

PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part IB

Monday 29 May 2017

13.30 – 16.30

Paper 1

METAPHYSICS AND EPISTEMOLOGY

*Answer **three** questions only.*

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

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS

20 Page Answer Book x 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**

- 2 -

1. EITHER: 'We do not need positive reasons for thinking that testimony is reliable in order to be justified in accepting it. If we did not assume that testimony was generally reliable, testimony could not exist.'
Discuss.

OR: Can I come to know that p on the basis of a speaker's testimony that p only if the speaker knows that p?
2. 'It is possible that p iff there is some world w such that p is true at w.'
Should we take this possible world analysis as a mere game of make-believe rather than at face-value?
3. Is the feeling of regret a problem for counterpart theory?
4. Is the distinction between primary and secondary qualities philosophically defensible?
5. Should we accept idealism?
6. Is knowledge a primitive concept?
7. 'Knowledge is a state of belief arising out of acts of intellectual virtue.'
Discuss.
8. Does the argument from hallucination show that we are never aware of mind-independent objects?
9. 'Externalism says that our beliefs are justified, provided that they are connected with the world in the right way. But the sceptic challenges precisely whether our beliefs are so connected. So externalism is no use in responding to the sceptic.' Discuss.
10. Can disjunctivists give a satisfactory explanation of illusion?

END OF PAPER