

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
M PHIL EXAMINATIONS 2004
for internal students

PLATO

Candidates should answer THREE of the following questions. Please avoid overlap in your answers.

1. In the Socratic dialogues, can Socrates show why consistency matters?
2. Does Plato have a successful response to the phenomenon of weakness of will?
3. 'I was delighted with this cause and it seemed to me good, in a way, that Mind should be the cause of all. I thought that if this were so, the directing Mind would direct everything and arrange each thing in the way that was best' (*Phaedo* 97c). Discuss.
4. 'Plato's portrayal of the soul's afterlife is incompatible with his arguments for the immortality of soul.' Discuss.
5. According to Plato, what is recollection? What is it meant to explain?
6. In *Republic* V, are the objects of knowledge distinct from the objects of belief?
7. Does Plato have clear criteria to determine what Forms there are?
8. Is the ideal polity of the *Republic* totalitarian?
9. Are the Forms, ultimately, the only objects of love?
10. In the *Theaetetus*, why do the proposed models of false judgement fail? How, if at all, could they be rescued?
11. Does Plato have a good argument against hedonism?
12. Is there a coherent account of the method of collection and division in the *Statesman* and the *Sophist*? Could the methods described ever yield knowledge?
13. Explain and evaluate the role of the receptacle in the *Timaeus*?

END OF PAPER