

**PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part II**

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Monday 01 June 2009

09.00 to 12.00

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Paper 8

PHILOSOPHICAL LOGIC

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.*

**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 What exactly should a theory of meaning explain?
- 2 **Either** (a) Should meaning-theoretic considerations settle our logic?  
**Or** (b) Should meaning-theoretic considerations settle our metaphysics?
- 3 Could two translation manuals be both unimprovable and incompatible?
- 4 'Following a linguistic rule is just a matter of being disposed to use language in a certain way.' Discuss.
- 5 **Either** (a) What is the problem of co-tenability for counterfactuals? Can it be solved?  
**Or** (b) Should we accept the Adams Thesis about the probability of conditionals?
- 6 **Either** (a) Are plural terms really singular terms in disguise?  
**Or** (b) What is collective predication? Explain how it makes the logic of plurals non-trivial.
- 7 'Necessarily, water is H<sub>2</sub>O; so the inference "The cup contains water. Hence the cup contains H<sub>2</sub>O" is necessarily truth-preserving, and hence logically valid.' Discuss.
- 8 What sort of truths, if any, are true by convention?
- 9 How much of mathematics is based on intuition?
- 10 Is a structuralist philosophy of mathematics defensible?
- 11 Does Hume's Principle tell us all we need to know about numbers?
- 12 **Either** (a) What is the strongest version of the Indispensability Argument? What does it show?  
**Or** (b) Is mathematical knowledge of abstract objects impossible?

END OF PAPER