

PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS, PART IB

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Monday 06 June 2022

11am-4pm

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Paper 3

ETHICS

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. Why should an agent be virtuous?
2. How should we decide between competing ethical theories?
3. EITHER (a): Does moral rationalism rest on intellectualism about human motivation?  
  
OR (b): What grounds the normative authority of morality? Answer with reference to early modern voluntarism and rationalism.
4. Does the sentimentalist have a convincing account of how we learn about morality?
5. 'You are obligated to  $\phi$  only if you have reason to  $\phi$ . You have reason to  $\phi$  only if you are motivated to  $\phi$ . You are not motivated to  $\phi$ , therefore you are not obligated to  $\phi$ .' Discuss.
6. EITHER (a): How does the fact that two adults both consent to something change their normative situation?  
  
OR (b): What normative difference does a promise make?
7. Other things being equal, given the choice between saving a smaller or greater number of people, you should save the greater number. However, other things being equal, given the choice between saving a life or saving many people from minor injury, you should save a life. Are these two commitments consistent?
8. Are rightness and wrongness a matter of the justifiability of the principles we act on? What would that entail about our obligations to those in need?
9. Even if all virtuous actions are right, are they right because they are virtuous?
10. Should we aspire to be moral saints?

**END OF PAPER**