

**PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part II**

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Wednesday 30 May 2001

9 to 12

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Paper 4

HISTORY OF MODERN PHILOSOPHY II

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.*

*Questions marked with an asterisk may not be answered by candidates also offering Paper 9.*

**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 Discuss, with regard **either** to arithmetical **or** to geometrical propositions, Kant's reasons for thinking that they are synthetic. Why is this important to him?
- \*2 What, for Kant, is a category, and how do we find out which of our concepts are categories? Why do categories need a transcendental deduction?
- \*3 **Either** (a) What are the problems with rational psychology?  
**Or** (b) What dangers, in Kant's view, are inherent in Ideas of Reason? What is their proper use? Do you find his doctrine plausible?
- 4 On what grounds does Hegel claim that his own philosophy is the only alternative to scepticism?
- 5 Why does Hegel say that freedom is the substance of spirit?
- 6 **Either** (a) Why, according to Hegel, must philosophical thought be 'speculative'?  
**Or** (b) Schopenhauer said that Hegel was crazy to think that 'concepts without our assistance think and move by themselves'. Was he right?
- 7 **Either** (a) Why does Nietzsche reject Aristotle's account of tragedy?  
**Or** (b) Is Nietzsche's account of the distinction between the visual arts and music philosophically plausible?
- 8 It isn't just that God is dead — apparently we killed him. Why did we do it, according to Nietzsche?
- 9 What does Nietzsche mean by saying that truth is only dead metaphor?
- 10 **Either** (a) Is Heidegger right to claim that a proper understanding of human temporality requires one to give priority to the future over the present?  
**Or** (b) What, for Heidegger, is *Dasein*, and why is it so important?
- 11 Is Heidegger's claim that metaphysics must have a historical dimension defensible?
- 12 Was Heidegger a pragmatist?

END OF PAPER