PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS, PART II

Tuesday 07 June 2022 11am-4pm

Paper 3

ETHICS

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): ‘Current generations should leave future generations with a standard of living that is no worse than the one that they themselves enjoy.’ Discuss.

   OR (b): Is the key challenge for environmental ethics convincing human beings that they are custodians rather than owners of the earth?

2. Do non-human animals have ends? What, if anything, follows from our answer to this question?

3. EITHER (a): May we eat our fellow creatures?

   OR (b): Are dogs trustworthy?

4. ‘Torture would be wrong even if nobody thought so. Any theory which suggests otherwise is mistaken.’ Discuss.

5. EITHER (a): Is there anything distinctively difficult about attaining ethical knowledge?

   OR (b): Does neuroscience have anything useful to tell us about metaethics?

6. Is accepting moral testimony uniquely problematic?

7. ‘It is impossible to think of anything at all in the world [...] that could be taken to be good without limitation, except a good will’ (KANT). Discuss.

8. To have moral worth, an action must be done ‘not from inclination, but from duty’ (KANT). Is this true?

9. When, if ever, is it rational to trust?

10. Is it an instance of epistemic injustice if I dismiss the vaccine sceptic’s worries?

11. Are there true beliefs that it is morally wrong to hold?

END OF PAPER