

**PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part II**

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Wednesday 28 May 2008

09.00 to 12.00

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Paper 9

WITTGENSTEIN

Answer **three** questions only.

*Write the number of the question at the beginning of each answer. If you are answering the either/or question, indicate the letter as well.*

*Candidates taking this paper may not answer questions on the Tractatus in Paper 1: Metaphysics.*

**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 Describe and assess the logical atomism of the *Tractatus*.
- 2 'Any correct theory of judgment must show that it is impossible to judge a piece of nonsense' (*Tractatus*). Discuss.
- 3 Assess the 'new' (or 'resolute') reading of the *Tractatus*.
- 4 Did Wittgenstein's views about solipsism change from early to late? If so, how?
- 5 Is 'and so on' always an abbreviation?
- 6 Why do public languages not face the difficulties that Wittgenstein raised for private ones?
- 7 **Either** (a) What would a 'meaning-blind' person miss?  
**Or** (b) 'What gives us so much as the idea that living beings, things, can feel?' (*PI* 283).
- 8 What is the relation between a desire and its object?
- 9 'To be rightly certain that *p* one needs to know that *p*.' What response to this claim is suggested by Wittgenstein's reflections in *On Certainty*? And is this response correct?
- 10 'I do not explicitly learn the propositions that stand fast for me. I can discover them subsequently like the axis around which a body rotates. This axis is not fixed in the sense that anything holds it fast, but the movement around it determines its immobility' (*On Certainty*). Discuss.

END OF PAPER