PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part IA

Friday 22 May 2015 13.30 – 16.30

Paper 1

METAPHYSICS

Answer three questions only.

Write the number of the question at the beginning of each answer. If you are answering the 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

- 1. Could psychological continuity be all that matters about personal identity?
- 2. Is 'person' a phase sortal?
- 3. EITHER (a) What evidence should persuade you that a miracle has occurred?

OR

(b) 'A miracle is a contravention of a law of nature. A law of nature is a generalization that holds always and everywhere. So miracles are logically impossible.' Discuss.

- 4. Can we reconcile the existence of God with the occurrence of the Lisbon Earthquake?
- 5. 'Mental events have physical effects. Since every physical effect has a physical cause, it follows that mental events are physical events.' Discuss.
- 6. Does explaining the existence of phenomenal consciousness require accepting the truth of dualism?
- 7. 'A cause is an object, followed by another [...] where if the first object had not been, the second never had existed.' Discuss.
- 8. In what sense, if any, are causes necessary for their effects?
- 9. Can we be morally responsible for something we couldn't avoid doing?
- 10. 'No one believes in determinism any more, so there is no longer a problem about free will.' How plausible is this claim?

END OF PAPER