PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part IA

Monday 24 May 2010

09.00 to 12.00

Paper 2

ETHICS

Answer three 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.

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

- 2 - PHT0/2

- 1 Expound and assess Moore's Open Question argument.
- 2 'I am right to approve of something only if it is worthy of approval; being worthy of approval is therefore not merely a matter of my approval.' Discuss.
- 3 If there are no objective values, is everything permitted?
- 4 What does it mean to say that all human action is selfish? Is it true?
- Can one justify morality to the immoralist? Does the success or failure of such a justification tell us anything about morality?
- What is the strongest argument against indirect consequentialism? Is it convincing?
- 7 **Either** (a) 'There are no moral rights.' Discuss.
 - **Or** (b) Is it sensible for moral philosophers to be more concerned about rights than about duties?
- 8 Is utilitarianism a utopian doctrine?
- 9 **Either** (a) Can a theory of punishment successfully incorporate both forward-looking and backward-looking elements?
 - **Or** (b) Critically assess the claim that punishment consists in the expression of censure.
- 10 Do our desires determine our real interests?

END OF PAPER