

NST2BBS

Natural Sciences Tripos Part II: Biological and Biomedical Sciences

Paper 66: Modern Medicine and Biomedical Sciences

You should answer three questions. All questions carry equal weighting.

You should spend no more than three hours on answering all the questions, and a word limit is set of no more than 1,500 words per answer.

All your answers for this paper should be submitted in one DOC, DOCX or PDF document. Each answer should be clearly headed with the question number and the question.

Put your Blind Grade Number (BGN) at the start of the document. Do not put your name anywhere in the document.

1. Assess the case for *and* against the view that the French Revolution marks a sharp break in medical history.
2. Some historians have written about “the laboratory revolution in medicine”. How would you describe and explain the changing status of laboratories in the nineteenth century?
3. Why did some medical practitioners in the nineteenth century remain unconvinced that bacteria caused disease?
4. Some historians argue that medical science in the decades around 1900 was an essentially imperial project. Do you agree?
5. How and why did hospitals in Europe and the United States change around 1900?
6. Why did some elite English physicians reject science in the early twentieth century?
7. What, if anything, changed in the production of medicines in the United States between the start of World War I and the end of World War II?

8. How do the different legal, medical and psychological meanings of “trial” help make sense of the history of cancer research and treatment in the twentieth century?
9. Describe the role played by medicine in processes of decolonization after World War II.
10. In what ways, if at all, did plantation economies in the Atlantic world accentuate racial difference as an important subject for modern medical theory and practice?
11. What does the history of eugenics tell us about the history of early twentieth-century medicine?
12. Why has so much reproductive technology been directed at women’s bodies rather than men’s bodies?

END OF PAPER