

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
M PHIL EXAMINATIONS 2005
for internal students

EPISTEMOLOGY AND METHODOLOGY

Candidates should answer **THREE** of the following questions. Please avoid overlap in your answers.

1. In what sense, if any, is testimony a basic source of knowledge?
2. How should a contextualist view of epistemic justification be formulated? Thus formulated, does contextualism provide a plausible response to scepticism?
3. 'Nothing other than belief can provide epistemic justification for belief.' Discuss.
4. How, if at all, might one explain the possibility of a priori entitlement?
5. Can a reliabilist make sense of the claim that knowledge requires epistemically rational belief?
6. Does the fact that one can misperceive a table show that in some interesting sense one can only indirectly perceive the table?
7. Is Bayesian epistemology an implausible over-idealisation?
8. 'Any justification of induction is bound to be circular.' Discuss.
9. 'Constructive empiricism is nothing more than the expression of an arbitrarily selective scepticism.' Explain and discuss.
10. 'Neither covering law models nor causal accounts can accommodate the context-sensitivity of explanation.' Discuss.
11. What reasons, if any, are there to think that observation is *not* theory-laden?
12. 'There is nothing new about the "New Riddle of Induction".' Discuss.

END OF PAPER