

**PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part IB**

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Monday 31 May 2010

09.00 to 12.00

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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. 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**

SECTION A: Plato's *Republic*

- 1 **Either** (a) Does Plato prove that the just life is the most rewarding life?  
**Or** (b) Will the Philosopher Rulers be happy to rule?
- 2 What is Plato's strongest point against democracy? Is it right?
- 3 Does knowledge of the Forms help or hinder the Philosophers in ruling?
- 4 **Either** (a) Assess the role of the producer class in the just city.  
**Or** (b) Assess the role of the appetitive part of soul in the just man.
- 5 Does Plato successfully show that the just ruler is a benevolent ruler?

SECTION B: Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics*

- 6 Does Aristotle have a viable meta-ethical position?
- 7 Is Aristotle correct to assume that a change of habit will result in a change of feeling? What role does this conviction play in his moral philosophy?
- 8 What role, according to Aristotle, does failure in reason play in akrasia? Was he right?
- 9 **Either** (a) Why does Aristotle privilege the contemplative life in *Nicomachean Ethics* Book X? Does this make any sense?  
**Or** (b) Aristotle claimed that nobody can be said to have been happy until after their death. Was he right?
- 10 Why, according to Aristotle, is justice not a mean? How then can it be a virtue?

END OF PAPER