

# A-level RELIGIOUS STUDIES

## 1A: Buddhism and the Philosophy of Religion

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Specimen 2018

Morning

Time allowed: 3 hours

### Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book

### Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book.
- Answer:
  - the two-part question from Section A, and
  - **both** two-part questions from Section B and
  - **one** question from Section C
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work that you do not want to be marked.

### Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 100.
- In each two-part question in Sections A and B, the first part tests your knowledge and understanding, while the second part tests your skills of analysis and evaluation.
- The one-part question in Section C tests your knowledge and understanding and your skills of analysis and evaluation.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
  - use good English
  - organise information clearly
  - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

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**Section A: Study of Religion**

Answer **both** parts of the question in this section.

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**Question 01**

**0 1** . **1** Examine how Buddhist teaching helps Buddhists respond to the challenge of secularisation.

**[10 marks]**

and

**0 1** . **2** 'Religion has a positive impact on society.'  
Assess this view with reference to Buddhism.

**[15 marks]**

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**Section B: Philosophy of Religion**

Answer **both** questions in this section.  
Each question has two parts.

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**Question 02**

**0 2** . **1** Examine how faith in God may be challenged by natural and moral evil.

[10 marks]

and

**0 2** . **2** 'The freewill defence is inadequate as a theodicy.'

Evaluate this claim.

[15 marks]

**Question 03**

**0 3** . **1** Examine how the meaningfulness of religious language has been challenged.

[10 marks]

and

**0 3** . **2** 'Language game theory shows that religious language is meaningful.'

Evaluate this claim.

[15 marks]

**Turn over for Section C**

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**Section C: The dialogue between Philosophy and Religion**

Answer **one** question from this section.

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**Question 04**

**0 4** . **1** 'Belief in an afterlife is reasonable.'

Critically discuss and evaluate this view with reference to the dialogue between Buddhism and Philosophy.

[25 marks]

OR

**Question 05**

**0 5** . **1** 'Religious experience gives us knowledge of Ultimate Reality'.

Critically discuss and evaluate this view with reference to the dialogue between Buddhism and Philosophy.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS