

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

BA EXAMINATION 2007

for Internal Students

This paper is also taken by Combined Studies Students

PHILOSOPHY

Optional subject (n): The Philosophy of Kant

Answer THREE questions, at least one from each section. Avoid overlap in your answers.

SECTION A

1. What is the role of 'construction in pure intuition' in Kant's theory of geometrical proof?
2. How do intuitions and concepts differ? Are Kantian intuitions non-conceptual?
3. In what sense, if any, is the representation of space a priori?
4. What is a 'category'? How does Kant derive the Table of Categories from the Table of Judgements?
5. EITHER (a) Is the central argument of the Transcendental Deduction an anti-sceptical argument? Is it successful?

OR (b) 'What Kant shows in the Transcendental Deduction is that consciousness of self and consciousness of world are two sides of the same coin.'
Discuss.
6. EITHER (a) Is transcendental idealism really a form of idealism?

OR (b) 'Kant does for primary qualities what Locke did for secondary qualities.'
Discuss.

TURN OVER

7. Why does Kant reject claims to knowledge of the self as a simple substance? Is he right to do so?
8. Does the Antinomy of Pure Reason supply a convincing argument for transcendental idealism?
9. What does Kant aim to do in the Third Antinomy, and does he succeed?
10. Discuss critically Kant's treatment of rational theology.
11. What is a 'transcendental illusion'? If such illusions are necessary, in what sense can we hope to escape from them, according to Kant?

SECTION B

12. Why, according to Kant, is having a good will a necessary part of being virtuous?
13. Is it a fair characterisation of Kant's categorical imperative that it is 'an excessive application of a principle of consistency'?
14. 'There is more to freedom, according to Kant, than the power to legislate for oneself.' Discuss.
15. Is Kant right to conclude that his refutation of the speculative proofs of immortality does not oblige him to abandon his belief in it?
16. Is Kant right to argue that aesthetic judgements require universal assent?
17. Why does Kant believe beauty to be the object of a necessary pleasure?
18. According to Kant, how does genius produce an aesthetic idea?
19. What part does Kant ascribe to morality in his account of aesthetic judgement?

END OF PAPER