PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS     Part II

Monday 06 June 2011  09.00 to 12.00

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) What is 'internal realism'? Is it the strongest defensible form of realism or not?

Or (b) Could you currently be a brain in a vat?

2 Are there good reasons to doubt that personal identity over time consists in psychological continuity?

3 Can two objects share all their properties?

4 'If McTaggart's argument shows the unreality of time then it also shows the unreality of space.' Discuss.

5 Can something be true relative to one conceptual scheme and false relative to another?

6 Either (a) How, if at all, do causes 'explain' their effects?

Or (b) What are causes, and how are they related to their effects?

7 Either (a) Describe and assess the strongest argument against an ontology of facts.

Or (b) Do we need facts as truth makers?

8 Does a relation require to be related to its terms in order to relate them? If not, why not? If so, is it inevitable that a vicious regress arises?

9 Is it an ultimate and irreducible fact that square things are square?

10 Is there a useful distinction to be drawn between sparse and abundant properties?

*11 Describe and assess the atomism of Wittgenstein's *Tractatus*.

*12 'Propositions can represent the whole of reality but they cannot represent what they must have in common with reality in order to be able to represent it.' (*Tractatus*) Discuss.

END OF PAPER