

PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part IA

12:00 noon BST Thursday 10 June 2021 –
12:00 noon BST Friday 11 June 2021

Paper 3

MEANING

Answer **three** questions only

Write the number of the question at the beginning of each answer. If you are answering the either/or question, indicate the letter as well.

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

1. Is there a plausible version of the verification principle?
2. Is meaning a matter of convention?
3. EITHER: (a) 'All necessary truths are knowable *a priori*.' Discuss.
OR: (b) 'Only analytic truths are knowable *a priori*.' Discuss.
4. Is the sentence 'The present King of France is bald' (i) false or (ii) neither true nor false? Why?
5. Although Mark Twain is Samuel Clemens, Sally believes that Mark Twain is a great writer but does not believe that Samuel Clemens is. Does Frege's notion of sense explain how this can be?
6. What do you consider to be the best causal-historical theory of reference? Is it a plausible theory?
7. 'The indicative conditional of ordinary English is just the logician's material conditional.' Discuss.
8. Is Quine right about analytic truths?
9. According to Frege, does the sentence 'Dumbledore does not exist' have a sense? Is Frege's view on this plausible?
10. Can a sentence that has never been uttered have meaning?

END OF PAPER