

**Edexcel GCE**

# Religious Studies

**Advanced**

**Unit 3: Religious Studies – Developments**

Thursday 6 June 2013 – 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 the 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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**PEARSON**

**Answer THREE questions.**

**Philosophy**

**EITHER**

- 1** (a) (i) Examine the evidence and reasons to support **either** belief in God based on religious experience **or** an atheistic belief. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the view that the evidence and reasons are not conclusive to support the belief selected in (i). (12)

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

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**OR**

- (b) (i) Examine the ontological argument as an *a priori* proof for the existence of God. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the claim that an *a priori* proof provides no information about the existence of God. (12)

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

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**EITHER**

- 2** (a) (i) Examine the key concepts associated with **two** of the following: (18)
- immortality of the soul
  - rebirth
  - reincarnation
  - resurrection.
- (ii) Discuss the claim that belief in life after death is credible. (12)

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

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**OR**

- (b) (i) Examine the reasons for the view that religious language is meaningless. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the arguments used to refute the view that religious language is meaningless. (12)

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

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## Ethics

### EITHER

3 (a) (i) Analyse the strengths of **either** Deontology **or** Natural Moral Law. (18)

(ii) Evaluate the view that the selected theory has ceased to be persuasive in the modern world. (12)

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

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### OR

(b) (i) Examine the key ideas of virtue ethics. (18)

(ii) To what extent have critiques of the link between religion and morality proved successful? (12)

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

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### EITHER

4 (a) (i) Examine the significant ideas raised by a discussion of justice **and** law and punishment. (18)

(ii) Evaluate how objectivity **and** subjectivism contribute to an understanding of law and punishment. (12)

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

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### OR

(b) (i) Analyse the claim that the problems of ethical language reveal that it is essentially meaningless. (18)

(ii) To what extent have scholars successfully defended ethical language against this charge? (12)

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

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## Buddhism

You may make reference to the set texts where appropriate.

### EITHER

- 5 (a) (i) Examine the main teachings of the Edicts of Ashoka. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the significance of Ashoka in the development of Buddhism. (12)

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

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### OR

- (b) (i) Examine the distinctive features of **either** Pure Land **or** Zen Buddhism. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the ways in which **either** Pure Land **or** Zen transformed Buddhism. (12)

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

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### EITHER

- 6 (a) (i) Examine the key ideas associated with anatta. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the claim that anatta underpins beliefs about nirvana. (12)

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

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### OR

- (b) (i) Examine Mahayana beliefs about liberation and the role that bodhisattvas have in this process. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the claim that the bodhisattva doctrine shows the differences between Theravada and Mahayana Buddhism. (12)

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

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## Christianity

You may make reference to the set texts where appropriate.

### EITHER

- 7 (a) (i) Analyse the teachings and work of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. (18)
- (ii) Assess his significance within the development of Christianity for Christians in the modern world. (12)

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

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### OR

- (b) (i) Examine **one** aspect of the practice of Christianity in the modern world. (18)
- (ii) Assess the significance of this practice in the modern world. (12)

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

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### EITHER

- 8 (a) (i) Examine modern Christian teachings about **either** the Trinity **or** atonement and salvation. (18)
- (ii) Consider critically the significance of the teachings selected in part (i). (12)

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

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### OR

- (b) (i) Examine Christian beliefs about **either** death and eternal life **or** the nature of the Church. (18)
- (ii) Consider critically the significance of the teachings selected in part (i). (12)

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

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## Hinduism

You may make reference to the set texts where appropriate.

### EITHER

- 9 (a) (i) Examine the distinctive emphases of Ramakrishna and Dayananda Sarasvati. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the extent of Western influences on these figures and their contributions to a renewal of Hindu values. (12)

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

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### OR

- (b) (i) "Caste has nothing to do with religion. It is harmful to spiritual and national growth... None can be born untouchable, as all are sparks of the one and same Fire" (Gandhi).  
Examine these ideas in relation to Gandhi's life and work. (18)
- (ii) Discuss criticisms of Gandhi's teachings. (12)

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

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### EITHER

- 10 (a) (i) Examine the main terms and ideas associated with Hindu beliefs about life after death. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the ways some Hindus respond to difficulties about their beliefs concerning life after death. (12)

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

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### OR

- (b) (i) Examine the terms samsara and moksha. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the significance of these two terms for Hindu belief and ethics. (12)

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

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## Islam

**You may make reference to the set texts where appropriate.**

### EITHER

- 11** (a) (i) Examine the reasons for the expansion of Islam during the period of the Rightly Guided Caliphs. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the influence of this period on the origins of Sunni and Shi'ah Islam. (12)

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

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### OR

- (b) (i) Examine one or more modern Islamic states with reference to **two** of the following:
- preservation of tradition
  - adaptation of beliefs and practices
  - renewal of principles and policies.
- (18)
- (ii) Discuss the view that there are potential problems facing a belief in the umma in relation to modern Islam. (12)

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

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### EITHER

- 12** (a) (i) Examine the key ideas in Sura 2. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the significance of this Sura for Islam. (12)

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

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### OR

- (b) (i) Examine the main influences on the origins of Sufism. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the distinctive features of Sufi practices in the context of Islam. (12)

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

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## Judaism

You may make reference to the set texts where appropriate.

### EITHER

- 13 (a) (i) 'The aim of leading rabbis during the Enlightenment was to follow the line of Talmudic tradition which was one of continuous development, keeping pace with the needs of the times.'

Examine this view with reference to **two** of the following:

- David Friedlander
- Abraham Geiger
- Samson Raphael Hirsch.

(18)

- (ii) Discuss the view that the deepest divisions within Judaism occurred during the period of the Enlightenment.

(12)

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

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### OR

- (b) (i) Examine the various effects of the establishment of the state of Israel on Judaism.

(18)

- (ii) Discuss the implications of these effects for Zionism.

(12)

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

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### EITHER

- 14 (a) (i) Examine the fundamentals of Jewish belief in some of Maimonides' 13 Principles of Faith.

(18)

- (ii) Discuss whether the beliefs selected in part (i) are relevant to issues concerning Jewish belief in the 21st century.

(12)

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

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### OR

- (b) (i) Examine the tensions associated with the development of Chasidism.

(18)

- (ii) Discuss the view that, overall, Chasidism has revitalised Judaism.

(12)

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

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## Sikhism

**You may make reference to the set texts where appropriate.**

### EITHER

- 15** (a) (i) Examine ways in which dispersion has affected Sikh identity. (18)
- (ii) To what extent has dispersion compromised Sikh religious unity? (12)

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

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### OR

- (b) (i) Analyse the teachings and practices of one movement within the Sikh tradition. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the view that the promotion of orthodoxy has divided and weakened the Sikh community. (12)

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

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### EITHER

- 16** (a) (i) Analyse the concept of miri and piri. (18)
- (ii) Discuss the view that it excludes pacifism. (12)

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

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### OR

- (b) (i) Explain the main themes of the Japji. (18)
- (ii) To what extent does the Japji emphasise all the key ideas in Sikh spirituality? (12)

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

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**New Testament**

**EITHER**

- 17** (a) (i) Examine the significance of **either** the teachings of Jesus concerning the Kingdom of God (Luke's Gospel) **or** the teaching of the Prologue (Fourth Gospel). (18)
- (ii) To what extent are these teachings important for a full understanding of the Gospel? (12)

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

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**OR**

- (b) (i) With reference to **either** Luke's Gospel **or** the Fourth Gospel, analyse the view that the purpose of the Gospel is to convert the reader. (18)
- (ii) Evaluate the claim that there is no single purpose to the Gospel. (12)

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

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**EITHER**

- 18** (a) (i) With reference to **either** Luke's Gospel **or** the Fourth Gospel, examine the reasons why the religious authorities wanted Jesus to die. (18)
- (ii) Evaluate the role played by Pilate in the death of Jesus. (12)

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

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**OR**

- (b) (i) Analyse the important religious themes in the resurrection narrative. (18)
- (ii) To what extent does the resurrection narrative build on the themes of the crucifixion narrative? (12)

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

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**TOTAL FOR PAPER = 90 MARKS**

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