

BA EXAMINATION 2002

for Internal Students

This paper is also taken by Combined Studies Students

PHILOSOPHY

Optional subject (n): Nineteenth-Century German Philosophy

Friday, 10 May 2002: 10.00 –1.00

Answer THREE questions. You must answer on at least TWO philosophers. Avoid overlap in your answers.

1. Is Fichte's conception of the self coherent?
2. Does Fichte avoid solipsism?
3. Elucidate and evaluate Schelling's claim that 'the absolute identity of subjective and objective' is 'the principle of philosophy'.
4. How are nature and art related in Schelling's *System of Transcendental Idealism*?
5. Does Hegel provide his philosophical method with an adequate justification?
6. To what extent does Hegel demonstrate a necessary progression in the chapters of the *Phenomenology of Spirit* on 'Sense-Certainty', 'Perception', and 'Force and Understanding'?
7. What does Hegel mean by describing Spirit as 'The I that is a We, and the We that is an I'?
8. 'By granting a fundamental role to Ethical Life (*Sittlichkeit*), Hegel undermines the rationality of morality and opens the door to relativism.' Do you agree?
9. To what extent may Fichte, Schelling and Hegel be regarded as forming a single, unified line of philosophical development?
10. 'By making the objective world dependent *on us*, idealism gives the necessary counterpoise to the dependence *on the objective world* in which *we* are placed by the course of nature' (Schopenhauer). Discuss.
11. Assess Schopenhauer's arguments for his doctrine of the primacy of the will over the intellect.

TURN OVER

12. How convincing is Schopenhauer's account of the value of aesthetic experience?
13. Schopenhauer states that the will to life 'must be denied if salvation is to be attained from an existence like ours'. What does he think such salvation consists in, and why does he think it is needed?
14. How does Nietzsche's 'pessimism of strength' differ from Schopenhaurian pessimism?
15. Does Nietzsche value Master Morality over Slave Morality?
16. In what sense does the modern scientific spirit embody what Nietzsche calls the 'ascetic ideal'?
17. What is Nietzsche's purpose in doing his kind of genealogy?
18. Give a critical explanation of Nietzsche's notion of the Will to Power.

END OF PAPER