DIRECTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Attempt FOUR questions.
- All questions are of equal value.
- Answer each question in a SEPARATE Writing Booklet.
- You may ask for extra Writing Booklets if you need them.
Attempt FOUR questions.

QUESTION 1  Time and Cause

EITHER

(a) Can we distinguish between coherent and incoherent time-travel narratives? In your answer, you should refer to at least one of the time-travel scenarios presented in the course.

OR

(b) Define fatalism and determinism. Can one be a determinist while rejecting fatalism?

QUESTION 2  Self-concept

EITHER

(a) What challenge does the case of Reid’s Gallant Officer pose to Locke’s view of the personal identity? Does it succeed?

OR

(b) Are there clearly defined boundaries of the self? Can we always be certain where we end and where others begin?

QUESTION 3  Morality, Religion and Happiness

EITHER

(a) Can an atheist be genuinely moral? If so, why? If not, why not?

OR

(b) ‘In the final analysis, in arriving at moral judgements the good of the community is all that matters.’ Discuss.

QUESTION 4  Reality and Credibility

EITHER

(a) Should a Cartesian be sceptical about the existence of the external world?

OR

(b) Ryle maintains that a mistaken view of the mind underlies Descartes’ arguments. What is this view of the mind? Does Ryle’s criticism succeed?

End of paper

© Board of Studies NSW 2000