

**PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part II**

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Monday 02 June 2008

09.00 to 12.00

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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?

END OF PAPER