

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

BA EXAMINATION

for Internal Students

This paper is also taken by Combined Studies Students

PHILOSOPHY

Optional Subject (n) Nineteenth-Century German Philosophy

Answer THREE questions. Candidates are required to answer questions on at least TWO philosophers.

1. Describe and evaluate Hegel's philosophical method as illustrated in his treatment of either sense-certainty or perception.

2. What does Hegel seek to show about self-consciousness through his

3. discussion of the master/servant relation, and does he succeed?

3. How is Hegel's concept of Spirit best understood?

4. If the Absolute is not an object, what is it, on Hegel's account?

5. Describe and criticise Hegel's idealism.

6. What is the 'subject of knowledge' for Schopenhauer, and how does it relate to objects?

7. 'The word will, which . . . is to reveal to us the innermost essence of

everything in nature, by no means expresses an unknown quantity . . . but something known absolutely and immediately.’ (Schopenhauer) Discuss.

8. Does Schopenhauer provide a convincing account of the value of any art form?

9. EITHER (a) Evaluate Schopenhauer’s criticisms of Kantian ethics.

OR (b) Why, for Schopenhauer, is compassion a superior incentive than egoism?

10. ‘The will to life must be denied if salvation is to be attained from an existence like ours.’ (Schopenhauer) Discuss.

11. EITHER (a) How do the symbols of Dionysus and Apollo explain

the value of tragedy for Nietzsche?

OR (b) Does Nietzsche have a coherent reply to pessimism?

12. What, for Nietzsche, is ‘eternal recurrence’?

13. What does Nietzsche’s notion of will to power purport to explain and what does it explain?

14. How might Nietzsche’s methods in *On the Genealogy of Morals* bring about a re-evaluation of moral values?

15. Explain and assess Nietzsche’s hypothesis that the presupposition of a Christian God functions as an instrument of self-torture.

16. EITHER (a) Why, according to Nietzsche, is ‘faith in truth’ an expression of the ascetic ideal?

OR (b) 'Nietzsche tries to undermine what pass for "truths",
but does not give an analysis of truth.' Discuss.

END OF PAPER