

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

BA EXAMINATION 2007

for Internal Students

This paper is also taken by Combined Studies Students

PHILOSOPHY

Optional subject (k): Post-Aristotelian Philosophy

Answer THREE questions. Avoid overlap in your answers.

1. Evaluate Epicurus' claim that truth is established by sensation.
2. How good is the Epicurean argument for atoms being made up of minimal parts?
3. Assess Epicurus' explanation of the relationship between free will and the underlying patterns of atomic motion.
4. Does Epicurus show successfully that a life of pleasure could be complete?
5. 'Life properly lived is practice for death.' Discuss with reference to Epicureanism.
6. Do the Stoics succeed in showing that a life in accordance with nature will be virtuous?
7. What role does the notion of a craft or skill play in the Stoic theory of action?
8. Should the wise person be free of emotion? Discuss with reference to the Stoic view.
9. Assess some Stoic arguments for the eternal recurrence of the best possible world.
10. Describe and evaluate the Stoic notion of the cataleptic impression.
11. 'The Forms are the thoughts of god.' Evaluate this Middle Platonist claim.

TURN OVER

12. EITHER (a) Can Pyrrhonism be lived consistently?
- OR (b) Is Sextus Empiricus right that we are compelled to suspend judgement about the nature of things?
13. 'Plotinus was unconcerned with practical action, as one can see from his account of virtue.' Discuss.
14. According to Plotinus, what is it for something to be 'up to us'?
15. What does Plotinus think he can show by associating evil with lack or non-being?
16. Does the claim that the One is utterly simple really imply that the One is ineffable?
17. Why, and how successfully, does Porphyry argue that animals have an inner rationality or *logos*?
18. Discuss at least one ancient argument for the eternity of the world and assess whether Philoponus' response to it is successful.
19. How plausible is Philoponus' attempt to integrate Aristotle's theory of the intellect with Plato's theory of recollection?
20. Does Augustine succeed in showing that time is an 'affection of the mind'?

END OF PAPER