PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS, PART IB

Tuesday 31 May 2022 11am-4pm

Paper 1

KNOWLEDGE, LANGUAGE AND THE WORLD

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.

For each question do not write more than 2000 words.
1. Can the distinction between primary and secondary qualities be understood wholly in terms of response dependence?

2. What is evidence?

3. EITHER: (a) Can truth-tracking conditions, such as safety or sensitivity, provide the basis for a successful analysis of knowledge?
   OR: (b) Is knowledge unanalyzable?

4. Can we avoid scepticism by ignoring it?

5. Should the internalist be more troubled than the externalist by scepticism?

6. What would we lose if we couldn’t talk about truth?

7. Many theories of truth hold that ‘Eating people is wrong’ is equivalent to ‘“Eating people is wrong” is true’. Are such theories committed to thinking that moral realism is trivially true?

8. EITHER: (a) Does formalization reveal our commitments?
   OR: (b) Might ‘nothing’ denote nothing?

9 ‘The saintly crusader, who would like to live in a world without avoidable misery, is something like the snob who would like to live in a better part of town … The crusader wants to be in a nice part of logical space, whereas the snob wants to be in a nice part of ordinary space.’ Is this a decisive objection to modal realism?

10. What would it mean for modality to be a fiction?

END OF PAPER