

PBT0/PHIL1
Psychological and Behavioural Sciences Tripos, Part IA

Thursday, 23 May 2024

9.00 to 12.00

Paper PHIL1

METAPHYSICS

Answer **three** questions only.

Write the number of the question at the beginning of each answer.

Write your candidate number, **not** your name on the cover sheet of **each** answer booklet.

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS

20 Page Answer Book
x 1 Rough Work Pad

You may not start to read the questions printed on the subsequent pages of this question paper until instructed to do so.

1. What is our ordinary conception of causation, and what is its philosophical significance?
2. How should a counterfactual theorist of causation respond to the problem of overdetermination?
3. Does the possibility of miracles depend on the truth of a regularity theory of laws of nature?
4. How important is the problem of induction for the actual practice of science?
5. 'We best understand the mind not by asking what it is made of, but by asking what it does.' Do you agree?
6. 'I would find it easier to concede matter and extension to the soul than to concede that an immaterial thing could move and be moved by a body.' Do you agree?
7. 'We can make no sense of freedom of the will, but that doesn't matter since we can still properly hold people morally responsible.' Is that right?
8. If my brain is causally determined, does it follow that I am also causally determined?
9. 'Person A at time t_1 is identical to Person B at time t_2 if A and B are related by physical relation R'. What is the best candidate for R?
10. 'If the teletransporter malfunctions and two qualitatively identical versions of you emerge on the other side, you do not survive teletransportation. Therefore, even in cases where the teletransporter does not malfunction, you do not survive teletransportation.' What, if anything, is wrong with this argument?

END OF PAPER