

**UNIVERSITY OF LONDON**

**BA EXAMINATION 2007**

for Internal Students

This paper is also taken by Combined Studies Students

**PHILOSOPHY**

1. Logic and Metaphysics

Answer THREE questions. Avoid overlap in your answers.

1. Do the occurrences of 'red' in the sentences 'Mars is red' and 'Red is a primary colour' mean the same?
2. If someone were to say 'Sherlock Holmes is a famous detective' would they have said something true, something false, or something neither true nor false?
3. EITHER (a) How, if at all, can one say something true in using the sentence 'The party is cancelled'?
- OR (b) What is common to the meaning of the occurrences of 'the' in the sentences 'The tallest man in England is dining alone' and 'The five tallest men in England are dining together'?
4. 'Objects are not bundles of properties, but bundles of tropes.' Discuss.
5. 'Red things look red to normal observers in normal conditions.' Does this express a proposition which is knowable a priori while being metaphysically contingent?
6. Is logical necessity the strongest form of necessity?
7. Is there a compelling argument from the conceivability of a physical duplicate of you that lacks consciousness to the real possibility of a physical duplicate of you that lacks consciousness?
8. 'Our unwillingness to apply vague expressions in borderline cases cannot be a matter of ignorance, since, however much new information we acquired, our unwillingness would persist.' Discuss.

**TURN OVER**

9. EITHER (a) 'Customary approaches to the problem of what my identity consists in concentrate on the distinctness and continuity of a particular mind or body that is merely supposed to be mine. They are oblivious to the question of what would make a mind or body mine instead of somebody else's in the first place.' Discuss.
- OR (b) 'Persons are biological organisms. Hence, persons share with biological organisms their persistence conditions.' Discuss.
10. 'Since some definite descriptions are rigid designators, the fact that some are not has no consequences for the thesis that names are synonymous with definite descriptions.' Discuss.
11. 'Events are things that happen. But an object's having a property at a time is not something that happens. Hence, events are not objects' having properties at times.' Discuss.
12. How, if at all, is it possible for there to be genuine disagreement over basic logical laws?
13. Are people free agents in a way that other animals are not?
14. Could there be time without change?
15. 'It is possible for A to cause B even though B would have happened in A's absence. Therefore, causation is not simply counterfactual dependence.' Discuss.
16. 'If identity statements were about names, then the sentence "Hesperus is Phosphorus and is a planet" could be used to assert that the name "Hesperus" is a planet.' Discuss.
17. Can it be reasonable for somebody who rejects physicalism to endorse the claim that everything supervenes on what is physical?

**END OF PAPER**