PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part II

Wednesday 28 May 2003

9 to 12

Paper 3

ETHICS

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 question marked with an asterisk may not be answered by candidates also offering Paper 9.

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- PHT2/3

- Is there any interesting analogy between moral judgements and colour judgements? If so, what is it?
- *2 **Either** (a) 'Act as if the maxim of your action were to become through your will a universal law of nature' (KANT). Does this injunction suffice to tell us how to act?
 - **Or** (b) Why does Kant think that duty is ethically fundamental? Is this view defensible?
- 3 Is there a defensible subjectivist account of well-being?
- 4 Must acting morally make my life go better?
- 5 **Either** (a) Can a right to abortion be grounded in a woman's right to the use of her own body?
 - **Or** (b) Does the value of autonomy support the claim that genetic engineering should be available on request?
- 6 'Quasi-realism cannot be coherently formulated, and is therefore self-defeating.' Discuss.
- 7 Can I have good grounds not to want what I need?
- 8 Does disagreement on moral values cast serious doubt on moral realism?
- 9 Outline and assess the claim that there are incommensurable values.
- Do my past desires have any relevance in determining how it is rational for me to act?

END OF PAPER