PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS  Part II

Wednesday 30 May 2012  13.30 to 16.30

Paper 9

WITTGENSTEIN

Answer three questions only.

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

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 Why does Wittgenstein suppose that the world is the totality of facts, not of things? Is he right?

2 Is Wittgenstein's account of reference Fregean or Russellian?

3 'God does not reveal himself in the world.' (Tractatus, 6.432) Discuss.

4 'Wittgenstein believed that the Tractatus was important nonsense.' Discuss.

5 How effective are Wittgenstein's later criticisms of the Tractatus doctrine of simple objects?

6 Does the Philosophical Investigations achieve what Wittgenstein describes in that book as the aim of philosophy?

7 'This was our paradox: no course of action could be determined by a rule, because any course of action can be made out to accord with the rule.' (Philosophical Investigations, 201) Discuss.

8 What, according to Wittgenstein, is wrong with 'understanding somebody else's pain on the model of my own'? Are his criticisms of the idea effective?

9 Was Wittgenstein ever a contextualist about meaning?

10 Explain and assess the significance of colour concepts for Wittgenstein. You may focus on one or more works.

11 'I am certain that p', 'I know that p'. Does Wittgenstein have anything significant to suggest about the similarities and differences between these two sentences?

12 'I want to say: propositions of the form of empirical propositions, and not only propositions of logic, form the foundation of all operating with thoughts (with language).'</(On Certainty, 401) Discuss.

END OF PAPER