PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part IB

12:00 noon BST Monday 7 June 2021 –
12:00 noon BST Tuesday 8 June 2021

Paper 2

HISTORY OF ANALYTIC PHILOSOPHY

*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.   EITHER: (A) What is wrong with Frege's treatment of identity in his *Begriffsschrift?*

      OR: (B) Critically assess the role of functions in Frege's account of predication and quantification.

2.   EITHER: (A) Explain the role of extensions of concepts in Frege's development of arithmetic. How did they give rise to Russell's paradox?

      OR: (B) 'But it is surely obvious that every theory is only a scaffolding or schema of concepts together with their necessary relations to one another, and that the basic elements can be thought of in any way one likes.' (HILBERT) Discuss.

3.   Expound the theory of denoting concepts presented in Russell's *The Principles of Mathematics.* Was he right to abandon it in 'On Denoting'?

4.   Why did Russell aim to construct things from appearances? Did he succeed?

5.   What did Wittgenstein think was wrong with Russell's multiple relation theory of judgment? Was Wittgenstein's own theory any better?

6.   Critically assess Wittgenstein's account of objects and their forms in the *Tractatus.*

7.   'The self of solipsism shrinks to a point without extension, and there remains the reality co-ordinated with it.' *(Tractatus,* 5.64) Discuss.

8.   Was Ramsey correct to criticise Russell's theory of types for consisting of two distinct parts which were 'unified by being both deduced in a rather sloppy way from the vicious-circle principle'?

9.   Was Ramsey correct to argue that no fundamental classification of objects can be based on the distinction between the subject and predicate of a proposition?

10.   Compare and contrast the views on truth of at least two of the authors set for this paper.

END OF PAPER