



Mark Scheme (Results)

Summer 2024

Pearson Edexcel GCSE
In Religious Studies B
Paper 2: Religion, Peace & Conflict
2E Hinduism

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General Marking Guidance

- All candidates must receive the same treatment. Examiners must mark the first candidate in exactly the same way as they mark the last.
- Mark schemes should be applied positively. Candidates must be rewarded for what they have shown they can do rather than penalised for omissions.
- Examiners should mark according to the mark scheme not according to their perception of where the grade boundaries may lie.
- There is no ceiling on achievement. All marks on the mark scheme should be used appropriately.
- All the marks on the mark scheme are designed to be awarded. Examiners should always award full marks if deserved, i.e. if the answer matches the mark scheme. Examiners should also be prepared to award zero marks if the candidate's response is not worthy of credit according to the mark scheme.
- Where some judgement is required, mark schemes will provide the principles by which marks will be awarded and exemplification may be limited.
- When examiners are in doubt regarding the application of the mark scheme to a candidate's response, the team leader must be consulted.
- Crossed out work should be marked UNLESS the candidate has replaced it with an alternative response.

Paper 2: Religion, Peace and Conflict 2E - Hinduism Mark Scheme - 2406

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
1(a)	<p>AO1 3 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each point identified up to a maximum of three.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kama is one of the four aims of life (1) • Kama is the pursuit of sensual pleasure (1) • Kama is a necessary part of human life (1) • Kama is more than sexual pleasure (1) • For some Hindus, kama is the god of love (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lists (maximum of one mark) 	3

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
1(b)	<p>AO1 4 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for providing a reason. Award a second mark for development of the reason. Up to a maximum of four.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shiva is important to some Hindus because he is part of the Trimurti (1) which is the three main deities of Hinduism (1) • Shiva is important because he destroys the world (1) at the end of each yuga cycle (1) • Shiva is important because he embodies the idea of self-sacrifice (1) for example, when he caught the goddess Ganga in his hair (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated reason/development • Development that does not relate both to the reason given and to the question. 	4

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
1(c)	<p>AO1 5 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each teaching. Award further marks for each development of the teaching up to a maximum of four marks. Award one further mark for any relevant source of wisdom or authority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each of the three gunas is usually associated with a different member of the trimurti (1), but Shiva Purana states that Shiva governs all three gunas (1). 'We worship the three-eyed lord Shiva, the lord of the three worlds, the father of the three spheres, the lord of the three gunas' (Shiva Purana 2.2.38) (1) The gunas are the component elements of the universe (1) and the constituent elements of Maya (1). 'My divine energy Maya, consisting of the three modes of nature, is very difficult to overcome...' (Bhagavad Gita 7.14) (1) All creatures have a mix of gunas (1) and people who seek a better next life try to cultivate the sattva guna (1). 'Those who die with a predominance of sattva reach the pure abodes' (Bhagavad Gita 14.14) (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repeated teaching / development Development that does not relate both to the teaching given and to the question Reference to a source of wisdom that does not relate to the teaching given. 	5

Question number	Indicative content	Mark
1(d)	<p data-bbox="363 260 768 291">AO2 12 marks, SPaG 3 marks</p> <p data-bbox="363 323 1333 485">Candidates must underpin their analysis and evaluation with knowledge and understanding. Candidates will be required to demonstrate thorough knowledge and understanding as well as accuracy of religion and belief when responding to the question and in meeting AO2 descriptors.</p> <p data-bbox="363 516 427 548">AO2</p> <p data-bbox="363 548 768 579">Arguments for the statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="412 579 1333 863" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="412 579 1292 663">• The characteristics of Brahman are clearly shown in the Hindu scriptures and their teachings have enriched and informed Hindus for thousands of years <li data-bbox="412 663 1333 768">• Some Hindu scriptures record the words of a deity – for example the words of Krishna in the Bhagavad Gita – and so must be a good way to learn the characteristics of Brahman <li data-bbox="412 768 1333 863">• The Hindu scriptures are so diverse, in type and genre, that they offer many different ways of expressing the characteristics of Brahman. <p data-bbox="363 894 878 926">Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="412 926 1333 1220" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="412 926 1317 1020">• Words are never going to be an effective way to communicate some truths about Brahman, because they will never be able to express the fulness of those truths <li data-bbox="412 1020 1333 1125">• Communicating through words excludes some people; it is much better to communicate the characteristics of Brahman through imagery, such as murtis <li data-bbox="412 1125 1333 1220">• Most Hindus believe that other religions also lead to Brahman, so the scriptures of other religions may be the best means to learn about <i>some</i> aspects of Brahman. <p data-bbox="363 1283 805 1314">Accept any other valid response.</p>	15

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable response.
Level 1	1–3	A superficial analysis of the statement that uses undeveloped arguments, underpinned by isolated elements of understanding of religion and belief. Judgements are asserted without clear links to the analysis.
Level 2	4–6	A basic analysis of the statement that uses some developed arguments to discuss different points of view, underpinned by limited understanding of religion and belief. This leads to simple judgements which have some links to the analysis, leading to a conclusion with limited justification.
Level 3	7–9	A good analysis of the statement that uses logical chains of reasoning to discuss different points of view, underpinned by a sound understanding of religion and belief. This leads to reasoned judgements which are clearly linked to the analysis, leading to a partially justified conclusion.
Level 4	10–12	A sustained and coherent analysis of the statement that uses logical chains of reasoning to discuss different points of view, underpinned by thorough understanding of religion and belief. This leads to reasoned judgements supported by the appraisal of arguments, leading to a justified conclusion that is consistent with the analysis.

'Point(s) of view' **always** means arguments for and against the statement. **Where specified in the bullet points under the question**, it may also include one of the following:

- different views within the religion
- non-religious views
- philosophical arguments
- ethical arguments.

SPaG

Marks		Descriptors
0 marks	No marks awarded	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The candidate writes nothing.• The candidate's response does not relate to the question.• The candidate's achievement in SPaG does not reach the threshold performance level, for example errors in spelling, punctuation and grammar severely hinder meaning.
1 mark	Threshold performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates spell and punctuate with reasonable accuracy.• Candidates use rules of grammar with some control of meaning and any errors do not significantly hinder meaning overall.• Candidates use a limited range of specialist terms as appropriate.
2 marks	Intermediate performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates spell and punctuate with considerable accuracy.• Candidates use rules of grammar with general control of meaning overall.• Candidates use a good range of specialist terms as appropriate.
3 marks	High performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates spell and punctuate with consistent accuracy.• Candidates use rules of grammar with effective control of meaning overall.• Candidates use a wide range of specialist terms as appropriate.

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
2(a)	<p>AO1 3 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each point identified up to a maximum of three.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hindus believe that some people suffer as a result of their previous actions (1) • Some people suffer as a result of other people's actions (1) • Some people suffer because it is the Kali Yuga (1) • Suffering can be caused by attachment to material possessions (1) • Most Hindus believe that suffering is an integral part of the cycle of life (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lists (maximum of one mark) 	3

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
2(b)	<p>AO1 4 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for providing a reason. Award a second mark for development of the reason. Up to a maximum of four.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Justice is important to Hindus because they believe it to be part of the natural order (1) that is seen in the teachings about karma (1) • Justice allows society to be kept safe (1) because people who do wrong face the consequences of their actions (1) • Justice is embedded in the Hindu scriptures (1) for example, in the laws outlined in the Manusmriti (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated reason/development • Development that does not relate both to the reason given and to the question. 	4

Question number		Reject	Mark
2(c)	<p>AO1 5 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each teaching. Award further marks for each development of the teaching up to a maximum of four marks. Award one further mark for any relevant source of wisdom or authority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many Hindus teach that criminals should be encouraged to repent (1) because of the karmic consequences of their crimes (1). Mahabharata 13.117 tells of a wicked man's reincarnation as a worm (1) Many Hindus teach that criminals should be punished (1) in order to deter other people from committing crimes (1). 'The whole world is kept in order by punishment...' (Manusmriti 7.22) (1) Some Hindus teach that criminals should be prevented from reoffending (1), for the good of society (1). 'Whatever must be done by him and by his servants for the protection of his people, that I will fully declare to you in due order.' (Manusmriti 7.36) (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repeated teaching/development Development that does not relate both to the teaching given and to the question Reference to a source of wisdom that does not relate to the teaching given. 	5

Question number	Indicative content	Mark
2(d)	<p data-bbox="370 264 560 289">AO2 12 marks</p> <p data-bbox="370 327 1333 485">Candidates must underpin their analysis and evaluation with knowledge and understanding. Candidates will be required to demonstrate thorough knowledge and understanding as well as accuracy of religion and belief when responding to the question and in meeting AO2 descriptors.</p> <p data-bbox="370 522 431 548">AO2</p> <p data-bbox="370 554 813 579">Arguments for the statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="418 585 1341 905" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="418 585 1312 674">• Punishment is explicitly encouraged in the Hindu scriptures, for example the Laws of Manu, as a means of encouraging an ordered society <li data-bbox="418 680 1317 768">• Without punishment, society has to rely on all people acting altruistically for the common good and Hindus might argue that there is no such thing as altruism in nature <li data-bbox="418 774 1341 905">• Hindus may believe that for a society to function properly it must be just – the administering of punishments is a necessary feature of justice and, therefore, a necessary feature of a properly functioning society. <p data-bbox="370 942 878 968">Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="418 974 1341 1257" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="418 974 1341 1062">• Any form of physical punishment causes harm to another person and therefore goes against the principle of ahimsa and can never be justified <li data-bbox="418 1068 1317 1157">• If people only do good out of fear of punishment, then it devalues their good deeds and makes it less likely that they will benefit from them karmically <li data-bbox="418 1163 1325 1257">• Some Hindus may think that punishment is not a long-term solution to having an ordered society, education is. Many people are able to behave ethically without having been punished. <p data-bbox="370 1325 805 1350">Accept any other valid response.</p>	12

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable response.
Level 1	1–3	A superficial analysis of the statement that uses undeveloped arguments, underpinned by isolated elements of understanding of religion and belief. Judgements are asserted without clear links to the analysis.
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'Point(s) of view' **always** means arguments for and against the statement. **Where specified in the bullet points under the question**, it may also include one of the following:

- different views within the religion
- non-religious views
- philosophical arguments
- ethical arguments.

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
3(a)	<p>AO1 3 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each point identified up to a maximum of three.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some Hindus practise yoga by meditating (1) Some Hindus do good deeds (1) Some Hindus perform acts of worship (1) Some Hindus study (1) Some Hindus focus on attaining unity with Brahman (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lists (maximum of one mark) 	3

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
3(b)	<p>AO1 4 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for providing a reason. Award a second mark for development of the reason. Up to a maximum of four.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some Hindus believe that they don't need to travel to be close to Brahman (1) because Brahman is in all (1) Pilgrimage is not important because it can be a distraction (1); in the higher forms of yoga a person should look within to encounter Brahman (1) Traditional pilgrimages are simply unaffordable for many Hindus (1) so they focus on other ways of deepening their faith (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repeated reason/development Development that does not relate both to the reason given and to the question. 	4

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
3(c)	<p>AO1 5 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each reason. Award further marks for each development of the reason up to a maximum of four marks. Award one further mark for any relevant source of wisdom or authority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hindus meditate because the scriptures teach them that it is important (1) and that it is the best way to come close to the Divine (1). 'Of all yogis, those whose minds are always absorbed in Me, and who engage in devotion to Me with great faith, them I consider to be the highest of all.' (Bhagavad Gita 6.47) (1) Meditation helps a person to become detached from material things (1) and so come closer to Moksha (1). 'With thorough discipline, they learn to withdraw the mind from selfish cravings and rivet it on the unsurpassable good of the self.' (Bhagavad Gita 6.18) (1) Meditation helps a person to achieve unity with the Divine (1) and, through the Divine, with all of creation (1). 'The true yogis, uniting their consciousness with God, see with equal eye, all living beings in God and God in all living beings.' (Bhagavad Gita 6.29) (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repeated reason/development Development that does not relate both to the reason given and to the question Reference to a source of wisdom that does not relate to the reason given. 	5

Question number	Indicative content	Mark
3(d)	<p data-bbox="363 260 768 291">AO2 12 marks, SPaG 3 marks</p> <p data-bbox="363 323 1312 485">Candidates must underpin their analysis and evaluation with knowledge and understanding. Candidates will be required to demonstrate thorough knowledge and understanding as well as accuracy of religion and belief when responding to the question and in meeting AO2 descriptors.</p> <p data-bbox="363 516 431 548">AO2</p> <p data-bbox="363 548 813 579">Arguments for the statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="412 579 1295 873" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="412 579 1260 705">• Festivals are the best form of worship because they allow a person to connect, and worship, at a deep level with the Divine, because they allow the believer to participate in the story behind the festival <li data-bbox="412 705 1276 810">• Most Hindu festivals have a range of activities in them and a believer can choose to take part in the elements that are specifically acts of worship <li data-bbox="412 810 1295 873">• The rites and ceremonies in festivals communicate a message about the Divine, even if the worshipper is unaware of it. <p data-bbox="363 905 878 936">Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="412 936 1276 1230" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="412 936 1276 1041">• Some Hindu festivals require complicated preparations, such as buying coloured powders, or cooking special foods. The preparations may distract a person from worshipping <li data-bbox="412 1041 1260 1146">• Some Hindu festivals have a strongly social aspect, such as eating with the extended family. It is easy to focus on the family time, rather than worship <li data-bbox="412 1146 1260 1230">• Some Hindus take part in festivals simply because they are traditional and they do not even think about the spiritual aspect of them. <p data-bbox="363 1262 805 1293">Accept any other valid response.</p>	15

Level	Mark	Descriptor
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2 marks	Intermediate performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates spell and punctuate with considerable accuracy.• Candidates use rules of grammar with general control of meaning overall.• Candidates use a good range of specialist terms as appropriate.
3 marks	High performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates spell and punctuate with consistent accuracy.• Candidates use rules of grammar with effective control of meaning overall.• Candidates use a wide range of specialist terms as appropriate.

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
4(a)	<p>AO1 3 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each point identified up to a maximum of three.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some Hindus teach that conflict is a necessary part of being in the Kali Yuga (1) Conflict is part of the dharma of the Kshatriya (1) Conflict is sometimes justified (1) Sometimes conflict is against ahimsa (1) Some Hindus think that physical conflict is never justified (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lists (maximum of one mark) 	3

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
4(b)	<p>AO1 4 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for providing a way. Award a second mark for development of the way. Up to a maximum of four.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some Hindus disagree that religions cause conflict because most Hindus are very accepting of other faiths (1) and believe that all religions are paths to God (1) Some Hindus agree that religion can cause conflict because they believe that it is the role of the Kshatriya to protect the Hindu religion (1), and especially, for example, to protect the Brahmins (1) Some Hindus would argue that religion is incidental as a cause of conflict because conflict is simply a part of the fact that we are in the Kali Yuga (1) and it would happen with or without religion (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repeated way/development Development that does not relate both to the way given and to the question. 	4

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
4(c)	<p>AO1 5 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each teaching. Award further marks for each development of the teaching up to a maximum of four marks. Award one further mark for any relevant source of wisdom or authority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some Hindus think that killing is always wrong because it is himsa (1) and there are always non-violent alternatives (1). 'There are many causes that I am prepared to die for, but none that I am prepared to kill for.' (attributed to Gandhi) (1) Some Hindus believe that killing can be someone's duty (1); the Kshatriya, for example, have a duty to fight (1). 'Besides, considering your duty as a warrior, you should not waver. Indeed, for a warrior, there is no better engagement than fighting for upholding of righteousness.' (Bhagavad Gita 2.31) (1) Some Hindus have a neutral view of killing in war because 'the soul neither kills nor can it be killed' (Bhagavad Gita 2.19) (1) and killing only affects the material body (1) which the atman sheds like 'worn-out garments' (Bhagavad Gita 2.22) (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repeated teaching/ development Development that does not relate both to the teaching given and to the question Reference to a source of wisdom that does not relate to the teaching given. 	5

Question number	Indicative content	Mark
4(d)	<p data-bbox="363 260 560 289">AO2 12 marks</p> <p data-bbox="363 323 1333 485">Candidates must underpin their analysis and evaluation with knowledge and understanding. Candidates will be required to demonstrate thorough knowledge and understanding as well as accuracy of religion and belief when responding to the question and in meeting AO2 descriptors.</p> <p data-bbox="363 518 431 548">AO2</p> <p data-bbox="363 552 812 581">Arguments for the statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="412 585 1338 905" style="list-style-type: none"> • Passive resistance doesn't impose any meaningful consequences on the person being opposed, and so some Hindus believe that it doesn't work because they never learn to change their behaviour • Passive resistance can require enormous self-restraint in the face of strong provocation, and the Bhagavad Gita highlights how difficult it is to maintain that level of self-control and avoid escalating a situation • If Hindus believed that passive resistance were truly effective, it would have been tried more often, in different contexts, proving passive resistance doesn't work. <p data-bbox="363 938 876 968">Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="412 972 1333 1325" style="list-style-type: none"> • Passive resistance has been shown to work in various places and times across the world, from the example of Gandhi in India to the USA • Even if passive resistance does not immediately bring about the desired change, it can still change people's hearts. Gandhi was admired in the mill towns of Lancashire, long before he became successful politically • Some Hindus think that non-passive forms of resistance are automatically less successful, because the person resisting has to lower themselves to the level of their opponent. Only passive resistance avoids this. <p data-bbox="363 1358 803 1388">Accept any other valid response.</p> <p data-bbox="363 1421 1320 1518">Candidates who do not consider different points of view within the religious tradition (as instructed in the question) cannot achieve marks beyond Level 2.</p>	12

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable response.
Level 1	1–3	A superficial analysis of the statement that uses undeveloped arguments, underpinned by isolated elements of understanding of religion and belief. Judgements are asserted without clear links to the analysis.
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