

**ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY GCE  
RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

Foundation for the Study of Religion  
**WEDNESDAY 17 JANUARY 2007**

**2760**

Morning

Time: 1 hour

Additional materials: Answer Booklet (8 pages)



**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- Write your name, Centre number and candidate number in the spaces provided on the answer paper/ answer booklet.
- Write your answers in the separate answer booklet provided.
- If you use extra sheets of paper, fasten the sheets to the answer booklet.
- Answer **two** questions, one from each of the two different parts that you have studied.
- Do not answer more than one question from any one Part.

**INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

- The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.
- The quality of your written communication will be taken into account.

This document consists of **8** printed pages.

Answer **two** questions, one from each of the two parts that you have studied.

**Do not answer more than one question from any one Part.**

**Part 1**

**Foundation for Unit 2761: Philosophy of Religion (AS)**

Answer only **one** question from this part.

**Either**

- 1 (a) Explain what the writers of the Bible meant when they described God as 'good'. [33]  
(b) 'A good God would not punish people.' Discuss. [17]

**Or**

- 2 (a) Describe and explain some events in the Bible which are regarded as miracles. [33]  
(b) 'It is difficult to accept that miracles can happen.' Discuss. [17]

**Part 2**

**Foundation for Unit 2762: Religious Ethics (AS)**

Answer only **one** question from this part.

**Either**

- 3** (a) Explain what is meant by emotivism and intuitionism. [33]  
(b) 'Ethical language has no purpose as it does not provide any answers.' Discuss. [17]

**Or**

- 4** (a) Explain, with examples, what is meant by moral relativism. [33]  
(b) 'Relativist theories are the only fair way of making moral decisions.' Discuss. [17]

**Part 3****Foundation for Unit 2763: Jewish Scriptures**

Answer only **one** question from this part.

**Either**

- 5 (a) Explain what evidence can be used in the dating of the Exodus from Egypt. [33]
- (b) 'The importance of the Exodus from Egypt lies in its theological meaning and not in a discussion of whether it actually happened.' Discuss. [17]

**Or**

- 6 (a) Explain what is meant by 'history' when describing some of the writings in the Jewish scriptures. [33]
- (b) 'History should be regarded as the most important type of literature in the Jewish scriptures.' Discuss. [17]

**Part 4****Foundation for Unit 2764: New Testament**

Answer only **one** question from this part.

**Alternative A – The Early Church****Either**

- 7 (a) Explain what was distinctive about the Zealots. [33]  
(b) 'The Zealots were of little importance to Jews in the first century CE.' Discuss. [17]

**Or**

- 8 (a) What was distinctive about the religious practices of the Pharisees? [33]  
(b) 'The Pharisees had a significant effect on the lives of Jews in the first century CE.' Discuss. [17]

**Alternative B – The Gospels****Either**

- 9 (a) Explain the political and religious beliefs of the Zealots. [33]  
(b) 'The Zealots were a major influence on the lives of Jews in the first century CE.' Discuss. [17]

**Or**

- 10 (a) What was distinctive about the religious practices of the Pharisees? [33]  
(b) 'The Pharisees had a significant effect on the lives of Jews in the first century CE.' Discuss. [17]

**Part 5****Foundation for Unit 2765: Developments in Christian Thought**

Answer only **one** question from this part.

**Either**

- 11 (a)** Explain different Biblical teachings about the use of violence. [33]
- (b)** 'Biblical texts can never be used to justify violence.' Discuss. [17]

**Or**

- 12 (a)** Explain Biblical teaching about the role of women in the Creation stories. [33]
- (b)** 'Eve was responsible for bringing evil into the world.' Discuss. [17]

**Part 6****Foundation for Unit 2766: Eastern Religions**

Answer only **one** question from this part.

**Alternative A – Buddhism**

**Either**

- 13 (a)** Explain how the Noble Eightfold Path can eliminate dukkha. [33]  
**(b)** 'Right Mindfulness is the most important part of the Noble Eightfold Path.' Discuss. [17]

**Or**

- 14 (a)** Explain the nature of the Hindu religion at the time of Gautama the Buddha. [33]  
**(b)** How far is it necessary to know the religious background in order to understand the early life of the Buddha? [17]

**Alternative B – Hinduism**

**Either**

- 15 (a)** What are the main teachings of the Purusha Sukta? [33]  
**(b)** How important is the Purusha Sukta as a piece of Hindu literature? [17]

**Or**

- 16 (a)** Explain the main characteristics of the Vedic god Soma. [33]  
**(b)** 'The religion of the Vedas is monotheistic'. Discuss. [17]

**Part 7****Foundation for Unit 2767: Islam**

Answer only **one** question from this part.

**Either**

- 17 (a) Describe the religious background of pre-Islamic Arabia. [33]
- (b) 'The growth of Islam cannot be explained without a consideration of the area in which it originated.' Discuss. [17]

**Or**

- 18 (a) Explain Muhammad's ﷺ role as a prophet. [33]
- (b) 'The Qur'an is more important than Muhammad ﷺ in the early growth of Islam.' Discuss. [17]

**Part 8****Foundation for Unit 2768: Judaism**

Answer only **one** question from this part.

**Either**

- 19 (a) Explain the role of the Jews as a 'chosen people'. [33]
- (b) 'The Jews could never have survived without the special love of G-d.' Discuss. [17]

**Or**

- 20 (a) Describe the origins of the Torah and the Talmud. [33]
- (b) 'The Torah and Talmud are essential for Jewish life today.' Discuss. [17]

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