

PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part II

Wednesday 31 May 2000

1.30 to 4.30

Paper 2

ETHICS

Answer **three** questions only.

- 1 Can objectivist accounts of well-being explain its subject-relative character, i.e. that my well-being is constituted by something that is good *for* me?
- 2 Is it rational to satisfy past preferences?
- 3 Are moral properties too queer to exist?
- 4 Is there an interesting analogy between the claim that murder is wrong and the claim that Hamlet is the prince of Denmark?
- 5 Can classical utilitarianism render self-interested reasons and moral reasons compatible more successfully than other theories can?
- 6 What are the problems and advantages of ethical thinking that appeals to rules?
- 7 Kant tells us to act only on that maxim through which you can at the same time will that it should become a universal law. What does he mean by 'can will'?
- 8 'In an ethical dilemma I cannot do everything I ought to do. But since *ought* implies *can* there cannot be any ethical dilemmas.' Discuss.
- 9 'Since moral judgements are essentially action-guiding, we cannot think that we ought to do something and then freely and intentionally do something else.' Discuss.
- 10 How can wants cause actions if wanting to do an action logically entails doing it, other things being equal?

END OF PAPER