

BA EXAMINATION 2002

for Internal Students

This paper is also taken by Combined Studies Students

PHILOSOPHY

Optional subject (t): Philosophy of Psychology

Tuesday, 7 May 2002: 10.00 – 1.00

Answer THREE questions. Avoid overlap in your answers.

1. Is psychoanalysis unfalsifiable or otherwise empirically inadequate?
2. Do psychoanalytic explanations force revision to our ordinary ways of explaining actions in terms of beliefs and desires?
3. Does recent neuroscientific research support Freud's work?
4. Expound and assess the role of two of the concepts below in explaining clinical material found in Freud's writing:
 - (a) phantasy
 - (b) infantile sexuality
 - (c) transference
 - (d) projection
 - (e) projective identification
 - (f) the paranoid/schizoid and depressive positions
 - (g) the dream work
5. Does an adequate science of psychology need to posit mental representations?
6. 'The claim that most lexical concepts have definitional structure is entirely without plausibility.' Discuss.
7. EITHER (a) 'Though the computational theory of mind explains many central features of cognition, it is entirely unsatisfactory as an account of the emotions.' Discuss.

 OR (b) 'The computational theory of mind is incapable of providing a satisfactory account of human reasoning.' Discuss.
8. Can connectionism explain the systematicity of cognition?

TURN OVER

9. Explain and evaluate poverty of stimulus arguments for the existence of innate knowledge of grammar.
10. What problems does misrepresentation pose for a naturalistic psychosemantics?
11. When interpreting others do we rely on a tacit psychological theory of them or do we run a psychological simulation offline?
12. What does it mean to claim that there is a module for visual cognition? Is there good evidence in favour of the claim?
13. 'The dissociations of visuo-motor control from shape recognition show the need to distinguish between visual awareness and visual perception.' Discuss.
14. EITHER (a) 'Even if few features of the human mind are adaptive, many of them are adaptations.' Discuss.
OR (b) 'Given how little we know about our evolutionary past, psychological science would be no worse off working on the assumption that our brains have been assembled by chance.' Discuss.
15. Is the mind massively modular?

END OF PAPER