PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part II

Monday 27 May 2019 09.00 – 12.00

Paper 4

EUROPEAN PHILOSOPHY FROM KANT

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 × 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. EITHER: (a) Present one of Kant’s arguments for Transcendental Idealism. Does it succeed?

OR: (b) ‘The apodeictic certainty of all geometrical propositions, and the possibility of their a priori construction, is grounded in the a priori necessity of space’ (KANT). Do you agree?

2. ‘The principle [of the Analogies of Experience] is: experience is possible only through the representation of a necessary connection of perceptions’ (KANT). Discuss in relation to one of the Analogies of Experience.

3. Does Kant show that the existence of objects in space outside me is a condition of the possibility of my being conscious of my existence as determined in time?

4. Is Kant’s attack on rational psychology successful?

5. Is Hegel a realist?

6. ‘Hegel’s so-called “dialectical method” is too haphazard to warrant the title of a “methodology”.’ Discuss.

7. Can we have ‘knowledge of the immediate or of what simply is’? (HEGEL)

8. EITHER: (a) Who does Hegel think wins the struggle between master and slave? Is he right?

OR: (b) To view freedom as the ability to ‘do whatever one pleases’ is a product of ‘completely uneducated, crude, superficial thinking’ (HEGEL). Discuss.

9. What good, if any, could come from a ‘slave revolution in values’?

10. EITHER: (a) Can genealogy be philosophical?

OR: (b) ‘Psychology is again the path to the fundamental problems’ (NIETZSCHE). Do you agree?

11. ‘There is no such thing as pessimistic art – Art affirms’ (NIETZSCHE). Is Nietzsche right?

12. Is Nietzsche’s perspectivism true?

END OF PAPER