

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 : 09-MAY-05

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. 'Il se tire une merveilleuse clarté, pour le jugement humain, de la fréquentation du monde.' Discuss Montaigne's ideas on education in 'De l'institution des enfans' in the light of this quotation.
2. 'Il n'est desir plus naturel que le desir de connoissance. Nous essayons tous les moyens qui nous y peuvent mener. Quand la raison nous faut, nous y employons l'expérience.' Discuss the roles of reason and experience in 'De l'expérience' in the light of this quotation.
3. 'Ce n'est pas une ame, ce n'est pas un corps qu'on dresse; c'est un homme.'
Discuss TWO or MORE of the following chapters in the light of this quotation: 'De l'institution des enfans'; 'De Democritus et Heraclitus'; 'De l'expérience'.
4. CÉLIMÈNE (addressing ARSINOÉ) asserts that
...on doit se regarder soi-même un fort long temps,
Avant que de songer à condamner les gens;
Qu'il faut mettre le poids d'une vie exemplaire
Dans les corrections qu'aux autres on veut faire. (III, 4)
Discuss comic characterisation in *Le Misanthrope* in the light of this quotation.
5. Discuss satire and comedy in *Les Femmes savantes* in the light of the following extract in which Chrysale expresses his views on the duties of women:
Former aux bonnes mœurs l'esprit de ses enfants,
Faire aller son ménage, avoir l'œil sur ses gens,
Et régler la dépense avec économie,
Doit être son étude et sa philosophie. (II, 7)

TURN OVER

6. 'The key to La Fontaine's self-depreciating irony is that it turns readers into self-depreciating ironists too.' Discuss irony in the *Fables* in the light of this statement.
7. 'The pursuit of self-knowledge in La Fontaine's *Fables* is inseparable from the search for the middle way.' Discuss.

SECTION B

PLEASE USE A SEPARATE ANSWER BOOK FOR EACH QUESTION.

8. Discuss the role of nature in the works of TWO or MORE of the prescribed authors.
9. Compare attitudes to learning and language in Montaigne's 'De l'institution des enfans' and Molière's *Les Femmes savantes*.
10. 'La plainte et la commiseration sont meslées à quelque estimation de la chose qu'on plaint; les choses dequoy on se moque, on les estime sans pris. Je ne pense point qu'il y ait tant de malheur en nous comme il y a de vanité, ny tant de malice comme de sotise' ('De Democritus et Heraclitus'). Discuss the uses of the comic perspective by TWO or MORE of the prescribed authors in the light of this quotation.
11. To what extent do you agree that it is through portraits of excess that the reader/spectator is pointed to the mean? Answer with reference to TWO or MORE of the prescribed authors.
12. 'The proverbial belief that "wisdom begins at home" is central to their writing.' Discuss, with reference to TWO or MORE of the prescribed authors.

END OF PAPER