UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For The Following Qualifications:-

B.A. B.Sc.

Philosophy B2: Ethics

COURSE CODE	: PHILB002
UNIT VALUE	: 1.00
DATE	: 21-MAY-03
TIME	: 10.00
TIME ALLOWED	: 3 Hours

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TURN OVER

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Answer THREE questions

1. 'Although some actions appear to be altruistic, careful consideration shows that they are not. There is no such thing as an altruistic action'. Critically discuss.

2. Outline and critically discuss Schopenhauer's account of compassion and the role it plays in morality.

3. Does Kant succeed in showing that our knowledge of how we ought to act can be derived from reason?

4. How, and with what success, have 'partialists' tried to discredit the value of impartiality in moral thinking?

5. 'Happiness is the only thing of intrinsic value'. Critically discuss.

6. Outline and assess Mill's 'proof' of his greatest happiness principle.

7. What reasons, if any, might be raised against killing one person and thereby saving one hundred other people from otherwise certain death?

8. Discuss the weaknesses of Act Utilitarianism that Rule Utilitarianism tries to overcome. How well does it succeed in presenting a coherent Utilitarian position?

9. 'Reason is, and ought only to be the slave of the passions'. Why does Hume say this? Is he right?

- 10. EITHER (a) 'Hume's moral theory cannot account for the universality of morality'. Critically discuss.
 - OR (b) Outline and discuss the role of the calm passions in Hume's moral theory.

11. EITHER (a) Outline and assess Williams' internalism about reasons.

OR (b) What does Harman think is odd about the statement 'Hitler was wrong to have ordered the extermination of the Jews'? How persuasive is his account?

12. 'I can't know if I made a morally good decision until the outcome of my decision is known. Since aspects of that outcome are out of my control the moral worth of my decision is subject to luck'. Discuss

END OF PAPER