

**M.A. EXAMINATION 2004**

for Internal Students

**PHILOSOPHY****Greek Philosophy: Plato and Aristotle**

Friday, 28 May 2004: 10.00 - 1.00.

Answer THREE questions. Avoid overlap in your answers.

1. What does Plato make of the problem of weakness of will and does he have an effective response to it?
2. Assess Plato's view that being virtuous is the way to achieve happiness.
3. Is a tripartite soul three persons in one body?
4. If, according to the *Republic*, philosophers rule reluctantly, does this show that justice does not pay?
5. Does Plato successfully distinguish knowledge from true belief?
6. In the *Theaetetus*, what is the puzzle Plato presents regarding false belief? Is he able to solve this puzzle?
7. Does Plato have a convincing argument for the view that all learning is recollection?
8. 'According to Plato, it is impossible to have knowledge of perceptible things.' Discuss.
9. How, and how successfully, does Aristotle explain how we arrive at an understanding of first principles?
10. Does Aristotle offer good reasons to believe that some natural phenomena must be understood in terms of teleological explanations?
11. EITHER            (a) Does Aristotle solve the difficulty in the idea of a science of being in general? Is there any way he could justify the identification of such a science with theology?

- OR (b) Explain and evaluate Aristotle's account of primary substance as given in EITHER the *Categories* OR the *Metaphysics*.

**TURN OVER**

12. Does Aristotle have a functionalist account of the relation between soul and body?

13. EITHER (a) In the *Nicomachean Ethics*, is the conclusion of the function argument in Book I, chapter 7 consistent with the account of happiness in Book X?

OR (b) 'Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics* is flawed from the outset because of his assumption that there is a single end at which all an individual's actions aim.' Discuss.

14. Explain and discuss Aristotle's account of virtue of character as a mean.

15. EITHER (a) What, according to Aristotle, is it to perform an action voluntarily? What, in his view, is the relation between 'A did x voluntarily' and 'A is responsible for doing x'?

OR (b) Explain the role played by practical wisdom in Aristotle's account of deliberation. How convincing is his claim that we deliberate 'not about ends but about what contributes to ends'?

16. Explain and evaluate Aristotle's talk of a friend as 'another self'.

**END OF PAPER**