

Paper Reference(s)

**6581/01**

**Edexcel GCE**

**Religious Studies**

**Advanced Subsidiary**

**Unit 1: Foundations**

**Thursday 7 June 2007 – Afternoon**

**Time: 1 hour 45 minutes**

**Materials required for examination**

Nil

**Items included with question papers**

Answer book

**Instructions to Candidates**

In the boxes on the answer book, write your centre number, candidate number, your surname, initials and your signature.

Answer THREE questions.

Do not return the question paper with the answer book.

**Information for Candidates**

The marks for individual questions and parts of questions are shown in round brackets: e.g. (20).

There are 18 questions in this question paper. The total mark for this paper is 120.

All questions carry 40 marks.

There are 12 pages in this question paper. Any blank pages are indicated.

**Advice to Candidates**

You must ensure that your answers to parts of questions are clearly numbered.

You will be assessed on your ability to organise and present information, ideas, descriptions and arguments clearly and logically, taking into account your use of grammar, punctuation and spelling.

The assessment of your answers will be based on your knowledge and understanding of the topic in question (for 70% of the marks) and your evaluative skills (for 30% of the marks).

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**Answer any THREE questions.**

**Philosophy**

**Either:**

1. (a) (i) Examine the main ideas and strengths of the design argument for the existence of God. (28)
- (ii) Comment on the view that the weaknesses are overcome by the strengths of the argument. (12)
- (Total 40 marks)**

**Or:**

- (b) (i) Identify the main ideas of the cosmological argument for the existence of God. (28)
- (ii) To what extent is this a weak argument for the existence of God? (12)
- (Total 40 marks)**
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**Either:**

2. (a) (i) For what reasons is suffering a problem for religious belief? (8)
- (ii) Examine **two** suggested solutions to the problem. To what extent do they succeed in solving the problem? (32)
- (Total 40 marks)**

**Or:**

- (b) (i) Outline what is meant by the term 'miracle' and examine reasons to believe in miracles. (28)
- (ii) To what extent do philosophical objections undermine the credibility of miracles? (12)
- (Total 40 marks)**
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## Ethics

### Either:

3. (a) (i) Examine the key strengths and weaknesses of utilitarianism. (28)
- (ii) Comment on the view that the strengths of utilitarianism are outweighed by its weaknesses. (12)
- (Total 40 marks)

### Or:

- (b) (i) Identify the distinctive characteristics of situation ethics. (28)
- (ii) To what extent does situation ethics contribute to an understanding of the relationship between religion and morality? (12)
- (Total 40 marks)
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### Either:

4. (a) (i) Examine the key ideas associated with just war and pacifism. (28)
- (ii) How far should decisions about war and peace reflect religious beliefs? (12)
- (Total 40 marks)

### Or:

- (b) (i) Examine **two** ways in which different opinions regarding sexual ethics may be resolved. (28)
- (ii) Comment on the claim that people should be free to make their own choices regarding sexual ethics. (12)
- (Total 40 marks)
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## **Buddhism**

### **Either:**

5. (a) (i) Examine the religious and social context of the life of the Buddha. (28)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of the religious context for an understanding of the life of the Buddha. (12)
- (Total 40 marks)**

### **Or:**

- (b) (i) Examine the influence of the period of asceticism and the enlightenment on the life and work of the Buddha. (28)
- (ii) Comment on the significance for Buddhists of the final days and death of the Buddha. (12)
- (Total 40 marks)**
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### **Either:**

6. (a) (i) Examine the key features of the Dharma and the Sangha as Refuges. (28)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of these Refuges for the laity. (12)
- (Total 40 marks)**

### **Or:**

- (b) (i) Outline the major types of meditation in Buddhism and examine their context. (28)
- (ii) Comment on some of the different purposes of meditation within Buddhism. (12)
- (Total 40 marks)**
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## Christianity

### Either:

7. (a) (i) Examine Christian teaching, in one historical context, about the life and work of Jesus. (28)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of the teaching in this historical context. (12)
- (Total 40 marks)

### Or:

- (b) (i) Give an account of Christian teaching about the life and work of Jesus that reflects the social context in which the teaching developed. (28)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of this teaching for Christians. (12)
- (Total 40 marks)
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### Either:

8. (a) (i) Give an account of **one** aspect of Christian teaching about the nature of God. (28)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of this teaching for Christians today. (12)
- (Total 40 marks)

### Or:

- (b) (i) Examine a key practice in Christian worship in **two** Churches. (14)
- (ii) In what ways, and to what extent, is the teaching of those Churches reflected in their practice? (26)
- (Total 40 marks)
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## Hinduism

### Either:

9. (a) (i) Give an account of the distinctive features of the Indus Valley culture and Aryan influences on it. (28)

- (ii) Comment on their significance for Hindus. (12)

(Total 40 marks)

### Or:

- (b) (i) Identify some of the key features of Vedic beliefs. (28)

- (ii) Comment on the significance of Vedic practices for Hindus. (12)

(Total 40 marks)

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### Either:

10. (a) (i) Examine the key teachings of **two** types of yoga. (28)

- (ii) To what extent are these teachings reflected in practice? (12)

(Total 40 marks)

### Or:

- (b) (i) Examine the distinctive emphases of **two** of the following: Rama, Sakti and Siva. (28)

- (ii) Comment on the significance of these two for Hindus. (12)

(Total 40 marks)

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## Islam

### Either:

11. (a) (i) Examine the religious and social context of Muhammad. (28)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of this context for an understanding of the life and work of Muhammad. (12)
- (Total 40 marks)

### Or:

- (b) (i) Examine the prophetic and political features of the life and work of Muhammad. (28)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of **one** of these features for Muslims. (12)
- (Total 40 marks)
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### Either:

12. (a) (i) Examine the beliefs about life after death in Islam. (28)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of these in the context of the six beliefs. (12)
- (Total 40 marks)

### Or:

- (b) (i) Examine the significance, for Muslim belief, of any **two** of the five pillars. (28)
- (ii) Comment on the significance for Muslim practice of any **two** pillars. (12)
- (Total 40 marks)
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## **Judaism**

### **Either:**

13. (a) (i) Examine the key teachings of Rashi and his school and of Judah Halevi in their historical and religious context. (28)

- (ii) Consider the significance of **one** of these figures for Jewish thought. (12)

**(Total 40 marks)**

### **Or:**

- (b) (i) Examine the historical and religious context and the key teachings of Moses Maimonides. (28)

- (ii) Comment on his significance for Jewish belief and practice. (12)

**(Total 40 marks)**

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### **Either:**

14. (a) (i) Examine the key teachings and practices of Orthodox Judaism. (28)

- (ii) Comment on their significance in Judaism. (12)

**(Total 40 marks)**

### **Or:**

- (b) (i) Examine and comment on the key teachings and practices of Reform Judaism. (20)

- (ii) Examine and comment on the distinctive emphases of **either** Conservative **or** Liberal Judaism. (20)

**(Total 40 marks)**

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## **Sikhism**

### **Either:**

- 15. (a)** (i) Examine the key events in the life of Guru Nanak in their religious context. (28)
- (ii) Comment on the importance of Guru Nanak for Sikhs. (12)
- (Total 40 marks)**

### **Or:**

- (b) (i) Examine the ways in which the term Guru is used by Sikhs. (28)
- (ii) To what extent is it true to say that Sikhism is a distinctive religion? (12)
- (Total 40 marks)**
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### **Either:**

- 16. (a)** (i) Outline Sikh teaching about the nature of God. (28)
- (ii) To what extent is the practice of devotion the basis of the Sikh way of life? (12)
- (Total 40 marks)**

### **Or:**

- (b) (i) Outline the principles of conduct for members of the Khalsa. (28)
- (ii) How far is membership of the Khalsa essential for a person to be a Sikh? (12)
- (Total 40 marks)**
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## New Testament

### Either:

17. (a) (i) **Either** examine the teachings of Jesus, in Luke's Gospel, concerning wealth and the poor **or** examine the meaning of the sayings 'I am the light of the world' and 'I am the good shepherd' in the Fourth Gospel. (28)

- (ii) With regard to your answer in (i), consider why these teachings/sayings were so controversial at that time. (12)

(Total 40 marks)

### Or:

- (b) (i) What can be learned about the ministry of Jesus from **either** the healing of the paralytic and the raising of the widow's son (Luke's Gospel) **or** the healing of the lame man at the Pool and turning water into wine (Fourth Gospel)? (28)

- (ii) To what extent were miracles an essential part of Jesus' ministry? (12)

(Total 40 marks)

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### Either:

18. (a) (i) **Either** examine the teaching of Jesus, in Luke's Gospel, concerning prayer and praise **or**, examine, with reference to **three** different incidents, the part played by women in the Fourth Gospel. (28)

- (ii) To what extent did Jesus' teaching on prayer and praise **or** his attitude towards women differ from the practices of Judaism at that time? (12)

(Total 40 marks)

### Or:

- (b) (i) Examine the significant features of Jesus' teaching concerning the nature of discipleship. (28)

- (ii) Consider the importance of John the Baptist and the Twelve Disciples in the ministry of Jesus. (12)

(Total 40 marks)

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**TOTAL FOR PAPER: 120 MARKS**

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