PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part IA

Wednesday 29th May 2013

09.00 - 12.00

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. If you are answering an either/or question, indicate the letter as well.

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 that you may do so by the Invigilator

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SECTION A Plato, Meno

1. EITHER: Does Plato's *Meno* answer the question it first poses?

OR: If virtue is taught, does it have to be a form of knowledge?

- 2. Does the dialogue form contribute in any significant way to the philosophical content of the *Meno*?
- 3. Is Socrates justified in rejecting Meno's final definition of virtue?
- 4. How reasonable are Socrates' ideas about definition?

SECTION B Hume, Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion

- 1. Why does Philo not answer Cleanthes' 'voice from the clouds' objection in Part II?
- 2. Why might we not be 'led to infer, by all the rules of analogy' that there is a designer God?
- 3. EITHER: Was Hume an 'attenuated deist'?
 - OR: Can we make sense of Philo's pronouncement that 'no one [but him] has a deeper sense of religion impressed on his mind, or pays more profound adoration to the Divine Being, as he discovers himself to reason, in the inexplicable contrivance and artifice of nature'?
- 4. Why does the existence of evil pose a problem for natural religion? Do any of the arguments Hume presents in the *Dialogues* solve this problem?

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SECTION C Mill, On Liberty and The Subjection of Women

1. EITHER: What are the limits of free speech according to Mill? Is this position tenable?

OR: Critically assess Mill's defence of free speech.

- 2. Does Mill succeed in defending equality of the sexes?
- 3. What does Mill mean by the thought that utility 'must be grounded on the permanent interests of man as a progressive being'? Is he right?
- 4. What would Mill have thought about pornography?

END OF PAPER