

Edexcel GCE

Religious Studies

Advanced Subsidiary

Unit 1: Religious Studies – Foundations

Tuesday 17 January 2012 – Morning

Time: 1 hour 45 minutes

Paper Reference

6RS01/01

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 (assessed in part (i) of each question for 70% of the marks) and your evaluative skills (assessed in part (ii) of each question for 30% of the marks).

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Philosophy

EITHER

1 (a) (i) Examine **three** of the following terms in relation to the design argument for the existence of God:

- analogy
- anthropic principle
- design *qua* purpose
- empirical evidence
- regularities of succession.

(21)

(ii) Comment on the view that the design argument leads to a valid conclusion.

(9)

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

OR

(b) (i) 'Nothing takes place without a sufficient reason.'

Examine this claim with reference to the cosmological argument.

(21)

(ii) Comment on the view that the weaknesses of the cosmological argument imply that it fails as a proof for the existence of God.

(9)

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

EITHER

2 (a) (i) Examine the view that it is contradictory to claim there is a God and that there is suffering. What are the strengths of one solution to the problem of suffering? (21)

(ii) Consider the weaknesses of this solution and comment on the view that there is a better solution. (9)

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

OR

(b) (i) Examine the strengths and weaknesses of belief in miracles. (21)

(ii) Comment on the view that these strengths and weaknesses depend on which definition of miracles one is using. (9)

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

Ethics

EITHER

- 3 (a) (i) Examine the strengths of Utilitarianism as a means of resolving moral dilemmas. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that these strengths cannot detract from the problems raised by Utilitarianism. (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Outline the important features of Situation Ethics. (21)
- (ii) To what extent does Situation Ethics fail to offer any useful moral guidance? (9)

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

EITHER

- 4 (a) (i) Outline the key concepts of Just War and pacifism. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that a pacifist can never accept the principles of Just War. (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the problems raised by **two** dilemmas in sexual ethics. (21)
- (ii) To what extent are dilemmas in sexual ethics impossible to resolve? (9)

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

Buddhism

EITHER

- 5 (a) (i) Examine the key features of the religious context prior to the time of the Buddha. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that Buddhism is 'the Middle Way' in relation to this religious context. (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine what is meant by proclaiming Gautama as 'the Buddha'. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of enlightenment for Buddhists. (9)

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

EITHER

- 6 (a) (i) Examine what is meant by saying, 'I take refuge in the Dharma'. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of the Sangha for an understanding of the Dharma. (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine **two** of the following, with reference to meditation: (21)
- anapanasati
 - bhavana
 - samatha
 - vipassana.
- (ii) Comment on the main reasons why Buddhists meditate. (9)

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

Christianity

EITHER

- 7 (a) (i) Examine Reformation teaching about the life and work of Jesus. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of this Reformation teaching for Christians. (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the Church's teaching about **either** the life **or** the work of Jesus in one social context. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of this teaching for Christians. (9)

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

EITHER

- 8 (a) (i) Examine what Christians believe about God as creator and sustainer. (21)
- (ii) How far is it possible for a Christian to believe in God as creator and sustainer today? (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine **two** aspects of worship in **one** Christian Church with regard to both beliefs and practice. (21)
- (ii) How far are these practices the result of these beliefs? (9)

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

Hinduism

EITHER

- 9 (a) (i) Examine **three** of the following topics in relation to the Indus Valley culture:
- male gods
 - female goddesses
 - ritual purification
 - interpretation of archaeological excavations.
- (21)
- (ii) Comment on the significance for Hindus of the religious tradition associated with the Indus Valley culture.
- (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine some of the key features associated with Vedic practices.
- (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that these Vedic practices are of limited significance for Hindus.
- (9)

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

EITHER

- 10 (a) (i) Examine the key beliefs and/or practices of **two** types of yoga.
- (21)
- (ii) 'Yoga helps devotees to become liberated in this life.'
Comment on this claim.
- (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the distinctive beliefs about Krishna and Rama.
- (21)
- (ii) Comment on the implications of these beliefs for Hindu practice.
- (9)

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

Islam

EITHER

- 11 (a) (i) Examine the historical and social background prior to the time of Muhammad. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the possible influence of this background on Muhammad. (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the distinctive features of Muhammad's work and teaching in Makkah. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of this period for Muslims. (9)

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

EITHER

- 12 (a) (i) Examine **two** of the following in the context of the Six Beliefs:
- scriptures
 - messengers
 - life after death.
- (21)
- (ii) To what extent are the **two** Beliefs selected in (i) essential to Islamic beliefs? (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) 'The essence of the Five Pillars may be summed up as submission to God and identity with the Muslim community.'
- Examine this view. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of **one** of the Five Pillars for an understanding of the umma. (9)

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

Judaism

EITHER

- 13 (a) (i) Examine the view that the works of Rashi and his school are highly influential within the development of Judaism. (21)
- (ii) To what extent is Rashi influenced by his background? (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the key emphases found in the works of Moses Maimonides. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the claim that he was the most outstanding contributor to Jewish thought in medieval Judaism. (9)

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

EITHER

- 14 (a) (i) Examine the significant features of the origins of Reform Judaism. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the main differences between Reform and **one** other Jewish movement. (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Examine Orthodox responses to Reform movements. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the impact of these responses on the development of Judaism. (9)

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

Sikhism

EITHER

- 15** (a) (i) Examine the religious context of the life of Guru Nanak. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of Guru Nanak for Sikhs. (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Outline the compilation of the Guru Granth Sahib. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the idea that the Guru Granth Sahib is the greatest authority for Sikhs. (9)

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

EITHER

- 16** (a) (i) Examine the Sikh belief that human beings can come to have knowledge of God. (21)
- (ii) How far is it true to say that worship in the gurdwara is more important than private devotion? (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Give an account of the rules that guide the Khalsa. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that Sikhism cannot survive without the Khalsa. (9)

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

New Testament

EITHER

- 17 (a) (i) Examine **either** the teachings of Jesus concerning wealth and poverty (Luke's Gospel) **or** examine the meaning of the sayings 'I am the gate for the sheep' and 'I am the True Vine' (Fourth Gospel). (21)
- (ii) To what extent were these teachings or these sayings likely to be controversial? (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) What do **either** the healing of the bleeding woman and the raising of the widow's son (Luke's Gospel) **or** the feeding of the five thousand and the raising of Lazarus (Fourth Gospel) reveal about the ministry of Jesus? (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that the miracles of Jesus were at the heart of his ministry. (9)

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

EITHER

- 18 (a) (i) What can be learned about Jesus **either** from his teaching on the Sabbath (Luke's Gospel) **or** his conversations with the Samaritan Woman at the well and Mary Magdalene at the empty tomb (Fourth Gospel)? (21)
- (ii) To what extent did **either** Jesus' teaching on the Sabbath **or** his conversations with women differ significantly from the practices of Judaism at the time? (9)

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

OR

- (b) (i) Outline the teachings of Jesus concerning the demands of discipleship. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that the Twelve were crucial to the ministry of Jesus. (9)

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

TOTAL FOR PAPER = 90 MARKS

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Other names

Centre Number

Candidate Number

Edexcel GCE

Religious Studies

Advanced Subsidiary

Unit 1: Religious Studies – Foundations

Tuesday 17 January 2012 – Morning

Time: 1 hour 45 minutes

Paper Reference

6RS01/01

Answer Book

Do not return the question paper with the answer book.

Total Marks

Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- 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
– *there may be more space than you need.*
- You should indicate your first question choice on page 2 and answer it on pages 2–7.
- You should indicate your second question choice on page 8 and answer it on pages 8–13.
- You should indicate your third question choice on page 14 and answer it on pages 14–19.

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Indicate your second question choice on this page. You will be asked to indicate your third question choice on page 14.

Put a cross in the box indicating which question you have chosen . If you change your mind, put a line through the box and then indicate your new question with a cross .

- Chosen question number:
- | | | | | | |
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| Question 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Question 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Question 13 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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| Question 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Question 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Question 16 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Question 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Question 11 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Question 17 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Question 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Question 12 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Question 18 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

In the box, state whether you are answering part(a) or part(b).

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Indicate your third question choice on this page.

Put a cross in the box indicating which question you have chosen . If you change your mind, put a line through the box and then indicate your new question with a cross .

- Chosen question number: Question 1 Question 7 Question 13
Question 2 Question 8 Question 14
Question 3 Question 9 Question 15
Question 4 Question 10 Question 16
Question 5 Question 11 Question 17
Question 6 Question 12 Question 18

In the box, state whether you are answering part(a) or part(b).

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