

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
M PHIL EXAMINATIONS 2005
for internal students

LEWIS

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

1. Expound Lewis's conception of possible worlds. Does he make a convincing case for the existence of such worlds?
2. Why is the notion of 'closeness' of possible worlds important in Lewis's system? Does he give any satisfactory elucidation of 'closeness'?
3. What does Lewis mean by 'Humean Supervenience'? Is there a satisfactory way to reconcile Humean Supervenience with objective chance?
4. Does Lewis have a satisfactory account of causation?
5. To what extent does Lewis's work strengthen the case for the view that human persons are wholly physical beings?
6. What does Lewis mean by mereology? Discuss the importance of mereology in Lewis's system.
7. 'Our convention of language is a convention of truthfulness and trust in some cluster of similar languages.' Discuss.
8. Expound and assess Lewis's claim that mathematics is 'megathology'.
9. Explain Lewis's notion of credence, and discuss some uses he makes of it.
10. Does Lewis's work show that universals are philosophically redundant?
11. '*S* knows that *P* iff *S*'s evidence eliminates every possibility in which not-*P* – Psst!
– except for those possibilities that we are properly ignoring.' Discuss.

END OF PAPER