

Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh  
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY  
Summer Examination, 2002  
B.Sc. (Anatomy), AN401  
*Anthropology and Theory and Practice of Science*

**Paper I – Time allowed: Two hours**

**Dr. S. McDonald**  
**Mr. A. Black**  
**Dr. B. Wilkins**

Please use separate answer books for each section.

***Undenominated students answer sections A and B.***

***Denominated Biomedical Science students answer sections A and C***

**Section A: Theory and Practice of Science**

**Answer Question 1 (All students).**

1. You have been asked to participate in an event designed to attract secondary school students to study science. Your contribution will be a brief article in a brochure to be circulated to all the local secondary schools. Write an article about your Semester II research project in terms you feel a secondary school student would understand. Try to make your subject matter as interesting as possible to your intended audience. Concentrate on giving a 'big picture' view rather than on specific experimental details.

**Section B: Anthropology (Undenominated students only)**

**Answer Question 1 and 1 other.**

1. Citing specific examples, write an essay outlining how the post-mortem treatment of a human body may reflect the life and society of that individual.

2. Write an essay on the main aspects of the preservation process found in sphagnum peat bogs.

3. Steven Pinker wrote in 1994,

“As you are reading these words, you are taking part in one of the wonders of the natural world. For you and I belong to a species with a remarkable ability: we can shape events in each other's brains with exquisite precision. I am not referring to telepathy or mind control or the other obsessions of fringe science; even in the depictions of believers these are blunt instruments compared to an ability that is uncontroversially present in every one of us. That ability is language. Simply by making noises with our mouths, we can reliably cause precise new combinations of ideas to arise in each other's minds. The ability comes so naturally that we are apt to forget what a miracle it is.”

Discuss, with strict reference to aspects of human evolution.

**Section C: Theory and Practice of Science (Biomedical Science students only)**

**Answer Question 1.**

1. How can information technology best be used in anatomical teaching and research?

Illustrate your answer with specific examples drawn from your experience of anatomy over the last three years.