

**UNIVERSITY OF LONDON**  
**M PHIL EXAMINATIONS 2005**  
**for internal students**

**PHILOSOPHY OF PSYCHOLOGY**

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

1. 'Just as we explain an action by citing an agent's motives for acting, so Freud explained dreaming by citing an agent's motives for dreaming.' Discuss.
2. Critically assess **ONE** of the following as providing evidence for Freud's theories:
  - (a) Free association,
  - (b) Recent research in the neuroscience of dreaming,
  - (c) Attachment categorization of adults and infants.
3. Examine the role of **ONE** of the following evolutionary concepts in explaining psychological phenomena:
  - (a) The Baldwin effect,
  - (b) Parental investment,
  - (c) Sexual selection,
  - (d) Group selection.
4. Is the mind modular?
5. 'Lexical concepts have no structure; they are atomic.' Discuss.
6. 'Connectionism fails as an account of human cognitive architecture, because connectionism cannot explain systematicity.' Discuss.
7. What is the poverty of the stimulus argument? What, if anything, does it establish?
8. What can the study of pathological cases tell us about the function of visual cognition in normal cases?
9. 'The concept of innateness is too vague to serve any explanatory purpose in psychology.' Discuss.

**TURN OVER**

10. Do findings in neuroscience give us reason to think that some emotions are natural kinds?
11. 'Most of our concepts are innate.' Discuss.
12. 'The characteristic mode of explanation in cognitive psychology is functional analysis, not subsumption under law.' Discuss.

**END OF PAPER**