

PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part IB

Paper 5

EARLY MODERN PHILOSOPHY – SAMPLE EXAM

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.

1. EITHER: (a) Are you a bundle of perceptions? OR: (b) Are you a monad?
2. How does Cavendish conceive of the relationship between art and the natural world?
3. Explain and evaluate Spinoza's argument for monism.
4. "All that is called Immaterial, is a Natural Nothing, and an Immaterial Natural Substance, in my opinion, is non-sense." (CAVENDISH) Explain and evaluate Cavendish's reasons for this claim.
5. Explain and discuss Leibniz's answer to the mind-body problem.
6. EITHER (a): In what sense, if any, was Hume a sceptic? OR: (b) In what sense, if any, was Spinoza an idealist?
7. What, if any, is the connection between acting freely and acting rationally? Discuss, drawing on the views of at least two thinkers on this paper.
8. Explain and discuss EITHER (a) Elisabeth's of Bohemia's OR (b) Anne Conway's critique of Cartesian dualism.
9. EITHER (a) Was Descartes a compatibilist? OR (b) Was Leibniz a libertarian?
10. What may be a sound set of principles on the basis of which to include a thinker within a philosophical canon? Discuss with reference to an early modern women philosopher of your choice.

END OF PAPER