

PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part IA

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION FOR PART IB OF THE PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS

Friday 25 May 2001

9 to 12

Paper 1

METAPHYSICS AND PHILOSOPHY OF MIND

Answer **four** 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.

**You may not start to read the questions
printed on the subsequent pages of this
question paper until instructed that you
may do so by the Invigilator**

- 1 In virtue of what do purple things resemble each other?
- 2 **Either** (a) What is time travel, and is it possible?
Or (b) Can one coherently describe events as being past, present and future?
- 3 'Induction is an epistemically reliable method of acquiring belief.' Discuss.
- 4 Could sense perception be unmediated?
- 5 What difficulties face the view that knowledge is true belief with a good reason?
- 6 **Either** (a) Is there an important distinction between exact similarity and numerical identity?
Or (b) Does the notion of an immaterial soul make the issue of personal identity more tractable?
- 7 What considerations might show that knowledge is not possible?
- 8 'Answering the question "What caused the world?" by appealing to God is not only a bad answer, but raises the same question.' Discuss.
- 9 Can human action be at once free and causally determined?
- 10 Could pain exist without a brain?
- 11 'Belief is nothing but a more lively way to conceive an idea.' Discuss.
- 12 If the ways of God are mysterious to man, can we be reconciled to the existence of evil?

END OF PAPER