

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 : 03-MAY-05

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.

The prescribed texts for Section A are Descartes, *Discours de la méthode*; La Fontaine, *Fables*; and La Bruyère, *Les Caractères*.

1. Compare literary and/or philosophical uses of human and animal bodies in TWO or MORE of the prescribed texts.
2. 'Each of these texts is a work of persuasion, but the authors' styles and methods are richly diverse.' Discuss with reference to TWO or MORE of the prescribed texts.
3. Discuss the balance between pleasing and instructing in TWO or MORE of the prescribed texts.
4. Compare and contrast the attitudes to reason and unreason in TWO or MORE of the prescribed texts.

TURN OVER

SECTION B

PLEASE USE A SEPARATE ANSWER BOOK FOR EACH SECTION.

5. 'Arnolphe is such a bully and Agnès so vulnerable that the play inspires almost as much pathos as laughter.' In the light of this statement, assess to what extent Molière has succeeded in making *L'École des femmes* comic.
6. Discuss the view that it is Néron's circumstances in Racine's *Britannicus*, rather than his own flawed nature, that turn him into a monster.
7. Compare and contrast the part played by love in the downfall of Molière's and Racine's comic and tragic protagonists in *L'École des femmes* and *Britannicus*.
8. 'Self-love is the pivot of La Rochefoucauld's *Maximes*. The entire book is just the application of the general principle to particular cases.' Discuss.
9. Analyse and discuss the theme of death in Lafayette's *La Princesse de Clèves*.
10. 'Both Lafayette in *La Princesse de Clèves* and La Rochefoucauld in the *Maximes* are concerned with the basic ethical problem of deception within human relations.' Discuss.

END OF PAPER