PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part II

FRIDAY 1 June 2018

09.00 - 12.00

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.

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- PHT2/3

- 1. 'Being good is not a property that itself provides a reason to respond to a thing in certain ways. Rather, to be good is to have other properties that constitute such reasons.' Discuss.
- 2. What, if anything, can we conclude about well-being from the fact that most people would be wary of stepping into a machine that simulated pleasurable experiences?
- 3. Is the fact that ethics sits uneasily with the naturalistic worldview a reason to reject ethics or a reason to reject the naturalistic worldview?
- 4. Does ethical language mislead us about the nature of ethical reality?
- 5. Does evolutionary theory pose a problem for moral realists?
- 6. EITHER (a) For an action to have moral worth, 'it is not enough that it conform with the moral law but it must also be done for the sake of the law' (KANT). Is this true?
 - OR (b) 'What, then, can freedom of the will be other than autonomy, that is, the will's property of being a law to itself?' (KANT). Discuss.
- 7. 'May I, when hard pressed, make a promise with the intention not to keep it?' (KANT). Should we accept Kant's answer to this question?
- 8. What more is there to trust than reliance?
- 9. 'We can deserve blame for our implicit biases only if we can deserve blame for our beliefs.' Discuss.
- 10. Is a person blameworthy only if they acted of their own free will?

END OF PAPER