PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part II

12:00 noon BST Thursday 10 June 2021 –
12:00 noon BST Friday 11 June 2021

Paper 8

PHILOSOPHICAL LOGIC

*Answer **three** questions only.*

Write the number of the question at the beginning of each answer. If you are answering the either/or question, indicate the letter as well.

*For each question do not write more than **2000** words.*

1.   'Logic cannot be true by convention because there are infinitely many logical truths.' Discuss.

2.   'Hume's Principle may simply be stipulated as an explanation of the meaning of statements of numerical identity'. Discuss.

3.   Do indispensability arguments refute nominalism about mathematical objects?

4.   Is the law of excluded middle valid in reasoning about the natural numbers?

5.   EITHER: (a) Are indicative conditionals truth-functional?

     OR: (b) Should we accept centring for subjunctive conditionals?

6.   'Although plural terms are present in English, there is no strong reason to include them in a logical system.' Discuss.

7.   Distinguish radical interpretation from radical translation. What is the philosophical significance of the latter?

8.   Is there a best interpretation of probability?

9.   Could empirical data ever give us better reason to revise our logic than to revise some other part of our scientific theory?

10. Does understanding a language amount to having implicit grasp of some theory?

11. What is the point of two-dimensional logic?

END OF PAPER