

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

MA PHILOSOPHY NEW REGULATIONS
for Internal Students

WITTGENSTEIN

May 2000

Answer THREE questions.

1. Why did Wittgenstein hold that sentences could be analysed into combinations of simple signs and that facts could be analysed into combinations of simple objects?

2. EITHER (a) Expound and assess Wittgenstein's picture theory of meaning.

OR (b) Why did Wittgenstein hold that certain things could be shown but not said?

3. What, if anything, did Wittgenstein think was correct in solipsism?

4. EITHER (a) What is the mystical, and is Wittgenstein's account of it coherent?

OR (b) Is it coherent for Wittgenstein to hold that whoever understands his propositions eventually recognises them as nonsensical?

5. EITHER (a) Why does Wittgenstein say that Augustine's conception of language is over-simple?

OR (b) According to Wittgenstein, Augustine describes the learning of language 'as if the child could already think, only not yet speak.' Why does Wittgenstein take this to be wrong?

6. What, according to Wittgenstein, justifies me in thinking that I follow a rule correctly?

7. Assess Wittgenstein's claim that in the use of a sign for a private sensation 'we can't talk about "right".'

8. What is Wittgenstein attempting to show by his analogy of the beetle in the box? How successful is his use of this analogy?

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9. Does Wittgenstein undermine 'the hardness of the logical must'?

10. Why does Wittgenstein think Moore is wrong to claim that he knows he has hands?

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