

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For The Following Qualification:-

B.A.

French F2402: The Classical Age: 17th Century Literature

COURSE CODE : FREN2402

UNIT VALUE : 0.50

DATE : 23-MAY-03

TIME : 14.30

TIME ALLOWED : 2 Hours

THE CLASSICAL AGE: DRAMA, NOVEL, MORALISTS

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.

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

SECTION A

PLEASE USE A SEPARATE ANSWER BOOK FOR EACH SECTION.

Answers in this section must be based on TWO or MORE texts by DIFFERENT authors studied in Term 1, namely:

Descartes, *Discours de la méthode*;

La Fontaine, *Fables*;

La Bruyère, *Les Caractères*.

1. 'Descartes's aim is to present humankind as it ought to be, while La Fontaine and La Bruyère aim to paint men and women as they are.' Discuss with reference to the *Discours de la méthode* AND EITHER the *Fables* OR *Les Caractères*, OR BOTH.
2. Compare and contrast the roles of bodies and mechanisms as presented in TWO or MORE of the prescribed texts.
3. 'Descartes, La Fontaine and La Bruyère seek to encourage lucidity and understanding in their readers, but their methods vary considerably.' Discuss with reference to TWO or MORE of the prescribed texts.
4. Discuss the place and significance of animals in the portraits of humankind in TWO or MORE of the prescribed texts.

SECTION B

PLEASE USE A SEPARATE ANSWER BOOK FOR EACH SECTION.

5. 'We laugh because it is Arnolphe himself who brings the monstrous world of his own making crashing around his ears.' Discuss Molière's *L'Ecole des femmes* in the light of this statement.
6. 'It is not because he does not listen, but because he listens too readily, to advice and persuasion that Néron so soon becomes a monster.' Discuss Néron's conduct of himself and his policies in Racine's *Britannicus* in the light of this statement.

CONTINUED

7. 'Though more destructive (as befits a tragedy), Néron's behaviour is much more rational than Arnolphe's.' Compare and contrast *L'Ecole des femmes* AND *Britannicus* in the light of this statement.
8. 'If *amour-propre* often blinds us, it can also sharpen our perceptions.' Discuss with reference to La Rochefoucauld's *Maximes*.
9. 'In La Fayette's *La Princesse de Clèves*, respect for secrets is what distinguishes between *amour* and *galanterie*.' Discuss with reference to TWO or MORE episodes from the text.
10. 'It is far easier to deceive oneself than it is to deceive others.' Discuss with reference to La Fayette's *La Princesse de Clèves* AND La Rochefoucauld's *Maximes*.

END OF PAPER