

PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part IB

Tuesday 29 May 2007

09.00 to 12.00

Paper 4

HISTORY OF ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY

Answer **three** questions only, at least **one** from **each** section.

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

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**

SECTION A: Plato's *Republic*

- 1 Is Plato's distinction between knowledge and belief tenable?
- 2 Has Plato given convincing arguments for his claim that 'knowledge is of what wholly and truly is'?
- 3 Has Plato shown that the best rulers must be philosophers?
- 4 'Plato's line image concerns education, his cave analogy is about politics.' Is this a fair assessment?
- 5 Why is mathematical training essential for Plato's philosopher rulers?

SECTION B: Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics*

- 6 'We do not altogether have the character of happiness if we look utterly repulsive or are ill-born, solitary, or childless' (NE 1099b3–4). Is Aristotle justified in thinking this?
- 7 If Aristotle bases his account of *eudaimonia* on human nature, is he committed to the claim that there is only one form of happiness for all humans?
- 8 Does Aristotle define friendship in such a way that it becomes attainable only by a very few?
- 9 Does the interdependence of practical wisdom and moral virtue in Aristotle's theory make it wholly impractical?
- 10 Does the doctrine of the mean apply to some moral virtues better than to others?

END OF PAPER