

ST. GEORGE'S COLLEGE ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION

13+

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Please read this information carefully **before** the examination starts.

- This examination is 1 hour and 15 minutes long.
- Answer **three** questions. Do not answer more than **one** question from any one section.
- All questions carry a **total** of 20 marks each.
- Remember to write your name, the section number and question number on **every** sheet of paper used.
- Writing and presentation are important.

DO NOT WRITE ON THE QUESTION PAPER. ANSWERS AND ROUGH NOTES TO BE WRITTEN ON A4 PAPER.

Section 1: OLD TESTAMENT

1. **The Nature of Man and the Fall** **(The Story of Adam and Eve)**

- a) Describe the events that happened after this point:

“Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made.” (Genesis 3 v 1)

and up to this point:

“You will have to work hard and sweat to make the soil produce any – thing, until you go back to the soil from which you were formed. You were made from soil, and you will become soil again.”
(Genesis 3 v 19) **(7 marks)**

- b) Do you think that Adam and Eve were responsible for eating the forbidden fruit? Explain your answer. **(6 marks)**

- c) *“Adam and Eve are responsible for most of the evil that exists in the world today.”*

Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer showing that you have thought about **more than one viewpoint.**
(7 marks)

2. **Solomon’s Wisdom**

- a) *Two women were arguing over a baby. Both of them claimed that the child was theirs. King Solomon was asked to decide whose baby it was.*

Describe this story in detail, including how King Solomon was able to make up his mind. **(7 marks)**

- b) King Solomon showed that he was trying to be just. Give examples from today’s world of how Christians can bring justice to others. **(6 marks)**

- c) *“Having faith and belief in God is more important than being wise.”*

Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about **more than one point of view.**
(7 marks)

3. **The Near Sacrifice of Isaac (Genesis 22 v 1-10)**

- a) Outline the events that happened after this point:

“Some time later God tested Abraham: he called to him, ‘Abraham!’”

and up to this point:

“Abraham looked round and saw a ram caught in a bush by its horns.”
(Genesis 22 v 13) **(7 marks)**

- b) Explain what Christians can sacrifice to serve God in today’s world. **(6 marks)**

- c) *“The biggest sacrifice you can make is to give your money to the poor.”*

Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about **more than one point of view.** **(7 marks)**

Section 2: NEW TESTAMENT

1. **Miracles of Healing: The Paralysed Man (Mark 2: 1-12)**

“A few days later Jesus went back to Capernaum and the news spread that he was at home.....”

- a) Write out, in as much detail as you can, what happened next. **(7 marks)**

- b) Explain why Mark tells this story (2 reasons). **(6 marks)**

- c) *“A miracle like that could never happen today.”*

Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about **more than one point of view.** **(7 marks)**

2. **Who was Jesus?**

“Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, “Who do people say I am?”

- a) Write out in detail what happened next. **(7 marks)**

Please turn over

b) Explain what other events might have shown the disciples who Jesus was. **(6 marks)**

c) *“It doesn’t matter what you believe about who Jesus was. What he taught about how we should live is much more important.”*

Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer, showing you have thought about **more than one point of view**. Remember to refer to Christianity in your answer. **(7 marks)**

3. **Parables: The Lost Son (Luke 15: 11-32)**

“There was once a man who had two sons. The younger one said to him, ‘Father, give me my share of the property now.’”

a) Outline, in as much detail as you can, what happened next. **(7 marks)**

b) Explain what you think Jesus is teaching in this story about how we should treat others. **(6 marks)**

c) *“Whatever people do, we should always forgive them.”*

Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about **more than one point of view**. **(7 marks)**

Section 3: CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

Credit will be given for relevant examples drawn from your study of the Bible or from the Scriptures of other religious traditions.

1. a) (i) Explain how prejudice leads to discrimination.
(ii) Outline some examples of what Christians have done to fight prejudice and discrimination **(10 marks)**

b) *“Getting rid of discrimination will create a more equal world.”*

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about **more than one point of view**. **(10 marks)**

2. a) Outline and explain **two** of the major causes of poverty in the developing nations. **(10 marks)**

- b) *“It is a sin for a Christian to be wealthy when others in the world are starving.”*

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about **more than one point of view**. (10 marks)

**(For “Christian” you may substitute Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim, Sikh or Jew, but make sure that you refer to relevant religious teachings to support your answer.)*

3. a) Outline the work of either Dr Cicely Saunders and the Hospice Movement

OR

Mother’s Teresa’s work for the sick and dying in Calcutta.

(10 marks)

- b) *“If a person is terminally ill and wants to die, they have the right to be helped to do so.”*

Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer, showing you have thought about **more than one point of view**. (10 marks)

Section 4: LIVING FAITHS

1. **The Roman Catholic Tradition**

- a) In what ways does the **Mass** commemorate and re-enact the life of Jesus?

(10 marks)

- b) *“Helping those in need is more important than going to Mass.”*

Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about **more than one point of view**.

(10 marks)

2. Select **one** of the founders from the list below:

The Buddha

Guru Nanak

Muhammad

- a) Outline the key events in the life of your chosen founder and explain how he reached an understanding of spiritual truth and founded a religion.

(10 marks)

Please turn over

- b) *“The best role models for the 21st century are the founders of the main world religions.”*

Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about **more than one point of view**.

(10 marks)

3. Choose any of the main world religions, **except Christianity**.

- a) Give a detailed account of some of the main teachings of your chosen religion. You could consider their ideas about gods/God, their sacred books, the teaching about right and wrong, the best way to live.

(10 marks)

- b) *“There’s only one God – different cultures worship him in different ways, so all religions are basically the same.”*

Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about **more than one point of view**.

(10 marks)

- 4.

All religions have special or holy festivals to remind people about the key beliefs of their religion and why faith is important.

Choose **one** special holy day or festival from any of the main world religions **except Christianity**.

- a) (i) Write a detailed description of what happens on this day and how the members of your chosen religion celebrate it.

(ii) Explain the deeper meaning of this celebration. What does it commemorate and what difference might it make to a follower of that religion?

- b) *“People celebrate religious festivals because of tradition and habit. They don’t really have a spiritual meaning anymore.”*

Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about **more than one point of view**.

(10 marks)