

Pearson Edexcel GCE

Religious Studies

Advanced Subsidiary

Unit 1: Religious Studies – Foundations

Tuesday 13 May 2014 – Morning

Time: 1 hour 45 minutes

Paper Reference

6RS01/01

You must have:

Answer Book (enclosed)

Instructions

- Answer **three** questions. For each question you may only answer **either** part a **or** part b but **not** both.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided in the Answer Book
– *there may be more space than you need.*
- Do not return this question paper with the Answer Book.

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 90.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*
- Quality of written communication will be taken into account in the marking of all your responses
– *you should take particular care with your spelling, punctuation and grammar, as well as the clarity of expression, on these questions.*

Advice

- The assessment of your answers will be based on your knowledge and understanding of the topic in question (assessed in part (i) of each question for 70% of the marks) and your evaluative skills (assessed in part (ii) of each question for 30% of the marks).

Turn over ►

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PEARSON

Philosophy

EITHER

- 1 (a) (i) Examine **three** key ideas of the design argument for the existence of God. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the claim that these **three** ideas are all equally weak. (9)

(Total for Question 1 (a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) Examine **both** views that:
- the existence of the world demands an explanation and
 - this explanation may be called 'God'. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the challenges raised by these views. (9)

(Total for Question 1 (b) = 30 marks)

EITHER

- 2 (a) (i) 'Suffering exists and this counts as evidence against God.'
Examine this point of view and **one** solution to the problem of suffering. (21)
- (ii) Comment on another solution to the problem of suffering in which suffering may not be seen as evidence against God. (9)

(Total for Question 2 (a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the key ideas of the concept of miracles. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that a miracle does not violate laws of nature. (9)

(Total for Question 2 (b) = 30 marks)

Ethics

EITHER

3 (a) (i) Outline the issues raised by the claim that morality is dependent on religion. (21)

(ii) To what extent do the arguments in favour of this view fail? (9)

(Total for Question 3 (a) = 30 marks)

OR

(b) (i) Examine the reasons why Utilitarianism may be thought to be a convincing ethical theory. (21)

(ii) To what extent are these reasons outweighed by challenges to Utilitarianism? (9)

(Total for Question 3 (b) = 30 marks)

EITHER

4 (a) (i) Outline the view that war may sometimes be justified. (21)

(ii) Comment on the claim that there are no good reasons to go to war. (9)

(Total for Question 4 (a) = 30 marks)

OR

(b) (i) Outline **two** ways in which religious beliefs may help to resolve matters of sexual ethics. (21)

(ii) To what extent are religious beliefs about sexual ethics still valuable? (9)

(Total for Question 4 (b) = 30 marks)

Buddhism

EITHER

- 5** (a) (i) Examine how the religious context prior to the time of the Buddha influenced his life. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the claim that the Buddha reacted against the religious beliefs and practices of that period. (9)

(Total for Question 5 (a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) 'It is easy for people to identify with the central experiences of the Buddha.'
Examine this point of view. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the claim that the life of the Buddha shows a way of liberation. (9)

(Total for Question 5 (b) = 30 marks)

EITHER

- 6** (a) (i) 'The Sangha delivers the Dharma to the laity.'
Examine the key ideas in this statement. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the claim that the Buddhist notion of 'refuge' is now out of date. (9)

(Total for Question 6 (a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) Examine key reasons why Buddhists meditate. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the possible challenges to the value of meditation as the way to enlightenment. (9)

(Total for Question 6 (b) = 30 marks)

Christianity

EITHER

- 7 (a) (i) Examine the differing teachings during the Modern period about the Person and work of Jesus. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of these teachings for Christians. (9)

(Total for Question 7 (a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the Church's teachings about the life and work of Jesus in **one** historical and social context. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of these teachings for Christians. (9)

(Total for Question 7 (b) = 30 marks)

EITHER

- 8 (a) (i) Examine Christian beliefs about God as personal and creator. (21)
- (ii) 'The belief that God is personal is much more important today than the belief that God is creator.'
Comment on this view. (9)

(Total for Question 8 (a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) Examine different meanings of **both** baptism and Eucharist in **two** Christian traditions. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of these different meanings for Christian belief. (9)

(Total for Question 8 (b) = 30 marks)

Hinduism

EITHER

- 9 (a) (i) Examine the significance of the Indus Valley culture, and Aryan influences, for an understanding of the origins of Hinduism. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the claim that issues about origins are of little significance for an understanding of Hinduism. (9)

(Total for Question 9 (a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) 'The Vedas are mainly concerned with gods and ritual.'
Examine this point of view. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the claim that the Vedic period is not very significant for Hinduism. (9)

(Total for Question 9 (b) = 30 marks)

EITHER

- 10 (a) (i) Examine **three** different types of yoga. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the different ideas about yoga both as:
- having a spiritual purpose and
 - producing physical wellbeing. (9)

(Total for Question 10 (a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) Examine **two** of the following:
- avatar
 - Sakti
 - Siva. (21)
- (ii) Comment on why the **two** topics selected in (i) are significant for the belief and practice of devotees. (9)

(Total for Question 10 (b) = 30 marks)

Islam

EITHER

- 11** (a) (i) 'The world into which Muhammad was born is described by subsequent Muslims in a single word: "ignorant".
Examine this quotation. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of the claim that pre-Islamic Arabia was ready for a Messenger. (9)

(Total for Question 11 (a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the religious features of **three** key events in the life of Muhammad. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the claim that Muhammad is the Final Messenger. (9)

(Total for Question 11 (b) = 30 marks)

EITHER

- 12** (a) (i) In the context of the Six Beliefs, examine **three** key emphases associated with Allah. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the claim that no words can describe Allah. (9)

(Total for Question 12 (a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) Examine ways in which the Five Pillars demonstrate a Muslim's submission to Allah and identity within the Muslim community. (21)
- (ii) Comment on how Muslims may respond to issues raised by submission to Allah. (9)

(Total for Question 12 (b) = 30 marks)

Judaism

EITHER

- 13** (a) (i) Examine the key emphases of Rashi and Judah Halevi. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of **one** of these for Rabbinic Judaism. (9)

(Total for Question 13 (a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the emphases in the teachings of Moses Maimonides and his historical and religious context. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the distinctive importance of Moses Maimonides within Judaism. (9)

(Total for Question 13 (b) = 30 marks)

EITHER

- 14** (a) (i) Examine the key emphases of Orthodox Judaism. (21)
- (ii) Comment on some challenges to Orthodox Judaism and its responses. (9)

(Total for Question 14 (a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the key emphases of beliefs and practices within Reform Judaism. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view held by Reform Judaism that beliefs and practices have to evolve over time. (9)

(Total for Question 14 (b) = 30 marks)

Sikhism

EITHER

15 (a) (i) Examine the relationship between the life and teaching of Guru Nanak and **either** Hinduism **or** Islam. (21)

(ii) Comment on the view that Guru Nanak is the most important Guru for Sikhs. (9)

(Total for Question 15 (a) = 30 marks)

OR

(b) (i) Give an account of the compilation and status of the Guru Granth Sahib. (21)

(ii) Comment on the authority of the Guru Granth Sahib for Sikhs. (9)

(Total for Question 15 (b) = 30 marks)

EITHER

16 (a) (i) Give an account of:
• the main forms of private devotion and
• devotion in the gurdwara. (21)

(ii) Comment on the view that Nit Nem is the most important form of worship. (9)

(Total for Question 16 (a) = 30 marks)

OR

(b) (i) Examine the key features of the Rahit Maryada. (21)

(ii) Comment on the view that only members of the Khalsa should really be called Sikh. (9)

(Total for Question 16 (b) = 30 marks)

New Testament

EITHER

- 17 (a) (i) Examine **either** the teachings of Jesus concerning riches (Luke's Gospel) **or** the meaning of the sayings 'I am the Bread of Life' and 'I am the gate for the sheep' (Fourth Gospel). (21)
- (ii) To what extent were these teachings or sayings crucial to understanding Jesus' ministry? (9)

(Total for Question 17 (a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) What do **either** the raising of the widow's son and the calming of the storm (Luke's Gospel) **or** the healing of the lame man and the raising of Lazarus (Fourth Gospel) reveal about the character of Jesus' ministry? (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that the miracles of Jesus were the most important feature of his ministry. (9)

(Total for Question 17 (b) = 30 marks)

EITHER

- 18 (a) (i) Outline **either** teachings on prayer and praise (Luke's Gospel) **or** the important issues arising from **two** episodes involving women (Fourth Gospel). (21)
- (ii) To what extent do teachings on prayer and praise **or** these episodes involving women display different attitudes to those of Judaism? (9)

(Total for Question 18 (a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) Identify the key teachings of Jesus regarding the character of discipleship. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that the role of John the Baptist was of special importance to the ministry of Jesus. (9)

(Total for Question 18 (b) = 30 marks)

TOTAL FOR PAPER = 90 MARKS

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