

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For The Following Qualification:–

B.A.

French F3200: French Texts II

COURSE CODE : FREN3200

UNIT VALUE : 0.50

DATE : 18-MAY-04

TIME : 10.00

TIME ALLOWED : 3 Hours

**FROM THE RENAISSANCE TO THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY I:
BODIES AND SOULS - IN SEARCH OF EQUILIBRIUM**

Answer TWO questions, ONE from EACH section. Use a separate answer book for each question.

You may answer in English or in French, but no special credit will be given for writing in French rather than in English.

Please note that AT LEAST ONE option paper MUST be written in English.

DO NOT BASE BOTH ANSWERS IN THIS PAPER, OR AN ANSWER IN THIS PAPER AND ONE IN ANOTHER OPTION PAPER, ON THE SAME TEXT OR ON SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME MATERIAL.

SECTION A

PLEASE USE A SEPARATE ANSWER BOOK FOR EACH QUESTION.

1. 'Ce n'est pas assez de lui raidir l'âme, il lui faut aussi raidir les muscles.' In the light of this statement, discuss the importance of physical culture in Montaigne's educational philosophy as described in 'De l'institution des enfans'.
2. 'Entre les fonctions de l'ame, il en est de basses: qui ne la voit encore par là n'acheve pas de la connoistre' ('De Democritus et Heraclitus'). In the light of this quotation, discuss Montaigne's focus on common and everyday aspects of his own life and the life of others in BOTH 'De Democritus et Heraclitus' AND 'De l'experience'.
3. Discuss the theme of 'volupté' in BOTH 'De l'institution des enfans' AND 'De l'experience'.
4. 'Les loix les plus desirables, ce sont les plus rares, plus simples et generales.' To what extent does 'De l'experience' support this view?
5. 'Alceste and Célimène inspire too much sympathy to be truly comic.' Discuss Molière's *Le Misanthrope* in the light of this statement.
6. 'In Molière's *Les Femmes savantes*, both comedy and satire are built around contrasting pairs of characters: Philaminte/Chrysale; Armande/ Henriette; and Clitandre/Trissotin.' Discuss with reference to TWO or MORE such pairings.
7. 'La Fontaine in the *Fables* invites us to smile at folly and vice rather than weep over them.' Discuss.

TURN OVER

8. Discuss fable wisdom in the light of the opening lines to La Fontaine's 'Le Rat et l'Huître':

Un rat hôte d'un champ, rat de peu de cervelle,
Des lares paternels un jour se trouva sou.
Il laisse là le champ, le grain, et la javelle,
Va courir le pays, abandonne son trou.

SECTION B

PLEASE USE A SEPARATE ANSWER BOOK FOR EACH QUESTION.

9. Discuss the role of the golden mean in the works of TWO or MORE of the prescribed authors.
10. 'The soul's principal task is to know the ways of the body.' Discuss with reference to TWO or MORE of the prescribed authors.
11. 'The comic perspective undermines the very concept of a fixed philosophy and focuses instead on the attainment and exercise of good judgement.' Discuss with reference to TWO or MORE of the prescribed authors.
12. 'Ce grand monde..., c'est le mirouer où il nous faut regarder pour nous connoistre de bon biais' ('De l'institution des enfans'). Compare Montaigne's and La Fontaine's attitudes to self-knowledge in the light of this quotation.
13. Compare and contrast Montaigne's and La Fontaine's portraits of the human condition in the light of La Fontaine's lines:
Tout en tout est divers: ôtez-vous de l'esprit
Qu'aucun être ait été composé sur le vôtre.

END OF PAPER