

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

088 0210

BA EXAMINATION 2008

for Internal Students

This paper is also taken by Combined Studies Students

PHILOSOPHY

Optional subject (o): Nineteenth-Century German Philosophy

Tuesday, 29 April 2008:10.00-13.00

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

1. What, for Fichte, is the philosophical significance of the 'I'? Is his account defensible?
2. Explain and evaluate Fichte's view of the relation between theoretical and practical reason.
3. Critically discuss Schelling's (a) philosophy of nature AND/OR (b) philosophy of art.
4. 'Schelling's philosophy is an attempt to synthesise the insights of Kant with those of Spinoza.' Discuss.
5. EITHER (a) 'The subject matter of philosophy is God and God alone' (Hegel). Discuss.
OR (b) What, for Hegel, is Absolute Knowing? Does he show how it can be attained?
6. What is Hegel's master/slave dialectic meant to show? Does it succeed?
7. What is Hegel's concept of Ethical Life (*Sittlichkeit*)? What is its value for moral theory?

8. Hegel's philosophy is 'a soft, good-natured, silver-glistening idealism ... infused with a heartfelt repugnance for "cold" or "dry" reality' (Nietzsche). Discuss.
9. 'The solution to the riddle of the world is possible only through the proper connection of outer with inner experience, carried out at the right point' (Schopenhauer). Discuss.
10. EITHER (a) Is Schopenhauer an idealist or a realist?
OR (b) '*The World as Will and Representation* is a philosophical book, yet it is also a religious book' (Iris Murdoch). Do you agree?
11. 'Metaphysics should be eliminated from ethics.' Discuss in relation to Schopenhauer.
12. 'Schopenhauer's theory of art conflicts with his metaphysics.' Discuss.
13. What, in Nietzsche's work, is the point of genealogy as a mode of philosophical enquiry?
14. EITHER (a) Does Nietzsche favour master morality over slave morality?
OR (b) Is Nietzsche against all morality?
15. Why does Nietzsche characterize the will to truth as the last embodiment of the ascetic ideal?
16. Explain EITHER Nietzsche's perspectivism OR his conception of the will to power.

END OF PAPER