



University College Dublin
An Coláiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath

SEMESTER 2 EXAMINATION - 2007/2008

Introduction to Cognitive Science

COMP 20090

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Time allowed: 2 hours

Instructions for Candidates:

Answer three questions from the 6 given. If you attempt more than three questions, please clearly indicate which three attempts are to be graded. If you do not do so, the first three questions attempted will be graded.

All questions carry equal marks.

Instructions for Invigilators:

None.

- Q1.** 'Cogito, ergo sum' (I think, therefore I am) is famously ascribed to Renè Descartes. Discuss his grounds for claiming a dual nature to reality.
- Q2.** Discuss the degrees of freedom problem in movement. Why does it lead us to prefer some accounts of motor control over others?
- Q3.** Discuss the notion of the psychological present.
- Q4.** Describe Shepard and Metzlar's findings on mental rotation. What do they suggest about mental representation?
- Q5.** Describe the strange case of Phineas Gage, including a description of the location of his injury. What does it illustrate about the brain?
- Q6.** Affirmation of the consequent and denial of the antecedent are two kinds of errors people make when trying to reason in a logical fashion. Illustrate each with an example.