PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS  Part II

Monday 02 June 2008  09.00 to 12.00

Paper 11

AESTHETICS

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 Is there a way of characterising the aesthetic experience?

2 Either (a) Can we try to make a work of art and fail? What does your answer tell us about the concept of art?

Or (b) Is the concept of art a cluster concept?

3 Either (a) Is expression in the arts a matter of resemblance between the work of art and the appearance of a person expressing an emotion?

Or (b) What role, if any, does imagination play in the experience of expression in the arts?

4 Can aesthetic and ethical responses to a work of art ever be fully distinct?

5 In engaging with a work of art are we engaging with the artist's intentions?

6 Is there no disputing taste?

7 Does Plato present a good case for not regarding art as contributing to a worthwhile life?

8 Could one plausibly hold a view of art that was in some important sense 'Platonic' while at the same time rejecting Plato's actual metaphysics?

9 Either (a) Is Hume's account of the standard of taste too optimistic to be plausible?

Or (b) Can Hume plausibly account for the role reasoning seems to play in the judgments critics make about works of art?

10 What role, if any, does convention play in pictorial representation?