

Edexcel GCE

Religious Studies

Advanced

Unit 3: Religious Studies – Developments

Monday 13 June 2011 – Morning

Time: 1 hour 45 minutes

Paper Reference

6RS03/01

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 (for 60% of the marks) and your evaluative skills (for 40% of the marks).

Turn over ►

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Answer THREE questions.

Philosophy

EITHER

- 1** (a) (i) Examine some of the key principles of the argument for the existence of God based upon religious experience. (18)
- (ii) Justify the view that, in spite of criticisms, this is a trustworthy argument for the existence of God. (12)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the ways in which the ontological argument attempts to prove to the atheist that God exists. (18)
- (ii) 'The weaknesses of the ontological argument give support to atheism.'
Discuss this claim. (12)

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

EITHER

- 2** (a) (i) Analyse the key philosophical features of **two** beliefs in life after death. (18)
- (ii) 'There are significant philosophical problems with believing in life after death.'
Discuss this claim. (12)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Compare and contrast **two** types of religious language. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the view that religious language is indispensable for an understanding of religious belief. (12)

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

Ethics

EITHER

- 3** (a) (i) Analyse the important features of **either** Deontology **or** Virtue Ethics. (18)
- (ii) Consider critically how effective the selected theory may be as a guideline for moral living. (12)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the key ideas of Natural Moral Law. (18)
- (ii) To what extent do critiques of the link between religion and morality undermine the value of Natural Moral Law? (12)

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

EITHER

- 4** (a) (i) Examine key ideas associated with **either** justice **or** law and punishment. (18)
- (ii) Evaluate the view that objectivity **and** relativism pose problems for the concept selected in part (i). (12)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the problems which scholars have identified regarding the use and meaning of ethical language. (18)
- (ii) To what extent may these problems be solved? (12)

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

Buddhism

You may make reference to the set texts where appropriate.

EITHER

- 5 (a) (i) Examine the distinctive features of Ashoka's reign that led Buddhism to become an established religion in south-east Asia. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the view that Ashoka's reign is Buddhist, though not intolerant of other religious traditions. (12)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Compare and contrast selected features of Pure Land and Zen Buddhism. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the significance of these differences for an understanding of Mahayana Buddhism. (12)

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

EITHER

- 6 (a) (i) Examine the key ideas of anicca and dukkha and the relationship between them. (18)
- (ii) Discuss some of the problems and solutions associated with understanding nirvana. (12)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the distinctive features of the bodhisattva doctrine. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the implications of this doctrine for Mahayana belief and practice. (12)

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

Christianity

You may make reference to the set texts where appropriate.

EITHER

- 7 (a) (i) Analyse the development of Liberation Theology in the modern world. (18)
- (ii) Assess the significance of this development both within Christianity and in the modern world. (12)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the issues arising from **one** type of practice of Christianity in the modern world. (18)
- (ii) Evaluate the significance of these issues within Christianity in the modern world. (12)

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

EITHER

- 8 (a) (i) Examine how beliefs about the Trinity have been challenged in the modern era. (18)
- (ii) Consider critically the significance of these challenges for Christians. (12)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Compare and contrast the teachings of **two** of the set texts concerning the nature of the Church. (18)
- (ii) Consider critically the significance of these teachings for Christians. (12)

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

Hinduism

You may make reference to the set texts where appropriate.

EITHER

- 9 (a) (i) Compare and contrast Ramakrishna with Dayananda Sarasvati. (18)
- (ii) To what extent is one of these figures more representative of modern Hinduism than the other? (12)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the distinctive methods associated with Gandhi's campaigns. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the value of Gandhi's impact on Hinduism. (12)

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

EITHER

- 10 (a) (i) Examine different beliefs about atman within Hinduism. (18)
- (ii) Discuss how these different beliefs may affect an understanding of moksha. (12)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the key themes in the selected chapters from the Bhagavad Gita. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the reasons for the undoubted significance of the Bhagavad Gita in modern Hinduism. (12)

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

Islam

You may make reference to the set texts where appropriate.

EITHER

- 11 (a) (i) Examine the claims that events after the death of Muhammad led to the most significant schism in the history of Islam. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the key differences between Sunni and Shi'ah Islam relating to authority. (12)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Select **one** Muslim state and examine how its beliefs and practices exemplify **either** Sunni **or** Shi'ah Islam. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the contributions of the selected state to an understanding of Islam in the modern world. (12)

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

EITHER

- 12 (a) (i) 'Allah is not only the creator but also the sustainer of the universe. Allah continues to rule and control everything.'
Examine these ideas about Allah. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the implications of these ideas for Muslim belief and practice. (12)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the diverse emphases of Sufism. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the view that Sufism has made a significant contribution to the development of Islam. (12)

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

Judaism

You may make reference to the set texts where appropriate.

EITHER

- 13** (a) (i) Examine the contributions of David Friedlander to Reform Judaism and Samson Raphael Hirsch to Orthodox Judaism. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the view that these contributions show an underlying unity of Jewish beliefs. (12)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the roots of the Holocaust in anti-Semitism policies. (18)
- (ii) To what extent is the state of Israel a response to the Holocaust? (12)

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

EITHER

- 14** (a) (i) Examine the key principles in the set texts from the Ethics of the Fathers. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the status of these principles within modern Judaism. (12)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the contributions of Chasidism to Jewish views about relationships between humanity and God and between people. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the view that Chasidism is conservative and opposed to all signs of modernity. (12)

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

Sikhism

You may make reference to the set texts where appropriate.

EITHER

- 15 (a) (i) Compare and contrast two movements in the development of the Sikh Panth. (18)
- (ii) To what extent has any movement succeeded in establishing orthodoxy within Sikhism? (12)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Explain the impact of dispersion on the Sikh identity. (18)
- (ii) To what extent have non-Sikh cultures affected Sikhs in their beliefs? (12)

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

EITHER

- 16 (a) (i) Explain **one** key idea in Sikh spirituality and its application to contemporary Sikh belief and practice. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the view that piri is more important than miri for a gurmukh. (12)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Compare and contrast the concepts of gurmukh and manmukh. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the view that following the Rahit Maryada makes one gurmukh. (12)

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

New Testament

EITHER

- 17 (a) (i) **Either** examine the important features of Luke's presentation of Jesus' teaching on the Kingdom of God **or** examine the key ideas of the Prologue (Fourth Gospel). (18)
- (ii) Evaluate the claim that this teaching/these ideas are crucial to the meaning of the gospel. (12)

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

OR

- (b) (i) 'A careful reading of the gospel reveals the purpose the author had for writing it.'
Examine this claim with reference to **either** Luke's Gospel **or** the Fourth Gospel. (18)
- (ii) Evaluate the view that knowing the purpose of the gospel does not add to our understanding of its meaning. (12)

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

EITHER

- 18 (a) (i) 'It was the religious officials who were responsible for Jesus' death; the political authorities had nothing to do with it.'
Examine this claim with reference to **either** Luke's Gospel **or** the Fourth Gospel. (18)
- (ii) Evaluate the view that conflict was crucial to the ministry of Jesus. (12)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Analyse **three** examples of religious symbolism in the crucifixion narrative of **either** Luke's Gospel **or** the Fourth Gospel. (18)
- (ii) Evaluate the claim that the resurrection adds little to our understanding of the ministry of Jesus. (12)

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

TOTAL FOR PAPER: 90 MARKS

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