

PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part II

Friday 26 May 2006

9 to 12

Paper 1

METAPHYSICS

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.

The questions marked with an asterisk may not be answered by candidates also offering Paper 9: Wittgenstein.

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**

- 1 **Either** (a) Are minimalists about truth automatically realists?
 Or (b) Do truths require facts to make them true?
- 2 Is there a gap between believing a theory to be empirically adequate and believing it outright?
- 3 What, if anything, would commit you to the existence of universals?
- 4 **Either** (a) Does ‘the problem of late pre-emption’ undermine any counterfactual theory of causation?
 Or (b) Are singular causal facts dependent upon the laws of nature?
- 5 Why should anyone believe that what we perceive continues to exist unperceived?
- 6 Do transcendental arguments depend on idealist assumptions?
- 7 **Either** (a) Does continuing to be the same person require continuing to be the same animal?
 Or (b) ‘According to the psychological theory of personal identity, I shouldn’t worry about getting a pension.’ Discuss.
- 8 **Either** (a) How do the past and future differ from the present?
 Or (b) Is time travel possible?
- 9 In what sense, if any, does the ability to think about other people’s thoughts require grasp of a theory of mind?
- 10 **Either** (a) Must I know my own mental states better than those of others?
 Or (b) Can functionalism give an adequate account of sensation?
- *11 ‘If the world has no substance, then whether a proposition had sense would depend on whether another proposition was true.’ (TLP, 2.0211). Discuss.
- *12 Discuss Wittgenstein’s claim in the *Tractatus* that ‘A believes that *p*’ is to be analysed as having the same form as ‘“p” says that *p*’.

END OF PAPER