PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part II

Tuesday 03 June 2008

09.00 to 12.00

Paper 1

METAPHYSICS

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.

The questions marked with an asterisk (*) may not be answered by candidates also offering Paper 9: Wittgenstein.

The questions marked with a dagger (†) may not be answered by candidates also offering a dissertation on the Philosophy of Mind.

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

-2- PHT2/1

- 1 Is there a defensible form of idealism?
- 2 Could there be rival conceptual schemes?
- 3 **Either** (a) Are facts abstract?
 - **Or** (b) Why believe in tropes?
- 4 **Either** (a) In what sense, if any, do causes make their effects more probable?
 - **Or** (b) How do causes explain?
- 5 Does memory reveal anything about time?
- 6 **Either** (a) How wrong can you be?
 - **Or** (b) What is the best argument for foundationalism in epistemology? Does it work?
- 7 Do we have selves which persist through time?
- †8 **Either** (a) How do you know that you are thinking?
 - **Or** (b) How do you know what you are thinking?
- †9 'In thinking about another's thoughts I must think about the subject matter of those thoughts.' Discuss.
- †10 Are minds private?
- *11 What is the picture theory? Is it correct?
- *12 'The I in solipsism shrinks to an extensionless point and there remains the reality co-ordinated with it' (WITTGENSTEIN, *Tractatus*, 5.64). Discuss.

END OF PAPER