

**BOARD OF STUDIES**  
NEW SOUTH WALES

**2008**

**HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE  
EXAMINATION**

# Studies of Religion II

## General Instructions

- Reading time – 5 minutes
- Working time – 3 hours
- Write using black or blue pen
- Write your Centre Number and Student Number at the top of pages 5 and 11

**Total marks – 100**

**Section I** Pages 2–11

**30 marks**

This section has two parts, Part A and Part B

- Allow about 50 minutes for this section

Part A – 15 marks

- Attempt Questions 1–11

Part B – 15 marks

- Attempt Questions 12–22

**Section II** Pages 13–14

**30 marks**

- Attempt TWO questions from Questions 1–5
- Allow about 1 hour for this section

**Section III** Page 15

**20 marks**

- Attempt ONE question from Questions 1–5
- Allow about 35 minutes for this section

**Section IV** Page 16

**20 marks**

- Attempt Question 1
- Allow about 35 minutes for this section

## Section I

30 marks

Allow about 50 minutes for this section

### Part A — Religion and Belief Systems in Australia post-1945

15 marks

Attempt Questions 1–11

Use the multiple-choice answer sheet for Questions 1–10.

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- 1 What is a *totem* in Aboriginal spirituality?
- (A) A symbol of unity among all Aboriginal people
  - (B) A burning stick that is carried between Aboriginal camps
  - (C) A wooden pipe used to create musical sounds at ceremonies
  - (D) A fish, plant or animal that represents a spirit ancestor in a region
- 2 What was a consequence of the Mabo decision?
- (A) Aboriginal people gained the right to vote.
  - (B) The policy of assimilation was abandoned.
  - (C) The concept of *terra nullius* was overturned.
  - (D) Aboriginal people gained equal citizenship status.
- 3 What relationship between Aboriginal people and the land is central to Aboriginal spirituality?
- (A) They should conserve the land.
  - (B) They have obligations to the land.
  - (C) The land provides them with an income.
  - (D) The land provides them with food and shelter.
- 4 What is the main purpose of initiation for young Aboriginal people?
- (A) To ensure continuation of the law
  - (B) To celebrate kinship relationships
  - (C) To train the leaders of the Land Rights movement
  - (D) To enable them to resist the effects of dispossession

- 5** In Australia, which of the following has gained the greatest number of followers as a result of denominational switching?
- (A) Catholicism
  - (B) Anglicanism
  - (C) Pentecostal churches
  - (D) Uniting Church of Australia
- 6** Which statement describes a change that has occurred in Australia's religious landscape since 1945?
- (A) An increasing proportion of Jews and a decreasing proportion of Buddhists
  - (B) An increasing proportion of Buddhists and an increasing proportion of Hindus
  - (C) A decreasing proportion of Christians and a decreasing proportion of Muslims
  - (D) A decreasing proportion of Buddhists and an increasing proportion of Christians
- 7** In the 1990s the Catholic Church overtook the Anglican Church as the largest religious group in Australia.
- What is the best explanation of this trend?
- (A) Changing immigration patterns
  - (B) The implementation of World Youth Days
  - (C) The increased role of Catholics in political activities
  - (D) The inclusion of women in leadership roles in the Anglican Church
- 8** What would followers of New Age spirituality reject?
- (A) Spirituality focused on deity
  - (B) Modern materialistic values
  - (C) Neo-pagan belief systems
  - (D) Self-awareness

- 9** In a religious context, what is the meaning of the term *adherent*?
- (A) A person who becomes a religious leader
  - (B) A person who follows a secular perspective
  - (C) A person who follows a religious perspective
  - (D) A person who takes part in religious dialogue
- 10** What has been an effect of interfaith dialogue in Australia?
- (A) The formation of the Uniting Church in 1977
  - (B) Joint social welfare work of the Christian churches in Australia
  - (C) The Reconciliation walk across the Sydney Harbour Bridge in 2000
  - (D) Joint statements on homelessness by representatives of religious traditions

Studies of Religion

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Centre Number

Section I (continued)

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Attempt Question 11

Student Number

Answer the question in the space provided.

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Question 11 (5 marks)

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With reference to the statement above and using your own knowledge, discuss the continuing effect of dispossession on Aboriginal spirituality.

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## Studies of Religion II

### Section I (continued)

#### Part B — Religion and Non-Religion

15 marks

Attempt Questions 12–22

Use the multiple-choice answer sheet for Questions 12–21.

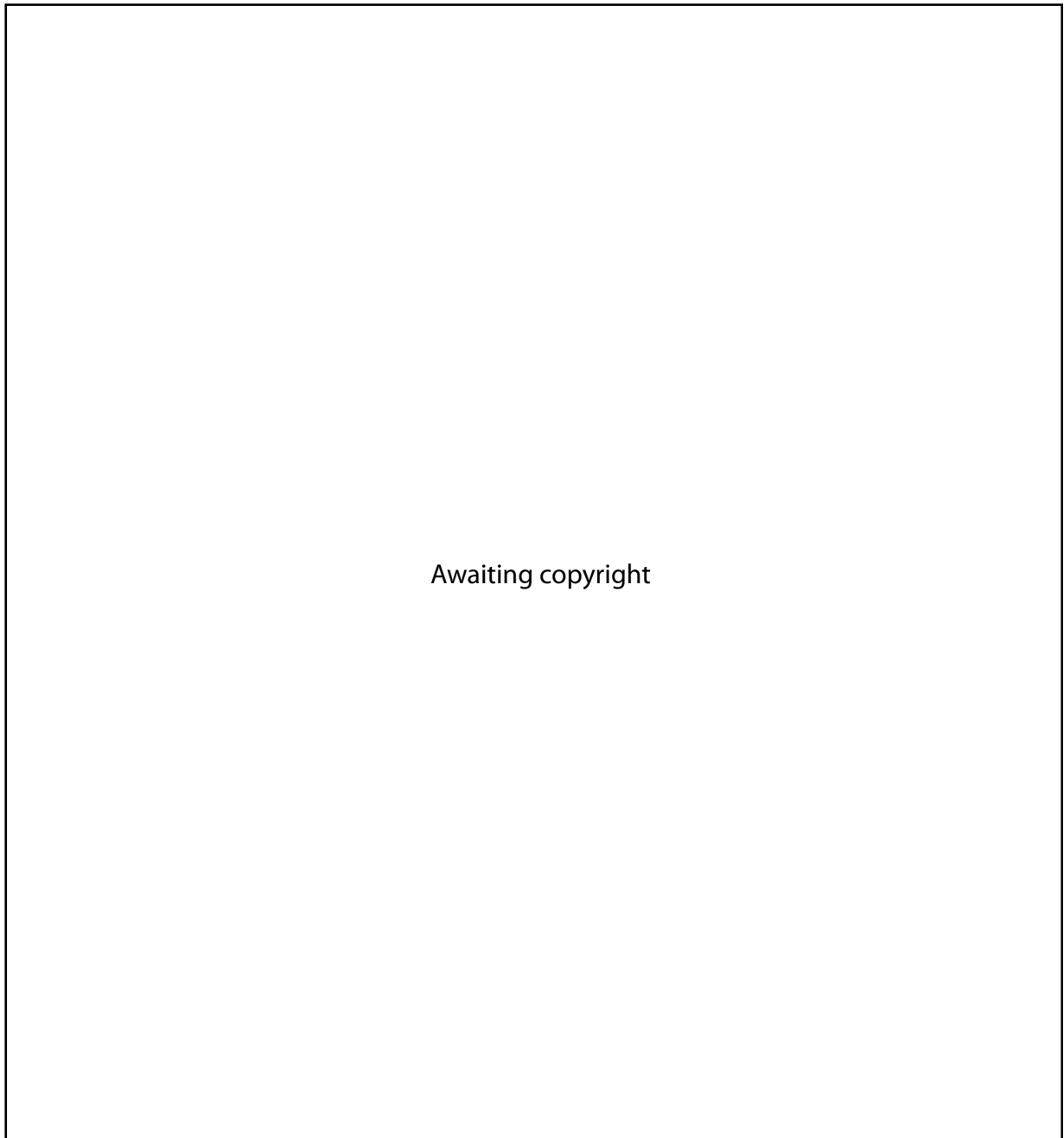
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- 12 Which is an example of polytheism?
- (A) Islam
  - (B) Judaism
  - (C) Greek Orthodoxy
  - (D) Ancient Greek religion
- 13 What does an agnostic believe?
- (A) There is no transcendent or divine reality.
  - (B) There is some transcendent or divine reality.
  - (C) There is a range of transcendent or divine realities.
  - (D) There is uncertainty about a transcendent or divine reality.
- 14 What was the purpose of sacrifice in animistic traditions?
- (A) To control the physical environment
  - (B) To diminish fertility
  - (C) To worship God
  - (D) To forgive sins
- 15 Which of the following religions has the smallest number of adherents world-wide?
- (A) Islam
  - (B) Judaism
  - (C) Hinduism
  - (D) Buddhism

**16** What is a characteristic of atheism?

- (A) A belief in reincarnation
- (B) A belief that there is no afterlife
- (C) Uncertainty regarding scientific progress
- (D) Uncertainty regarding the existence of an immanent divinity

Use the map to answer Question 17.





**17** With reference to the map, consider the following statements:

Statement 1: More Australian Muslims were born in Australia than in any other country.

Statement 2: The smallest group of Australian Muslims who were born outside Australia comes from a country where Islam is the dominant religion.

Which of the following is correct?

- (A) Both statements are true.
- (B) Both statements are false.
- (C) Statement 1 is true and 2 is false.
- (D) Statement 2 is true and 1 is false.

**18** Which of the following is the main religion in India?

- (A) Buddhism
- (B) Christianity
- (C) Hinduism
- (D) Judaism

**19** The religious dimension has been a significant influence for social transformation.

Which of the following is an example of this influence?

- (A) The United Nations
- (B) The Salvation Army
- (C) Amnesty International
- (D) The 'Live Aid' concerts

**20** Which belief is characteristic of rational humanism?

- (A) Humans are the highest form of intelligence.
- (B) Science is the key to human development.
- (C) Human nature is fundamentally flawed.
- (D) People should develop their intuition.

**Please turn over**

- 21** What best explains the growth of ecological awareness within new religious expressions and spiritualities?
- (A) Fear of the economic impact of climate change
  - (B) Disagreement with traditional religious practice
  - (C) The idea that God is the transcendent creator of the Earth
  - (D) The belief that the human community and the Earth form a unity

# Studies of Religion II

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Centre Number

## Section I (continued)

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### Attempt Question 22

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Answer the question in the space provided.

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#### Question 22 (5 marks)

Compare the responses to social responsibility of ONE religious and ONE non-religious belief system.

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## Studies of Religion II

### Section II — Religious Tradition Depth Study

**30 marks**

**Attempt TWO questions from Questions 1–5**

**Allow about 1 hour for this section**

Answer the question in a SEPARATE Studies of Religion Section II Answer Booklet.

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	<b>Marks</b>
<b>Question 1 — Buddhism (15 marks)</b>	
(a) Outline ONE significant practice within Buddhism drawn from ONE of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pilgrimage</li><li>• Temple Puja</li><li>• Wesak.</li></ul>	<b>3</b>
(b) Explain the significance for the individual of the practice outlined in part (a).	<b>6</b>
(c) Explain the contribution to Buddhism made by ONE significant person or school of thought other than the Buddha.	<b>6</b>
<b>Question 2 — Christianity (15 marks)</b>	
(a) Outline ONE significant practice within Christianity drawn from ONE of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Baptism</li><li>• Marriage ceremony</li><li>• Saturday/Sunday worship.</li></ul>	<b>3</b>
(b) Explain the significance of the practice outlined in part (a) for the Christian community.	<b>6</b>
(c) Explain the reasons for Christianity's ethical teachings on ONE of the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• bioethics</li><li>• environmental ethics</li><li>• sexual ethics.</li></ul>	<b>6</b>

**Question 3 — Hinduism** (15 marks)

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|-----|--|----------|
| (a) | Describe ONE significant practice within Hinduism drawn from ONE of the following:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marriage ceremony</li> <li>• Pilgrimage</li> <li>• Temple worship.</li> </ul>   | <b>4</b> |
| (b) | Demonstrate how the practice described in part (a) expresses the beliefs of Hinduism.  | <b>5</b> |
| (c) | Explain the reasons for Hinduism’s ethical teachings on ONE of the following areas:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• bioethics</li> <li>• environmental ethics</li> <li>• sexual ethics.</li> </ul> | <b>6</b> |

**Question 4 — Islam** (15 marks)

- |     |   |          |
|-----|---|----------|
| (a) | Outline the main sources of Islamic ethical teachings.  | <b>3</b> |
| (b) | Explain the reasons for Islam’s ethical teachings on ONE of the following areas:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• bioethics</li> <li>• environmental ethics</li> <li>• sexual ethics.</li> </ul> | <b>6</b> |
| (c) | Explain the impact on Islam of ONE significant person or school of thought other than Muhammad and the Four Rightly Guided Caliphs.   | <b>6</b> |

**Question 5 — Judaism** (15 marks)

- |     |   |          |
|-----|---|----------|
| (a) | Outline ONE significant practice within Judaism drawn from ONE of the following:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• death and mourning</li> <li>• marriage</li> <li>• synagogue services.</li> </ul> | <b>3</b> |
| (b) | Explain the significance for the individual of the practice outlined in part (a).   | <b>6</b> |
| (c) | Explain the reasons for Judaism’s ethical teachings on ONE of the following areas:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• bioethics</li> <li>• environmental ethics</li> <li>• sexual ethics.</li> </ul> | <b>6</b> |

## Section III — Religious Tradition Depth Study

20 marks

Attempt ONE question from Questions 1–5

Choose a DIFFERENT Religious Tradition from the ones you chose in Section II

Allow about 35 minutes for this section

Answer the question in a Studies of Religion Writing Booklet. Extra Studies of Religion Writing Booklets are available.

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In your answer you will be assessed on how well you:

- incorporate significant aspects of religion to illustrate your answer
  - use language and terminology appropriate to the study of religion
  - present ideas clearly in a well-structured answer
- 

### Question 1 — Buddhism (20 marks)

*Buddhist ethics are based on the principles of causing no harm to living beings and striving for the welfare of all beings.*

With reference to this statement, explain Buddhist ethical teachings on bioethics OR environmental ethics OR sexual ethics.

### Question 2 — Christianity (20 marks)

Analyse how Christian religious practices influence the lives of adherents. In your answer refer to ONE of the following: Baptism; Marriage ceremony; Saturday/Sunday worship.

### Question 3 — Hinduism (20 marks)

*Hindus have long looked to holy men and women to instruct them on how to obtain liberation from the endless cycle of life and death.*

Evaluate the relevance of this statement to the contribution to Hinduism of ONE significant person or school of thought other than the Vedas.

### Question 4 — Islam (20 marks)

Analyse how Islamic religious practices influence the lives of adherents. In your answer refer to ONE of the following: Friday prayer at the mosque; Funeral ceremony; Hajj.

### Question 5 — Judaism (20 marks)

Assess the extent to which a significant person or school of thought, other than Abraham or Moses, has challenged and/or upheld Jewish tradition.

**Please turn over**

## **Section IV — Religion and Peace**

**20 marks**

**Attempt Question 1**

**Allow about 35 minutes for this section**

Answer the question in a writing booklet. Extra writing booklets are available.

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In your answer you will be assessed on how well you:

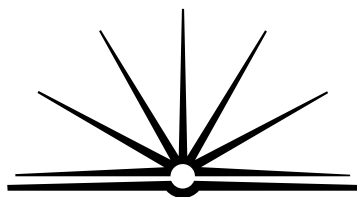
- incorporate significant aspects of religion to illustrate your answer
  - use language and terminology appropriate to the study of religion
  - present ideas clearly in a well-structured answer
- 

**Question 1** (20 marks)

To what extent are the principal teachings about peace in ONE religious tradition reflected in that tradition's contribution to world peace?

**End of paper**





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Question Number

# Studies of Religion

## Section II Answer Booklet

### **Instructions**

- Answer ONE question from Questions 1–5 in this answer booklet
- Write the question number in the space provided
- Write your Centre Number and Student Number at the top of this page

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