

PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part II

SPECIMEN PAPER 2003

Paper 1

METAPHYSICS

*Answer **three** questions only*

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

**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. Can two material objects be in the same place at once?
2. Either (a) If truths need facts to make them true, how can Presentists say anything true about the past?
OR: (b) If our present time is the only temporal location that exists, should we treat our present location as the only spatial location that exists?
3. Either (a) Is 'I' a referring term? If so, what does it refer to?
OR: (b) 'The subject does not belong to the world but it is a limit of the world.' Discuss.
4. Either (a) How, according to the Tractatus, do I succeed in expressing that a certain state of affairs (atomic fact) occurs?
OR: (b) What are the objects of the Tractatus?
5. In what sense, if any, are there alternative conceptual schemes? If they exist, does their existence have important implications?
6. 'Sceptical doubts about the material world should not be answered but cured.' Discuss.
7. Is causal realism established by the fact that we can observe causal connections? Or by the fact that without them the order of nature would be a miracle?
8. 'Scientists can do good science in ignorance of the history of science but philosophers cannot do good philosophy without knowledge of the history of philosophy.' Discuss.
9. Is there a clear distinction between universals and particulars?
10. Must a cause necessitate its effects?

END OF PAPER