

PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part II

Monday 06 June 2011

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.*

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 **Either** (a) What is 'internal realism'? Is it the strongest defensible form of realism or not?
- Or** (b) Could you currently be a brain in a vat?
- 2 Are there good reasons to doubt that personal identity over time consists in psychological continuity?
- 3 Can two objects share all their properties?
- 4 'If McTaggart's argument shows the unreality of time then it also shows the unreality of space.' Discuss.
- 5 Can something be true relative to one conceptual scheme and false relative to another?
- 6 **Either** (a) How, if at all, do causes 'explain' their effects?
- Or** (b) What are causes, and how are they related to their effects?
- 7 **Either** (a) Describe and assess the strongest argument against an ontology of facts.
- Or** (b) Do we need facts as truth makers?
- 8 Does a relation require to be related to its terms in order to relate them? If not, why not? If so, is it inevitable that a vicious regress arises?
- 9 Is it an ultimate and irreducible fact that square things are square?
- 10 Is there a useful distinction to be drawn between sparse and abundant properties?
- *11 Describe and assess the atomism of Wittgenstein's *Tractatus*.
- *12 'Propositions can represent the whole of reality but they cannot represent what they must have in common with reality in order to be able to represent it.' (*Tractatus*) Discuss.

END OF PAPER