

**UNIVERSITY OF LONDON**  
**M PHIL EXAMINATIONS 2004**  
**for internal students**

**PHILOSOPHY OF PSYCHOLOGY**

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

1. Compare and contrast psychoanalytic explanation with that in commonsense psychology.
2. EITHER (a) Should psychoanalysis be rejected as unscientific?  
  
OR (b) To what extent if any are psychoanalytic claims supported by developments in neuroscience and/or attachment theory?
3. EITHER (a) Compare and contrast Freud's and Chomsky's understanding of unconscious mental processes.  
  
OR (b) 'The concept of knowledge has no substantial role in linguistic theorizing.' Discuss.
4. What is the poverty of the stimulus argument, and what if anything does it establish?
5. Do lexical concepts have structure? What are the consequences of the answer to this question?
6. EITHER (a) Should classical computational models of cognition be rejected as biologically implausible?  
  
OR (b) Should connectionist models of the mind/brain be rejected as incapable of explaining systematic cognition?
7. Is there good reason to hold that the mind is massively modular?
8. 'Evolutionary theory has made no substantial contribution to our understanding of the mind.' Discuss.
9. To what extent, if any, have neuroscientific discoveries contributed to our understanding of the nature and/or development of emotion?

**TURN OVER**

10. 'Pathological case studies such as those of blindsight and visual form agnosia tell us only about the damaged brain, not about the normal function of visual cognition.' Discuss.
11. EITHER (a) Does psychological evidence favour one theory of mental representation?
- OR (b) In virtue of what, if anything, might a sub-doxastic cognitive state have representational content?
12. Does the concept of innateness have any explanatory value in psychology?

**END OF PAPER**