



THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH

PHILOSOPHY, PSYCHOLOGY AND LANGUAGE SCIENCES

MIND, MATTER AND LANGUAGE

PHIL08014

Exam Date: **Friday, 15th
December 2017**

From **9:30am** -
and To: **11:30am**

Exam **December**
Diet:

Please read full instructions before commencing writing

Exam paper information

- You must answer a total of **THREE** questions.
- Exactly **ONE** question must be chosen from *Section 1: Philosophy of Mind*
AND
- Exactly **TWO** questions must be chosen from *Section 2: Philosophy of Language*.

Special instructions

- Answer questions in the exam booklet.
- Make sure you write the numbers of the questions answered on the **FRONT** of the booklet.

Special items

- None

Convenor of the Board of Examiners: Dr David Levy

Course Organiser: Dr Anders Schoubye

External: Dr Jules Holroyd, University of Sheffield

This examination will be marked anonymously

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You must answer a total of **THREE** questions. Exactly **ONE** question must be chosen from *Section 1: Philosophy of Mind*, and exactly **TWO** questions must be chosen from *Section 2: Philosophy of Language*.

Section 1: Philosophy of Mind

1. Explain **ONE** of the following problems for Cartesian substance dualism, and assess whether it can be overcome:
 - a. The problem of causal interaction
 - b. Kim's 'pairing problem'
2. What problem, if any, does multiple realisability pose for type-identity theory, and can it be overcome?
3. Does functionalism offer a satisfactory account of mental states? Why or why not?
4. What is the 'hard problem' of consciousness, and why does it present such a challenge?

Section 2: Philosophy of Language

5. What is the problem of 'empty names' and how is Frege's theory of sense and reference supposed to solve this problem?
6. What is Russell's theory of descriptions and what are the main motivations for Russell's theory?
7. In what way does a descriptivist view of proper names, i.e. the view that a proper name is synonymous with a definite description, provide a solution to Frege's Puzzle?
8. What are Kripke's main objections to the descriptivist view of proper names? Evaluate to what extent Kripke's objections are successful.
9. Why are indirect speech acts a problem for Austin's assumption that illocutionary acts are determined by conventional force?
10. What is a 'scalar implicature' and what is the so-called 'symmetry problem' for these implicatures?

[END OF PAPER]