

Edexcel GCE

Religious Studies

Advanced Subsidiary

Unit 1: Religious Studies – Foundations

Monday 7 June 2010 – 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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Philosophy

EITHER

- 1 (a) (i) Give an account of the fundamental ideas of the design argument for the existence of God. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that the strengths of these ideas make this a convincing argument. (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) What are the significant features of the cosmological argument for the existence of God? (21)
- (ii) How far, if at all, do the strengths outweigh the weaknesses? (9)

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

EITHER

- 2 (a) (i) Identify key ideas associated with the problem of suffering. Examine **two** solutions to the problem of suffering. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that these are only partially successful solutions. (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Outline **two** definitions of the term 'miracle'. Examine key reasons for believing in miracles. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that these reasons for believing in miracles are more persuasive than potential criticisms. (9)

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

Ethics

EITHER

- 3 (a) (i) Examine the key strengths and weaknesses of utilitarianism. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that the strengths of utilitarianism are outweighed by its weaknesses. (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Identify the distinctive characteristics of situation ethics. (21)
- (ii) Consider the view that situation ethics helps to clarify the relationship between religion and morality. (9)

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

EITHER

- 4 (a) (i) Examine what is meant by Just War and pacifism. (21)
- (ii) To what extent is pacifism compatible with a Just War? (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Outline **TWO** ways in which a dilemma in sexual ethics may be resolved. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the claim that freedom of choice is the most important issue in sexual ethics. (9)

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

Buddhism

EITHER

- 5** (a) (i) Examine the religious and historical context prior to the time of the Buddha. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the claim that the Buddha reacted against this background. (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the key features of the Buddha's enlightenment and his death. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of his enlightenment for Buddhists. (9)

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

EITHER

- 6** (a) (i) Examine the links between the Sangha and the Dharma in the Three Refuges. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of the Sangha for Buddhists. (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the significance of meditation in the context of the Noble Eightfold Path. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the importance of meditation for Buddhists. (9)

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

Christianity

EITHER

- 7 (a) (i) Examine the differing teachings during the Reformation 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, religious 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 as Creator. (21)
- (ii) How far are these beliefs relevant to Christians today? (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine **two** features of Christian worship. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that the practices of a particular Church fully demonstrate its beliefs? (9)

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

Hinduism

EITHER

- 9 (a) (i) Examine the significant features of the Indus Valley culture and Aryan influences on it. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the influences of this period for the development of Hinduism. (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine key features of selected Vedic beliefs and practices. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the importance of some of these features for the development of Hinduism. (9)

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

EITHER

- 10 (a) (i) Examine the distinctive features of **two** types of yoga. (21)
- (ii) Comment on any **two** purposes of yoga. (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the beliefs and practices associated with Krishna and Rama. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that the beliefs and practices associated with Krishna have made a significant contribution to the development of Hinduism. (9)

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

Islam

EITHER

- 11 (a) (i) Examine **three** features of the religious context prior to the time of Muhammad. (21)
- (ii) To what extent did Muhammad reject these religious features? (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the differences between Muhammad's life in Makkah and his life in Madinah. (21)
- (ii) Comment on significant links between these periods in Muhammad's life. (9)

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

EITHER

- 12 (a) (i) Examine the key features of **three** of the six beliefs. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of **two** of these beliefs for Muslims. (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the key beliefs associated with the terms 'islam' and 'ummah'. You may illustrate your answer with reference to the five pillars. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the key purposes of any **two** of the pillars. (9)

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

Judaism

EITHER

- 13** (a) (i) Outline the historical and religious context of Judah Halevi and examine his key teachings. (21)
- (ii) Comment on Judah Halevi's distinctive contributions to Judaism. (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Outline the historical and religious context of Moses Maimonides and examine his key teachings. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the importance of Moses Maimonides to Judaism. (9)

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

EITHER

- 14** (a) (i) Examine the distinctive practices of Orthodox Judaism. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of some distinctive teachings of Orthodox Judaism for an understanding of Jewish practices. (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the key beliefs of Reform Judaism. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the relationship between beliefs and practices within Reform Judaism. (9)

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

Sikhism

EITHER

15 (a) (i) Examine Guru Nanak's teachings in their religious context. (21)

(ii) To what extent is the religious experience of Guru Nanak the basis of Sikhism today? (9)

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

OR

(b) (i) Examine the role, importance and authority of the Guru Granth Sahib for Sikhs. (21)

(ii) Comment on the importance of Guru Gobind Singh for Sikhs. (9)

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

EITHER

16 (a) (i) Examine the importance of nam simran and the practice of devotion for Sikhs. (21)

(ii) To what extent is reciting a mantra the most important part of Sikh worship? (9)

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

OR

(b) (i) Describe the main standards of behaviour expected from members of the Khalsa. (21)

(ii) Comment on the view that the Rahit Maryada is irrelevant for Sikhs today. (9)

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

New Testament

EITHER

- 17 (a) (i) Examine **EITHER** the teachings of Jesus concerning forgiveness (Luke's Gospel) **or** examine the meaning of the sayings 'I am the light of the world' and 'Before Abraham was, I am' (Fourth Gospel). (21)
- (ii) Consider why these teachings or sayings were so controversial for Jesus' hearers. (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) What do **EITHER** the calming of the storm and the raising of Jairus' daughter (Luke's Gospel) **or** the healing of the lame man and the healing of the blind man (Fourth Gospel) teach about the ministry of Jesus? (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that the miracles of Jesus added little to his ministry. (9)

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

EITHER

- 18 (a) (i) What can be learned from **EITHER** Jesus' teaching on the Sabbath (Luke's Gospel) **or** his conversations with the Samaritan Woman at the well and Mary Magdalene at the empty tomb (Fourth Gospel)? (21)
- (ii) To what extent was **EITHER** Jesus' teaching on worship **or** his conversations with women important to the gospel? (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the important features of Jesus' teaching regarding the character of discipleship. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that the Twelve were particularly important to the ministry of Jesus. (9)

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

TOTAL FOR PAPER: 90 MARKS

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