

PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part II

Monday 2 June 2003

1.30 to 4.30

Paper 8

PHILOSOPHICAL LOGIC

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.

**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**

- 1 Does knowledge of a Davidsonian theory for a language suffice for understanding utterances in that language?
- 2 Discuss Dummett's view that theories of meaning whose central notion is verification are preferable to those whose central notion is truth.
- 3 What, if anything, makes it true that I mean addition by 'plus'? How, if at all, do I know I mean addition by 'plus'?
- 4 **Either** (a) Is an indicative conditional equivalent to the corresponding material implication?
Or (b) 'If Nixon had pressed the button, a nuclear holocaust would have ensued.' Does this sentence present a serious problem for Lewis's analysis of counterfactuals?
- 5 **Either** (a) Does the liar paradox show that the concept of truth is incoherent?
Or (b) How many kinds of paradox can the theory of types solve?
- 6 Is logic universal?
- 7 Does the possibility of non-Euclidean geometry contradict Kant's claim that we can know the structure of space a priori?
- 8 Should we expect our account of arithmetic to settle whether or not Julius Caesar was a natural number?
- 9 Do numbers have only structural properties?
- 10 Does the applicability of a piece of mathematics to natural science imply its truth?

END OF PAPER