PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS   Part II

Monday 28 May 2012   09.00 to 12.00

Paper 8

PHILOSOPHICAL LOGIC

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.

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   What, if anything, is wrong with a 'modest' theory of meaning?

2   'Human minds did not create the stars or the mountains, but this remark is hardly enough to settle the philosophical question of realism versus anti-realism.' Isn't it?

3   Is it possible to refer to objects in a language without identity?

4   Is Kripke's sceptical solution a satisfactory riposte to scepticism about meaning?

5   **Either**   *(a)*   What role, if any, should conditional probability have in an account of indicative conditionals?

        Or   *(b)*   Does the sentence 'If Nixon had pressed the button, there would have been a nuclear holocaust' pose a serious problem for Lewis' account of counterfactuals?

6   **Either**   *(a)*   'Although plural terms occur in English, there is no need to introduce them into formal logic.' Discuss.

        Or   *(b)*   Is '√4 = +2' nonsense?

7   'The quantifiers on the right-hand side of Hume's Principle range over a domain that includes the natural numbers referred to on the left-hand side. So it cannot deliver a grasp of the natural numbers to someone previously ignorant of them.' Is this a good objection against the neo-Fregean?

8   What implication, if any, does the possibility (or otherwise) of supertasks have for the intuitionist philosophy of mathematics?

9   'Mathematics is not the science of structures, but the science of *possible* structures.' Discuss.

10   'Only knowledge of contingent matters requires causal acquaintance. Hence there is no access problem for mathematical platonism.' Discuss.

END OF PAPER