

BOARD OF STUDIES
NEW SOUTH WALES

HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

2000

STUDIES OF RELIGION

2 UNIT

(100 Marks)

*Time allowed—Three hours
(Plus 5 minutes reading time)*

DIRECTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Attempt FIVE questions.
- Answer each question in a SEPARATE Writing Booklet.
- **Section I** The question in this Section is COMPULSORY.
- **Section II** Attempt TWO questions.
- **Section III** Attempt TWO questions.

SECTION I—FOUNDATION STUDIES**Marks**

(10 Marks)

The question in this section is **COMPULSORY**.**QUESTION 1**

People who share a religious view of reality have much in common.

- (a) Name **TWO** religious traditions, other than Christianity, present in Australia before 1901. **2**
- (b) Name and briefly describe an initiative in community development undertaken in Australia by **ONE** religious tradition prior to 1945. **3**
- (c) Outline the commonalities among religions in Australia today. **5**

SECTION II—FOUNDATION STUDIES**Marks**

(30 Marks)

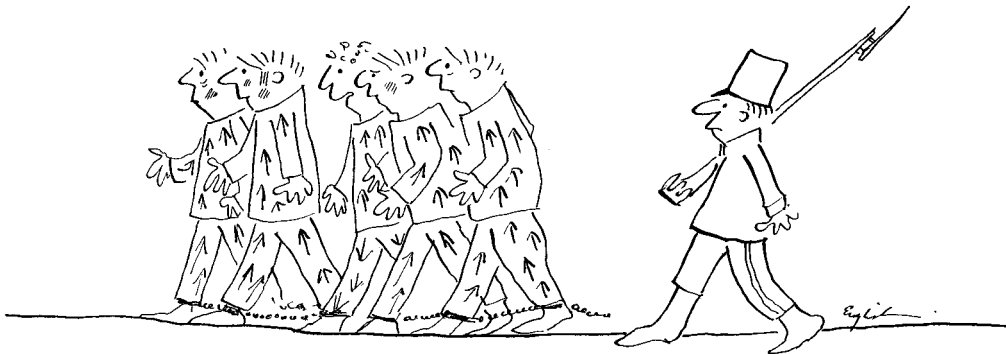
Attempt TWO questions.

All questions are of equal value.

QUESTION 2

The quotation from the Draft Declaration for Reconciliation has been removed as the final Declaration has now been published.

- (a) With reference to the above quotation, discuss the links between the Dreaming and the Aboriginal Land Rights Movement. **6**
- (b) Analyse the consequences of European settlement for Aboriginal belief systems, culture and spirituality. **9**

QUESTION 3

I DON'T WANT TO GO TO CHURCH. I'M JEWISH.

From the time of the convicts, there has been religious diversity in Australia.

- (a) Briefly describe the impact religious division has had on the development of society in Australia. **6**
- (b) Outline the formative influence of Christianity in Australian society. **9**

QUESTION 4**Marks**

Immigration after the Second World War changed the religious makeup of the Australian population.

Analyse the changing patterns of belief in Australia since the Second World War and their effects on Australian society today. In your answer, refer to at least TWO of the following religious traditions.

15

- Buddhism
- Christianity
- Hinduism
- Islam
- Judaism

SECTION III—CROSS-RELIGION STUDIES**Marks**

(60 Marks)

Attempt TWO questions.

All questions are of equal value.

NOTE. In Section III the term *religious tradition* refers only to Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam or Judaism. Candidates should demonstrate an awareness of the whole tradition and not simply focus on one variant of a tradition.

QUESTION 5 Rites of Passage

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|-----|--|-----------|
| (a) | Define the term <i>rites of passage</i> . Using examples, briefly describe similarities in civil and religious rites of passage. | 6 |
| (b) | Outline how ONE rite of passage in TWO religious traditions transforms an individual within the tradition. | 9 |
| (c) | Choose a rite of passage different from that chosen in part (b). Compare and contrast this rite of passage, its place and practice, in TWO religious traditions. | 15 |

QUESTION 6 Religion and Ethics

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|-----|--|-----------|
| (a) | Define the elements that form a religious response to ethical and moral questions. | 6 |
| (b) | Outline the response of TWO religious traditions to ONE of the following ethical issues. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence, war and peace • Attitude to the environment • Sexual behaviour • Marriage and divorce • Bioethical questions • Work ethics • Business and professional ethics | 9 |
| (c) | Refer to the list of ethical issues provided in part (b). Choose an ethical issue different from that chosen in part (b). Discuss your own view of the issue and compare it with the responses of TWO religious traditions. | 15 |

QUESTION 7 Sacred Writings and Stories	Marks
(a) Name and briefly describe the treatment of ONE of the following themes as viewed from the perspective of ONE religious tradition.	6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suffering • Love • Death • Fidelity • Compassion • Celebration • Evil • Sacrifice 	
(b) Choose a religious tradition different from that chosen in part (a). Outline why and how its sacred writings and stories are used by this religious tradition.	9
(c) Compare and contrast the type and place of sacred writings and stories in TWO religious traditions. In your answer, refer to specific extracts.	15

QUESTION 8 Ways of Holiness

(a) Name and briefly describe the origins and practice of a special way of holiness in ONE religious tradition.	6
(b) Choose a religious tradition different from that chosen in part (a). Outline ways people practise holiness in their everyday lives. In your answer, refer to sacred writings and other sources.	9
(c) Analyse how contemporary cultural influences impact on ways of holiness practised in TWO religious traditions.	15

QUESTION 9 Teachers and Interpreters

(a) Choose ONE religious tradition. Name and briefly describe THREE cultural and/or social factors that have influenced the teachings of a significant individual, or school of thought, from this tradition in the contemporary period.	6
(b) Choose a religious tradition different from that chosen in part (a). Outline how a significant individual, or school of thought, interpreted the traditions and foundation beliefs in a period of growth, division or crisis.	9
(c) Analyse the influence of a significant individual, or school of thought, from the period of early foundation in TWO religious traditions.	15

QUESTION 10 Women and Religion**Marks**

- (a) Choose ONE religious tradition. Name and briefly describe the role of a woman or women in the life of the founder, in the early years of the tradition, or in its religious stories. **6**
- (b) Choose a religious tradition different from that chosen in part (a). Outline the ways in which women have interpreted this religious tradition. **9**
- (c) Analyse how and why contemporary women respond to the problems, questions and issues confronting TWO religious traditions. **15**

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