

M.A. EXAMINATION 2004

for Internal Students

PHILOSOPHY

Philosophy of Psychology

Tuesday, 1 June 2004: 2.30 - 5.30.

Answer THREE questions. Avoid overlap in your answers.

1. 'In Freudian explanation the role of belief is to mask desire rather than to secure the satisfaction of it.' Discuss.
2. EITHER (a) Assess the claim that psychoanalysis is unfalsifiable and/or inductively insupportable.
OR (b) Can psychoanalysis be regarded as a cogent extension of commonsense psychology?
3. EITHER (a) To what extent, if any, does recent research in neuroscience support Freud's account of dreaming?
OR (b) To what extent, if any, does recent research in attachment theory support Freud's account of the formative role of early relationships?
4. Assess the explanatory credentials of ONE of the following concepts in relation to clinical or experimental material:
 - (a) unconscious phantasy
 - (b) projection
 - (c) identification
 - (d) internal objects
 - (e) the depressive position
5. EITHER (a) 'Cognition is computation.' Discuss.
OR (b) 'Connectionist models cannot explain the systematicity of cognition, whereas classical models can.' Discuss.
6. EITHER (a) To what extent, if any, is the mind modular?

OR (b) What experimental evidence could lead us to draw conclusions about the architecture of the human mind?

TURN OVER

7. Can we have innate concepts for artefacts?
8. 'Concepts cannot be prototypes because prototypes do not compose.' Discuss.
9. To what extent can the study of the structure of the human brain help to elucidate the nature of visual awareness?
10. To what extent can the study of pathological phenomena such as blindsight help to elucidate the function of normal visual cognition?
11. What, if anything, can neuroscience contribute to the understanding of emotion?
12. Do human beings have innate knowledge of universal grammar?
13. Expound and assess a use of ONE of the following evolutionary concepts in explaining psychological phenomena:
 - (a) Parental investment.
 - (b) Sexual selection.
 - (c) Group selection.
14. How, if at all, does appeal to adaptation increase our understanding of psychological phenomena?
15. Does cognitivism offer a better basis for a science of the mind than behaviourism?

END OF PAPER