

BA EXAMINATION 2003

for Internal Students

This paper is also taken by Combined Studies Students

PHILOSOPHY1. Logic and Metaphysics

Monday, May 12th, 2003, 10 am - 1.00 pm.

Answer THREE questions. Avoid overlap in your answers.

1. 'The observation that proper names are rigid designators is enough to refute the descriptive theory of names.' Discuss.
2. Is the sentence 'Pegasus has wings' true, false, or neither?
3. What is Frege's puzzle of identity? How should it be solved?
4. 'Russell's theory of descriptions implies that anyone who said "the book is open" in a situation where there is more than one salient book would say something false. Therefore we should reject Russell's theory.' Is this correct?
5. In what sense, if any, do entities make sentences true?
6. What is logical necessity? Is there any other form of necessity?
7. EITHER (a) Does the standard truth table give the correct truth conditions for indicative conditional statements? If so, why? If not, why not?
OR (b) 'A counterfactual is true iff it takes less of a departure from actuality to make the consequent true along with the antecedent than it does to make the antecedent true without the consequent.'
Discuss.
8. EITHER (a) Does the problem of late pre-emption undermine the counterfactual analysis of causation?
OR (b) 'The regularity theory of causation cannot account for the direction of causation.' Discuss.
9. 'Laws are those universal truths that we would take to be theorems if we knew everything and organised it as simply as possible in a deductive system.' Discuss.

10. 'If time travel were possible, then it would be possible to go back in time and kill one's younger self. But there is a logical contradiction in supposing that one could kill one's younger self. So time travel is logically impossible.' Discuss.
11. Should qualitative identity – or sameness of type – be explained in terms of numerical identity of universals?
12. Is identity relative or absolute?
13. 'To be genuinely free, one must not only have freedom of action; one must also have freedom of the will.' What does this mean? Is it true?
14. Is a person's identity over time best accounted for in terms of psychological continuity and connectedness?
15. 'A statue and the lump of bronze of which it is made are numerically distinct individuals.' Is this true?
16. 'If my mind could exist independently of my body, then materialism (or physicalism) is false.' Discuss.

END OF PAPER