



General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Subsidiary Examination  
January 2012

## Religious Studies

## RSS09

Unit J World Religions 1: Buddhism OR Hinduism OR Sikhism

Tuesday 17 January 2012 9.00 am to 10.15 am

**For this paper you must have:**

- an AQA 8-page answer book.

**Time allowed**

- 1 hour 15 minutes

**Instructions**

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Examining Body** for this paper is AQA. The **Paper Reference** is RSS09.
- Choose **one** Section only.  
Section A Buddhism page 2  
Section B Hinduism page 3  
Section C Sikhism page 4
- Answer **two** questions.
- 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 90.
- In each question, the first part tests your knowledge and understanding, while the second part tests your skills of reasoning 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 BUDDHISM**Answer **two** questions.Each question has **two** parts. Answer **both** parts of each question chosen.

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**Question 1 Samsara and the three marks of existence**

0	1
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 Examine the concept of samsara and explain how it affects a Buddhist's attitude to life. *(30 marks)*

and

0	2
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 'Belief in samsara can only lead to a pessimistic view of life.'  
Assess this view. *(15 marks)***Question 2 The Four Noble Truths**

0	3
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 Examine the meaning of nibbana for Buddhists. *(30 marks)*

and

0	4
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 'Nibbana can never be fully understood.'  
How far do you agree? *(15 marks)***Question 3 The Eightfold Path**

0	5
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 Examine the nature and purpose of the Eightfold Path for Buddhists. *(30 marks)*

and

0	6
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 'Buddhists follow the Eightfold Path for their own benefit rather than for the benefit of others.'  
Assess this view. *(15 marks)***Question 4 The Sangha**

0	7
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 Examine the life and discipline of the lay community within Buddhism. *(30 marks)*

and

0	8
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 'The way of the lay Buddhist is more important than the way of the monastic Sangha for Buddhism today.'  
Assess this view. *(15 marks)*

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**Section B HINDUISM**Answer **two** questions.Each question has **two** parts. Answer **both** parts of each question chosen.

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**Question 5 The Hindu concept of God**

0	9
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 Outline the role of goddesses in Hinduism, with particular reference to Lakshmi and Saraswati. (30 marks)

and

1	0
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 'Goddesses are significant to all Hindus.'  
How far do you agree? (15 marks)**Question 6 Means of liberation in Hinduism**

1	1
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 Examine the nature of atman and of self-realisation in Hinduism. (30 marks)

and

1	2
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 'For Hindus, belief in the concept of atman is more important than religious practice.'  
Assess this view. (15 marks)**Question 7 Worship in Hinduism**

1	3
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 Examine the nature and purpose of yajna and havan as part of worship in the temple. (30 marks)

and

1	4
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 'Worship is not essential to the Hindu way of life.'  
Assess this view. (15 marks)**Question 8 The Hindu way of life**

1	5
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 Examine the role and importance of ashrams in Hinduism. (30 marks)

and

1	6
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 'The ashram, rather than the home, provides the best place for developing the Hindu faith.'  
Assess this view. (15 marks)**Turn over for Section C****Turn over ►**

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**Section C SIKHISM**Answer **two** questions.Each question has **two** parts. Answer **both** parts of each question chosen.

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**Question 9 The Gurus**

1	7
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 Explain how and why the Khalsa was formed. *(30 marks)*

and

1	8
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 'Without the formation of the Khalsa, Sikhism would never have developed into a religion.'  
Assess this view. *(15 marks)***Question 10 Festivals**

1	9
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 Examine the Sikh celebration of Diwali and explain its significance for Sikhs. *(30 marks)*

and

2	0
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 'The inner meaning of Diwali is more important than its public aspects.'  
How far do you agree? *(15 marks)***Question 11 The Guru Granth Sahib and the Gurdwara**

2	1
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 Examine the nature and role of the gurdwara. *(30 marks)*

and

2	2
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 'The gurdwara no longer meets the needs of Sikhs in the United Kingdom (UK).'  
How far do you agree? *(15 marks)***Question 12 Diwan and langar**

2	3
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 Examine the features of worship in the home. *(30 marks)*

and

2	4
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 'Worship in the home has little importance for Sikhs today.'  
Assess this view. *(15 marks)***END OF QUESTIONS**