PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS     Part II

Wednesday 27 May 2015 09.00 – 12.00

Paper 9

WITTGENSTEIN

Answer three questions only.

Write the number of the question at the beginning of each answer.

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. ‘The world is everything that is the case. The world is the totality of facts, not of things.’ (TLP 1.1) Discuss.

2. ‘But it is clear that “A believes that p”, “A thinks p”, “A says p”, are of the form “p’ says p”: and here we have no co-ordination of a fact and an object, but a co-ordination of facts by means of a co-ordination of their objects.’ (TLP 5.542) Discuss.

3. Does the Tractatus propose an adequate formal language for describing the world?

4. What could it mean for the world to ‘wax and wane as a whole’? (TLP 6.43).

5. Did the later Wittgenstein ever improve on his Tractatus account of solipsism?

6. ‘Augustine describes the learning of human language as if the child came into a foreign country and did not understand the language of the country; that is, as if he already had a language, only not this one.’ (PI §32) Discuss.

7. ‘But are the steps then not determined by the algebraic formula?’ – The question contains a mistake.’ (PI §189) What mistake?

8. What significance does the notion of a family resemblance have in the Philosophical Investigations?

9. Can a dog simulate pain?

10. Does On Certainty contain any argument which shows that you are not now dreaming?

11. ‘Here is a hand.’ Do you know this?

END OF PAPER