

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

M.Phil. EXAMINATION
for Internal Students

PHILOSOPHY

Epistemology and Methodology

Wednesday, 10 May 2006: 10.00 – 13.00

Candidates should answer **THREE** of the following **THIRTEEN** questions, avoiding overlap in their answers, also between papers.

1. 'I know that I have a hand, and I know that that item of knowledge shows that there is at least one external object. So I know that there is an external world.' Discuss.
2. 'In order for one to know something, it must be possible for one to understand how one is in a position to know it.' Is this true?
3. Can the Goodman paradox be solved by finding a way to exclude grue-like predicates from the language of science? If so, how? If not, why not?
4. Are laws of nature required for scientific explanation?
5. Is defeasible a priori justification possible? If so, how? If not, why not?
6. 'Epistemology is a part of psychology, and thus part of natural science.' Discuss.
7. If I am to know that p on the basis of S's testimony, must I have reason to believe that S is a reliable source of information with respect to p?
8. 'Foundationalism is superior to coherentism, as the former can account for why justified beliefs tend to be true, while the latter cannot.' Discuss.
9. Critically discuss Hume's problem of induction.
10. 'Anything knowledge could explain can be better explained by belief. So knowledge must be analysable in terms of belief.' Discuss.
11. Should scientific theories be regarded as useful fictions?
12. Can introspection give one knowledge of the environment around one?
13. What does it mean to claim that one sees material objects by seeing their parts? Is the claim true?

END OF PAPER