



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE

CLASSICAL TRIPOS Part IB
Paper 8

MODERN AND MEDIEVAL LANGUAGES Part IB
Paper GL 17

Wednesday 13 June 2007 9 to 12

GREEK AND ROMAN PHILOSOPHY

*Answer **four** questions: at least **one** and not more than **two** from Section A*

Use a separate booklet for each Section.

*Write your **number** (not your name) on the cover-sheet of each Section booklet.*

Irrelevance will be penalised.

Candidates who do not write legibly may find themselves at a grave disadvantage

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS
20 Page Booklets x 2
Rough Work Pad x 1
Tags

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS
None

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

SECTION A Plato, *Republic* 473c11–535a1

1 Τί οὖν ἐάν ἡμῖν χαλεπαίνῃ οὗτος, ὃν φάμεν δοξάζειν ἀλλ' οὐ γινώσκειν, καὶ ἀμφισβητῆ ὡς οὐκ ἀληθῆ λέγομεν; ἔξομέν τι παραμυθεῖσθαι αὐτὸν καὶ πείθειν ἡρέμα, ἐπικρυπτόμενοι ὅτι οὐχ ὑγιαίνει;

Republic 5.476d7–e2

'What if this person who we say has opinion, not knowledge, gets cross with us and disputes the truth of what we say? Will we have any way of assuaging him and gently persuading him, while disguising the fact that he is not in a healthy state?'

Is Socrates' ensuing argument for the difference between opinion and knowledge well conceived for achieving this goal?

2 '*Republic* VI-VII includes an exceptionally powerful critique of Athenian politics.' Discuss.

3 Ταύτην τοίνυν, ἣν δ' ἐγώ, τὴν εἰκόνα, ὦ φίλε Γλαύκων, προσαπτέον ἄπασαν τοῖς ἔμπροσθεν λεγομένοις...

Republic 7.517a8–b1

"“This image”, I said, “my dear Glaucon, should in its entirety be fitted to what we have said before...”"

Can the Cave *in its entirety* be fitted to the Line?

4 ... τὰ μὲν παρακλήτικὰ τῆς διανοίας ἐστί, τὰ δ' οὐ.

Republic 7.524d1–2

'...some things are such as to stimulate the intellect, some not.'

Examine Socrates' argument for this distinction. How significant a part does the distinction play in his advocacy of a mathematical curriculum?

5 Why is the Good the supreme Form, and why are the philosopher rulers required to study it?

SECTION B Ancient Philosophers and Philosophical Systems

6 Was Parmenides simply confused about the meaning of 'to be'?

7 Does Zeno's work 'come to the defence of Parmenides' argument' (Plato *Parmenides* 128c)? Explain your answer.

8 Explain and evaluate **either** Empedocles' **or** Anaxagoras' account of the formation of a cosmos.

- 9 Was Democritus a sceptic?
- 10 Which of the arguments against civil disobedience given by the 'Laws of Athens' in Plato's *Crito* is the most compelling? Explain your answer.
- 11 In the *Protagoras*, does Socrates mount a convincing argument against the possibility of weakness of will?
- 12 In Plato's *Gorgias*, does Socrates refute Polus?
- 13 Explain the distinction in the *Meno* between knowledge and true belief.
- 14 Is any of the *Phaedo*'s arguments for the immortality of the soul sound?
- 15 Why does Socrates think that in the ideal state outlined in the *Republic* poetry and drama should be carefully controlled and censored? Is he right?
- 16 Explain and evaluate Aristotle's distinction in the *Categories* between primary and secondary substance (οὐσίαι).
- 17 Discuss the role of the formal cause in Aristotle's account of change.
- 18 Examine and explain Aristotle's definition of a soul as 'the first actuality of a natural body potentially having life' (*De Anima* 2.1, 412b27–8).
- 19 Outline and evaluate Aristotle's function (ἔργον) argument in *Nicomachean Ethics* 1.7.
- 20 Which is the most powerful sceptical objection to the Stoic 'cognitive impression' (φαντασία καταληπτική)? Explain your choice.
- 21 The Stoics thought moral responsibility was compatible with determinism; the Epicureans thought it was not. Which of them was correct?
- 22 Outline and criticise the Epicurean theory of the composition of atoms by minimal parts.

END OF PAPER