PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part II

Thursday 1 June 2017

09.00 - 12.00

Paper 6

PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

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. 'The collapse of the wave packet is not a physical fact, but only an appearance.' Discuss.
- 2. In what sense(s) is quantum theory nonlocal? Is such nonlocality a problem?
- 3. 'Biological function poses an insurmountable problem for evolutionary theory.' Discuss.
- 4. Is 'human nature' a myth?
- 5. Is space-time a substance?
- 6. EITHER: (a) Discuss the relationship between symmetries and conservation laws.
- OR: (b) How, if at all, does convention appear especially in geometry?
- 7. EITHER: (a) Is rational choice theory descriptively plausible?
- OR: (b) Is rational choice theory normatively plausible?
- 8. Which, if any, presuppositions about values are acceptable in social science?
- 9. Can folk psychology be eliminated from cognitive science without self-refutation?
- 10. Compare and contrast the role of explanation in psychology and in neuroscience.

END OF PAPER