liberty to resist the state.’ Discuss.

10. EITHER: (a) ‘To be subject to another agent’s will is to be unfree. All employees are subject to their employer’s will. So all employees are unfree.’ Discuss.
    
    OR: (b) ‘When it comes to understanding political liberty, either Hobbes already said it, or it isn’t worth saying.’ What do you say?