

PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS, PART II

Wednesday 01 June 2022

10am-3pm

Paper 11

AESTHETICS

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. Ai Weiwei's latest Cambridge exhibition has received mixed reviews. You did not go to the exhibition yourself, but what, if anything, can you learn from these reviews?
2. 'Musical works are discovered not created, so a good composer needn't be creative.' Discuss.
3. Should I care about the artist's intentions when interpreting their artwork?
4. 'There is no such thing as a moral or an immoral book. Books are well written, or badly written. That is all.' Discuss.
5. Is aesthetic experience a myth?
6. 'The problem with aesthetic definitions of art is that they are both too narrow and too broad.' Discuss.
7. Why might a person value a genuine Vermeer more than an excellent forgery? Are they right to do this?
8. If there are no ideal critics, can Hume's theory of taste still be of value?
9. Are Plato's criticisms of art justified?
10. Is Kant right that pleasure in the beautiful involves a 'free play' between imagination and understanding?

END OF PAPER