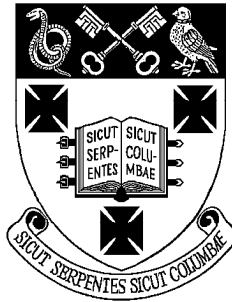


RADLEY COLLEGE
Entrance Scholarships



GENERAL, RELIGIOUS AND ETHICAL ISSUES

Wednesday 6th March 2002

Time allowed - 1 hour

Answer all questions.

You are not expected to have any experience of the subject matter in this paper.

***Write your answers to each section
on a separate sheet of paper.***

Spend about 30 minutes on each section.

SECTION A

General and Ethical Issues

Read the following passage, and answer the questions:

From 1950 until his death in 1971, Roy Brooks built up a successful estate agency by breaking all the rules. His property advertisements in the Sunday papers became essential reading: eschewing the verbal cosmetics and errors of omission common to most agents' details, Brooks' "warts and all" copy appealed to the British sense of humour. The following examples of the original Roy Brooks style are taken from a collection of his advertisements.

FASHIONABLE CHELSEA, Lamont Rd. Do not be misled by the trim exterior of this modest Period Residence with its dirty, broken windows: all is not well with the inside. The décor of the 9 rooms, some of which hangs inelegantly from the walls, is revolting. Not entirely devoid of plumbing, there is a pathetic kitchen and one cold tap. No bathroom, of course, but Chelsea has excellent public baths. Rain sadly drips through the ceiling, onto the oilcloth. The pock-marked basement floor indicates a thriving community of woodworm; otherwise there is not much wrong with this property. In the tiny back garden an Anderson shelter squats waiting. A SACRIFICE at £6,750.

RESIDENCE OF DISTINCTION. Those who know ACACIA HOUSE only as a convent may not know that the Rev Mother, ascertaining that their Patron Saint's Day coincided with the birthday of Mr SEAN CONNERY graciously allowed him to take over.

Now, with Vacant Possession, he must sell this fine detached great Victorian house. It retains its air of cloistered calm, although the Nuns' changing room is now given over to body building appliances and a bar billiards table. Central Heating. Splendid Value. £14,995 Freehold.

FILTHY OLD HOUSE, fashionable Chelsea. Preserved as of architectural interest – God knows why. Providing you have enough patience and cash

this would make: 3 bedrooms, 27ft L-shaped drawing room. The horrible patch of weedy refuse-infected earth behind would make a lovely garden – maybe. A GIFT at £8,550.

HRH Prince C instructs us to sell this modern town residence, Kensington. The Princess, an English girl who happened to be teaching English in Siam, and HRH, now civilised and holding down a job with an advertising agency, fell in love with the décor, dirty great cabbage roses all the way up the stairs. There are five bedrooms, vivid pink tiled bathroom. This is a SNIP: £13,995.

FABULOUSLY FASHIONABLE PIMLICO. Wonderful opportunity to secure this desirable residence. It has everything. Dry rot, a settlement, filthy décor, running cold water (sometimes where intended), the soft glow of gas lighting, and a general air of decay which is irresistible, to the softened scions of the bourgeoisie, who have never had it so good/bad. Small kitchen with aboriginal range. The second floor has a double bedroom with a hole in the ceiling. There is also a tiny garden with a struggling sycamore, indicating that nature can overcome the folly of man. A BARGAIN. £14,500.

Adapted from “Filthy old house” for sale, Harriet Lane Fox’s review, Sunday Telegraph, November 2001.

- 1 In what ways do you think that Roy Brooks broke “all the rules” in composing these advertisements? **(15 marks)**

- 2 Do you consider that the nature of such advertisements might betray a vendor’s integrity? **(10 marks)**

SECTION B

Religious and Ethical Issues

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions.

This letter was published in The Times newspaper some years ago when a Bill was being debated in Parliament which would have made euthanasia legal in this country:

Sir,

The following sequence is probable:

1. I am old, I am terminally ill, I want to be killed.
2. I am old, I am terminally ill, I don't want to be a burden to my family and therefore I must ask to be killed.
3. I am terminally ill, I would sooner stay alive for a bit, but it seems it would be selfish not to ask to be killed.
4. I am old, I am neither terminally ill nor chronically sick, but I am not much use to anybody and my children have to support me. I don't want to die but I suppose I should ask to be killed.
5. I am still quite young, but nobody loves me. I want to be killed.

Moral principles, Christian or otherwise, be damned. Sheer common sense must show the evil likely to result from this particular slippery slope.

I am, Sir, etc.,

O..... H.....

- 1 Do you think that euthanasia would be justified in any of these cases?
Give reasons for your answer. **(10 marks)**
- 2 Do you think that Jesus' commandment that we should "love our neighbour as ourselves" is relevant to our attitudes towards euthanasia? **(10 marks)**
- 3 What does the writer mean by the words "this particular slippery slope"? **(5 marks)**