UNIVERSITY OF LONDON M PHIL EXAMINATIONS 2003 for internal students

HUME

Candidates should answer THREE of the following questions. Please avoid overlap in your answers.

- 1. Was Hume a verificationist?
- 2. How complete is Hume's scepticism about human knowledge?
- 3. 'Hume was right to think that he needed to say more about belief than his predecessors had done. But within his system there is nothing to say.' Discuss.
- 4. Given his understanding of the problem of causation, was Hume right to assign such importance to the detection of regularities?
- 5. What, if anything, did Hume establish about induction?
- 6. For Hume, could there be any rational grounds for believing that a miracle occurred?
- 7. 'Hume provides no plausible explanation of our belief in bodies, nor did he understand what that belief really was.' Do you agree?
- 8. Was Hume right to think that his discussion of the idea of the self was a failure?
- 9. How does Hume deal with the mind-body problem?
- 10. Examine Hume's discussion of the obligation to keep a promise.
- 11. Discuss Hume's critique of attempts to justify the state from an original contract.
- 12. How satisfactory is Hume's attempt to find 'a rule by which the various sentiments of men may be reconciled' ('Of the Standard of Taste')?
- 13. What, if anything, does Philo think that teleological arguments establish?
- 14. Critically discuss the role of sympathy in Hume's philosophy.

END OF PAPER