

PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part IA

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12:00 noon BST Monday 21 June 2021 –  
12:00 noon BST Tuesday 22 June 2021

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Paper 2

ETHICS & POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

Answer **three** questions only

*Write the number of the question at the beginning of each answer.*

*For each question do not write more than **2000** words.*

1. 'If there were moral facts, then they would be entities of a very strange sort, utterly different from anything else in the universe.' Does the defender of moral facts have a good reply to this objection?
2. How sharply, if at all, can fact and value be distinguished?
3. Can we ever be justified in bringing about anything less than the best outcome?
4. If moral rules always have exceptions, is there any point to having them?
5. Is it a good objection to virtue ethics that it fails to give us any practical guidance?
6. 'Evolution ensures that only the selfish survive, so altruism can only be a sham.' Discuss.
7. If you benefit from the state, does it follow that you ought to obey its laws?
8. Does the consent of citizens to obey the laws of a state make that state legitimate?
9. 'Equalising outcomes denies the importance of individual responsibility and free choice. Justice only requires equality of opportunity.' Discuss.
10. 'If discrimination serves the purpose of undermining the oppression of a group, it may be not only permitted, but morally required.' Discuss.

**END OF PAPER**