UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For The Following Qualification:-

Scand. Studs. SC5330: Runology I

COURSE CODE

: SCAN5330

UNIT VALUE

: 0.50

DATE

: 19-MAY-03

TIME

: 14.30

TIME ALLOWED

: 3 Hours

A candidate may not in any answer cover the same ground as in an assessed or extended essay.

Answer THREE questions, ONE from EACH Section.

SECTION A (40%)

- 1. Transliterate the following sequences of runes into the roman alphabet and explain briefly the principles on which your transliterations are based.
 - (a) Y
 1+1X11211H1H1+1
 Y 1M171917Y
 - (b) $IFFTYFI_1h\Gamma Y + RhphRIIF: hFRFIFY + IRFh_1$

2. Study the runic inscription reproduced below. Transliterate it into the roman alphabet, commenting on any diagnostic rune forms, translate the inscription into English, and write brief notes on its language and content.



<u>SECTION B</u> (30%)

- 3. Define and exemplify FIVE of the following terms used in runology: *fuþark*; *runica manuscripta*; raiser formula; the acrophonic principle; cryptic rune; transitional inscription; long-branch; ideograph.
- 4. 'It is self-evident that the creator or creators of the runes based their alphabet on roman capitals.' Discuss.
- 5. Consider the strengths and weaknesses of attempts to explain the change from the older to the younger *fubark*.
- 6. When, where, and for what purposes were the short-twig runes employed?

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7. Discuss the origin and development of dotting in runic writing.

SECTION C (30%)

- 8. How far can typological analyses help us to a better understanding of the inscriptions in the older runic alphabet?
- 9. Why, in your view, were so many commemorative rune-stones raised in the late Viking Age?
- 10. What is the relationship between the inscription and the art of the Dynna stone?
- 11. When can writing in runes be said to have died out?
- 12. 'Clearly runes were sometimes used for occult purposes, but the question arises whether supernatural power was attributed to the runes themselves or merely to the words they formed.' Discuss.

