

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

MA PHILOSOPHY NEW REGULATIONS
for Internal Students

LOGIC & METAPHYSICS

May 2000

Answer THREE questions.

1. Are there good reasons to believe in universals?
2. What is a possible world? Are there any?
3. EITHER (a) What is the best account of the persistence of physical objects?
OR (b) In what does the identity of persons consist?
4. 'If C hadn't occurred E wouldn't have.' How much, if any, of the content of 'C caused E' is captured by this?
5. Can a true identity statement be contingent?
6. Is there anything metaphysically special about the present moment?
7. 'A statement is true if and only if it corresponds to a fact.' Is that a satisfactory account of truth?
8. Can empirical investigation reveal what is necessary?
9. 'The sentences "Hesperus is Hesperus" and "Hesperus is Phosphorus" differ in cognitive value. Hence, the names "Hesperus" and "Phosphorus" differ in sense.' Discuss.
10. EITHER (a) Does Russell's theory of definite descriptions apply to the referential use of such descriptions?
OR (b) If I utter 'the table is brown' does my sentence entail that there is only one table in the world?
11. Is 'exists' a predicate?

SEE NEXT PAGE

page 1

12. 'The conditional "If Smith has a sister, then he has no sibling" is false irrespective of whether Smith has a sister.' Discuss.

13. Do supervaluations provide a satisfactory treatment of the sorites paradox?

END OF PAPER

