

EXAM-OLGY

When the seventh and eighth weeks of the semester roll around, the mid-term exams are with us. We approached the English Workshop in South Hall where Mr. Andrew Kafka was discussing EXAM-OLGY with a few freshmen. Mr. Kafka was saying that while an ancient philosopher may have had one idea when he declared that the unexamined life is not worth-living, to some student newcomers on our campus this is a time of anguish and occasionally anger. He read the following doggerel rhymes which an undergraduate had once written, inspired by the examinations and dedicated to the BLUE BOOK:

Trace, develop, indicate
Show, discuss and illustrate
Prove, defend and justify
Uphold, account for, verify
Oppose, contrast, distinguish
and substantiate
Appraise, define, interpret
and evaluate
Review, conclude, summarize
Complete, explain, analyze.
Refute, disprove, select and choose
Observe, examine, give, tell and use
Propose, assume, portray, prepare
Describe, include, suggest, compare
Identify, specify, clarify and
state
Estimate, enumerate and demonstrate

When one of the students expressed interest in taking a course in EXAM-OLGY, Mr. Kafka volunteered some classifications of the basic jargon if such a course were given:

(SEE Next column)

1. The teacher will advise the student earnestly to: be specific; be precise; be sure to include; be explicit; be brief; be relevant; explain fully; state clearly; bear in mind; remember at all times; place emphasis upon; pay particular attention to; touch upon; take into account that; show in each case that; confine your answer to.

2. For short answer, to: indicate whether true or false; match the following; select the correct word; complete the statement correctly; underline the right word; identify in a phrase.

3. More power and precision are needed in order to: give evidence for; enlarge upon; describe in detail; evaluate critically; propose an alternate solution for; base your conclusion on; link the following; give examples of; write a brief resume; state briefly BUT fully.

4. Certain questions must be analyzed: with respect to; as opposed to; with particular reference to; with regard to; from the standpoint of; without losing sight of; in the light of; in accordance with.

Some ask you to describe: The growth of; the rise of; the nature of; the impact of; the decline of; the causes and/or the effects of.

Others to trace: the emergence of; the development of; the origins of; the changes of; the influence of.

Others to show: the significance of; the contribution of; the role of; the main characteristics of; the relation between; the fundamental difference between.

(cont'd on page)