

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
MPHIL EXAMINATIONS
for internal students

The Philosophy of Mill

10:00-13:00, Monday 13th May, 2002

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

1. Does Mill give a satisfactory account of the meaning of names?
2. Did Mill have good reasons for his assertion that matter is the permanent possibility of sensation?
3. EITHER (a) According to Mill, “The cause” is the sum total of the conditions positive and negative taken together’. Explain and assess this view.

OR (b) Explain how Mill’s methods might be brought to bear on the claim that striking matches causes them to light, and on the claim that a particular striking caused a particular lighting.
4. Does Mill’s rejection of the notion of necessity enable him to construct a satisfactory account of free will?
5. Discuss Mill’s claim that if we call the mind a series of feelings ‘we are obliged to complete the statement by calling it a series of feelings which is aware of itself as past and future.’

PLEASE TURN OVER

6. Explain and assess Mill's reasons for introducing the distinction between higher and lower pleasures.
7. Does Mill give good reasons for rejecting 'the Geometrical method' in the social sciences?
8. Explain and assess Mill's 'proof' of the principle of utility. Is it a proof in any proper sense?
9. Can Mill show that the existence of positive duties of assistance is consistent with the liberty (harm) principle?

END OF PAPER