PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part IB

12:00 noon BST Monday 14 June 2021 –
12:00 noon BST Tuesday 15 June 2021

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. What, if anything, do Gettier cases teach us about the nature of knowledge?

2. Can a perfectly reliable clairvoyant know the propositions he or she intuits through clairvoyance?

3. Is the Moorean response to scepticism effective?

4. Can you defeat the sceptic simply by changing the subject?

5. EITHER: (A) ‘Primary qualities resemble the ideas they produce in our minds, whereas secondary qualities do not.’ Is this a satisfactory way of drawing the primary-secondary quality distinction?
   OR: (B) If no-one had ever existed to see them, would objects be coloured?

6. Do verbs of action have a hidden argument place?

7. In what sense, if any, do ‘Alice walks faster than me’ and ‘Nobody walks faster than me’ differ in logical form?

8. EITHER: (A) ‘To say that it is true that sea water is salty is just to say that sea water is salty.’ What, if anything, does this tell us about truth?
   OR: (B) Why do we have a truth predicate?

9. Does Lewis’s Concrete Modal Realism provide an adequate reduction of metaphysical modality?

10. Might modality be a fiction?

END OF PAPER