

PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS, PART IA (PHT0/4)

Wednesday 01 June 2022

10am-3pm

Paper 4

SET TEXTS

Answer **three** questions only, which must be chosen from **at least two** sections.

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

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

SECTION A

1. 'Socrates is only vulnerable to the paradox of inquiry because he insists, absurdly, that one must know the definition of something before one can know anything else about it.' Discuss.
2. Does Socrates give good reasons for supposing the soul to be immortal?
3. 'Socrates leaves it entirely unclear what is involved in "reasoning out the cause", because his discussion consists entirely of obscure examples and analogies.' Is this a fair charge?
4. How seriously should we take the proposal that virtue comes to us as a gift from the gods?

SECTION B

5. In what sense, if any, are Descartes's *Meditations* meditations?
6. How successful are the *Meditations* in providing a firm foundation for the sciences?
7. '... we must necessarily conclude that, from the bare fact that I exist, and that in me there is an idea of a supremely perfect being, that is, God, it is proved beyond question that God also exists.' (DESCARTES) Must we?
8. What is Descartes's best argument for substance dualism?

SECTION C

9. Would Mill have supported the various restrictions on liberty imposed in relation to Covid-19?
10. 'Mill claims that speech must not be prohibited unless it is "a positive instigation to some mischievous act". But this claim either rules out too much speech, or too little.' Discuss.
11. 'Laws and institutions require to be adapted, not to good men, but to bad.' (MILL) Discuss.
12. 'I deny that any one knows, or can know, the nature of the two sexes, as long as they have only been seen in their present relation to one another.' (MILL) Assess this statement, bringing out its political and philosophical implications.

END OF PAPER