

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

BA EXAMINATIONS 2007

for Internal Students

This paper is also taken by Combined Studies Students

PHILOSOPHY

Optional Subject (u): Philosophy of Psychology

Answer THREE questions. Avoid overlap in your answers.

1. Explain and assess the claim that dreams are a form of wish-fulfilment.
2. How does the appeal to phantasy function in psychoanalytic explanation? What philosophical objections does such an appeal face?
3. Is Freud's conception of the unconscious a coherent one?
4. 'The methodology of psychoanalysis is too seriously flawed to support genuine scientific explanation.' Is this true?
5. EITHER (a) What, if anything, is an unconscious emotion?
OR (b) Explain and assess the claim that emotions such as anger, fear and lust are natural kinds.
6. 'Connectionism fails as an account of human cognitive architecture because it cannot explain systematicity.' Discuss.
7. Is cognition computation?
8. EITHER (a) Do we have innate knowledge of universal grammar?
OR (b) 'Since linguists' theories of linguistic structure are not theories of psychological processing, linguistics is not part of psychology.' Discuss.

TURN OVER

9. EITHER (a) Can the study of pathological cases tell us anything about normal visual awareness?
- OR (b) Is there a module for visual cognition?
10. Does the evolutionary concept of an adaptation have any useful role to play in psychology?
11. Explain and assess the claim that central systems are modular.
12. 'The notion of innateness is a confused one that should play no role in scientific enquiry.' Discuss.
13. 'Research in evolutionary psychology has shown that human beings are fundamentally rational beings.' Discuss.
14. Can a naturalistic account of psychological content solve the problem of misrepresentation?
15. EITHER (a) 'We understand others by simulating their mental processes, not by deploying a theory of mental processes.' Discuss.
- OR (b) Can developmental disorders, such as autism, tell us anything about normal cognition?

END OF PAPER