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**General Certificate of Secondary Education
June 2010**

Religious Studies

405013

Specification A

Unit 13 *Hinduism*

Mark Scheme

Mark schemes are prepared by the Principal Examiner and considered, together with the relevant questions, by a panel of subject teachers. This mark scheme includes any amendments made at the standardisation meeting attended by all examiners and is the scheme which was used by them in this examination. The standardisation meeting ensures that the mark scheme covers the candidates' responses to questions and that every examiner understands and applies it in the same correct way. As preparation for the standardisation meeting each examiner analyses a number of candidates' scripts: alternative answers not already covered by the mark scheme are discussed at the meeting and legislated for. If, after this meeting, examiners encounter unusual answers which have not been discussed at the meeting they are required to refer these to the Principal Examiner.

It must be stressed that a mark scheme is a working document, in many cases further developed and expanded on the basis of candidates' reactions to a particular paper. Assumptions about future mark schemes on the basis of one year's document should be avoided; whilst the guiding principles of assessment remain constant, details will change, depending on the content of a particular examination paper.

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Methods of Marking

Difficulties may arise through the use of different methods of marking. It is, therefore, essential that, in fairness to candidates, everyone uses the same methods of marking. The advice given here may seem very obvious, but it will be helpful if everyone follows it as exactly as possible.

1. No half marks or bonus marks are to be used under any circumstances.
2. Be prepared to award the full range of marks. Do not hesitate to give full marks when the answer merits full marks or to give no marks where there is nothing creditable in an answer.
3. Indicate, **by ticking**, where you have awarded a mark for questions where there are no levels. For **levels of response**, examiners must record, in the left-hand margin, the level that has been awarded, e.g. L2, and in the right-hand margin, the mark that has been awarded for the question.
4. The numerical mark awarded for **each** response should be indicated in the right-hand margin.
5. Do **not** credit material that is irrelevant to the question or to the objective, however impressive that material might be.
6. If you are wavering as to whether or not to award a mark, the criterion should be, 'Is the candidate nearer those who have given a correct answer or those who have little idea?'
7. Refer constantly to the mark scheme throughout marking. It is extremely important that it is strictly adhered to.
8. Remember, the key to good and fair marking is **consistency**. Do **not** change your marking style once you have started sending scripts to AQA.

Levels of Response Marking

In GCSE Religious Studies, differentiation is largely achieved by outcome on the basis of candidates' responses. To facilitate this, levels of response marking has been devised for many questions.

Levels of response marking requires a quite different approach from the examiner than the traditional 'point for point' marking. It is essential that the **whole response is read** and then **allocated to the level** it best fits.

The **assessed level** of response to each part of each question must be indicated in the left-hand margin (L1, L2, etc.), leaving the right-hand margin for the numerical award.

If a candidate demonstrates knowledge, understanding and / or evaluation at a certain level, he / she must be credited at that level. **Length** of response or **literary ability** should **not be confused with genuine religious studies skills**. For example, a short answer which shows a high level of conceptual ability must be credited at that level. (If there is a band of marks allocated to a level, discrimination should be made with reference to the development of the answer.)

Levels are tied to specific skills. Examiners should **refer to the stated assessment target** objective of a question (see mark scheme) when there is any doubt as to the relevance of a candidate's response.

Levels of response mark schemes include either **examples** of possible candidates' responses or **material** which they might use. These are intended as a **guide** only. It is anticipated that candidates will produce a wide range of responses to each question.

It is a feature of levels of response mark schemes that examiners are prepared to reward fully, responses which are obviously valid and of high ability but do not conform exactly to the requirements of a particular level. This should only be necessary occasionally and where this occurs examiners must indicate, by a brief written explanation, why their assessment does not conform to the levels of response laid down in the mark scheme. Such scripts should be referred to the Principal Examiner.

Assessment of Quality of Written Communication

Quality of written communication will be assessed in all components and in relation to all assessment objectives. Where candidates are required to produce extended written material in English, they will be assessed on the quality of written communication. There will no longer be a separate mark awarded to the candidate for accurate spelling, punctuation and grammar. Instead, the quality of written communication skills of the candidate will be one of the factors influencing the actual mark awarded within the level of response. In reading an extended response, the examiner will therefore consider if it is cogently and coherently written, i.e. decide whether the answer:

- presents relevant information in a form that suits its purposes;
- is legible and that spelling, punctuation and grammar are accurate, so that meaning is clear;
- is suitably structured and that the style of writing is appropriate.

Candidates will be given credit for reference to diversity in belief and practice within Hinduism.

Part A

A1 Pilgrimage and Festivals

- (a) Give two religious actions Hindus perform when they visit Varanasi.**

Target: Knowledge of Pilgrimage at Varanasi

Candidates may include some of the following points:

- Ritual bathing in the river
- Visit holy men for guidance
- Visit temples
- Stay in ashrams
- Complete pilgrimage
- Prayers and rituals by the river
- Float diva lamps on the river
- Cremations.

1 mark for each of two actions.

(2 marks) AO1

- (b) Explain briefly why Hindu pilgrims visit Varanasi.**

Target: Understanding of purpose of pilgrimage

Candidates may include some of the following points:

- To fulfil a vow or promise made to chosen deity
- To concentrate on and devote themselves to spiritual development
- To prepare for death
- To gain wisdom and insight from holy men dwelling there
- To perform puja in special temples
- To gain good karma
- To wipe out bad karma through performance of special rituals
- To practise as a sannyasin for a while
- To attend a cremation
- To pay respect to departed relatives.

1 mark for a superficial comment or a single point.

2 marks for a developed answer or more than one point.

(2 marks) AO1

(c) Describe how Hindus celebrate the festival of Diwali.

Target: Knowledge and understanding of festival of Diwali

Levels	Criteria	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.	0 marks
Level 1	Something relevant or worthy of credit.	1 mark
Level 2	Elementary knowledge and understanding, e.g. two simple points.	2 marks
Level 3	Sound knowledge and understanding.	3 marks

Candidates may refer to the following:

Make diva lamps / decorate homes with lamps and fairy lights / public buildings decorated and rangoli patterns on pavements. Lit to welcome home Rama and Sita.

Re-enactment of story of Rama and Sita / lamps lit to welcome them in homes and temples.

Special pujas for Lakshmi at the temple. All accounts settled and blessed.

Presents and new clothes and parties.

(3 marks) AO1

(d) ‘For Hindus, celebrating festivals is more important than going on pilgrimage.’

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view.

Target : Evaluation of festivals and pilgrimage

Levels	Criteria	Marks	Quality of Written Communication
0	Unsupported opinion or no relevant evaluation.	0 marks	The candidate’s presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar seriously obstruct understanding.
Level 1	Opinion supported by simple reason.	1 mark	The candidate presents some relevant information in a simple form. The text produced is usually legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar allow meaning to be derived, although errors are sometimes obstructive.
Level 2	Opinion supported by one developed reason or two simple reasons.	2 marks	
Level 3	Opinion supported by one well developed reason or several simple reasons. N.B. Candidates who make no religious comment should not achieve more than Level 3.	3 marks	The candidate presents relevant information in a way which assists with the communication of meaning. The text produced is legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently accurate not to obscure meaning.
Level 4	Opinion supported by two developed reasons with reference to religion.	4 marks	
Level 5	Evidence of reasoned consideration of two different points of view, showing informed insights and knowledge and understanding of religion.	5 marks	The candidate presents relevant information coherently, employing structure and style to render meaning clear. The text produced is legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently accurate to render meaning clear.
Level 6	A well-argued response, with evidence of reasoned consideration of two different points of view showing informed insights and ability to apply knowledge and understanding of religion effectively.	6 marks	

Agree

- Festivals are celebrated by all Hindus as a natural part of their lives throughout the year.
- Festivals communicate the main teachings and religious practices to the whole community.
- They are popular and enjoyed by everyone.
- They are as much social and cultural events as religious and strengthen cultural identity as well as religious faith and practice.
- Pilgrimage can only be undertaken by a few people.
- They are once in a lifetime events and only undertaken for special reasons.
- They are not necessary for faith and practice and are optional.

Other views

- Pilgrimage is such an important act that it has the potential to bring spiritual liberation to the pilgrim.
- It can be a life changing event enabling the pilgrim to fully understand the meaning of Hindu teachings.
- It is an expression of complete devotion to their chosen god / goddess and surrender to the spiritual path.
- It requires tremendous commitment and a willingness to endure suffering.

(6 marks) AO2

A2 Respect for Life

(a) Explain Hindu attitudes towards abortion.

Target: Knowledge and understanding of abortion from the Hindu perspective

Levels	Criteria	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.	0 marks
Level 1	Something relevant or worthy of credit.	1 mark
Level 2	Elementary knowledge and understanding, e.g. two simple points.	2 marks
Level 3	Sound knowledge and understanding.	3 marks

Candidates may include some of the following points:

- It is against the fundamental moral concept of ahimsa.
- Life starts at conception so abortion involves the taking of life.
- The living being contains a soul (atman) and so should be regarded as a living being.
- This wrong doing will bring its own karmic consequences.
- Breach of duty for householder.
- Compassion and understanding for the mother and unborn being should prevail.
- Some believe it is better to preserve the life of the mother rather than the foetus.
- In Indian society overpopulation is a problem so the attitude towards abortion is not too strict.

(3 marks) AO1

(b) Explain Hindu attitudes to those who experience suffering in their lives.

Target: Knowledge and understanding of suffering from Hindu perspectives

Levels	Criteria	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.	0 marks
Level 1	Something relevant or worthy of credit.	1 mark
Level 2	Elementary knowledge and understanding, e.g. two simple points.	2 marks
Level 3	Sound knowledge and understanding.	3 marks

Candidates may include some of the following points:

- Hindus believe that the law of karma explains suffering in life.
- Misfortune can be seen as the result of previous misdeeds in a previous life. This might lead to an attitude of acceptance and feeling of responsibility for one's own suffering.
- Hindus believe it is their duty to help and relieve suffering.
- Strong sense of social responsibility in Hinduism especially within the family or social group.
- Example of Gandhi to care for those who suffered injustice.
- Notion of self sacrifice for sake of others encouraged in some reform movements.

(3 marks) AO1

(c) 'Respecting all forms of life is not possible in the modern world.'

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to Hinduism in your answer.

Target: Evaluation of respect for life

Levels	Criteria	Marks	Quality of Written Communication
0	Unsupported opinion or no relevant evaluation.	0 marks	The candidate's presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar seriously obstruct understanding.
Level 1	Opinion supported by simple reason.	1 mark	The candidate presents some relevant information in a simple form. The text produced is usually legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar allow meaning to be derived, although errors are sometimes obstructive.
Level 2	Opinion supported by one developed reason or two simple reasons.	2 marks	
Level 3	Opinion supported by one well developed reason or several simple reasons. N.B. Candidates who make no religious comment should not achieve more than Level 3.	3 marks	The candidate presents relevant information in a way which assists with the communication of meaning. The text produced is legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently accurate not to obscure meaning.
Level 4	Opinion supported by two developed reasons with reference to religion.	4 marks	
Level 5	Evidence of reasoned consideration of two different points of view, showing informed insights and knowledge and understanding of religion.	5 marks	The candidate presents relevant information coherently, employing structure and style to render meaning clear. The text produced is legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently accurate to render meaning clear.
Level 6	A well-argued response, with evidence of reasoned consideration of two different points of view showing informed insights and ability to apply knowledge and understanding of religion effectively.	6 marks	

Agree

- Living in the modern world is bound to involve some destruction or harm of other beings even without intention to harm.
- The modern world is highly consumerist so needs many natural products and animal products to survive and thrive.
- All forms of life include beings upon whom we depend for our human existence. This is inevitable and part of cycle of nature.
- Sometimes it is necessary to harm others for the greater good.

Other views

- It is possible to avoid deliberate harm with clear intention to do so.
- Respecting all forms of life includes both other people but also nature and the environment.
- This attitude is necessary and possible to protect the stability of society and balance of nature.
- It is even more important in the modern world as this reduces violence and wanton destruction of the environment.
- Respecting all forms of life protects the planet which is in danger from global warming.

(6 marks) AO2

A3 Beliefs, Sources of Authority and Worship

(a) Explain why Krishna is a popular deity.

Target: Knowledge and understanding of popular deity Krishna

Levels	Criteria	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.	0 marks
Level 1	Something relevant or worthy of credit.	1 mark
Level 2	Elementary knowledge and understanding, e.g. two simple points.	2 marks
Level 3	Sound knowledge and understanding.	3 marks

- He has loveable and engaging qualities and attractive appearance.
- He represents the power of love and gives his devotees this sense of grace and love.
- His qualities of restoring goodness and harmony to troubled circumstances.
- He is an avatar of Vishnu and has supernatural powers.
- He has a human form and some believe he actually existed on earth and so he is so easy to relate to.
- His followers practise bhakti (loving devotion) which appeals to certain kinds of people.

(3 marks) AO1

(b) Explain why Ganesha is a popular deity

Target: Knowledge and understanding of popular deity Ganesha

Levels	Criteria	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.	0 marks
Level 1	Something relevant or worthy of credit.	1 mark
Level 2	Elementary knowledge and understanding, e.g. two simple points.	2 marks
Level 3	Sound knowledge and understanding.	3 marks

Candidates might refer to some of the following points:

- Devotion and prayers to Ganesha can remove obstacles to any endeavour.
- He has an appealing nature due to his many powers.
- He combines success in the worldly life with spiritual practice.
- The elephant's head signifies his great wisdom and mental powers.
- He is the son of Shiva.
- He represents good will and bounty.
- The stories about his acquiring an elephant's head have an appeal.

(3 marks) AO1

(c) 'Hindus need to have images of personal deities in order to worship God.'

What do you think? Give reasons for your opinion.

Target: Evaluation of personal deities and their relationship to worship

Levels	Criteria	Marks
0	Unsupported opinion or no relevant evaluation.	0 marks
Level 1	Opinion supported by simple reason.	1 mark
Level 2	Opinion supported by one developed reason or two simple reasons.	2 marks
Level 3	Opinion supported by one well developed reason or several simple reasons.	3 marks

Candidates might refer to the following:

- Most Hindus have images of personal deities as a focus for worship.
- The images are symbols and representations of the powers and qualities of the ultimate God.
- These are channels or conduits to the highest levels of divine nature and ultimate / impersonal supreme godhead / energy of Brahman.
- For most Hindus it is not possible to directly worship an abstract or impersonal force. The personal deities evoke both devotion and the will to lead a good moral life.
- Personal deities get in the way of worship of the ultimate godhead rather than being a means to that end.
- It is possible to directly relate to the impersonal spiritual reality without personal deities.
- The danger of worship based on images of personal deities is that they become the object of devotion or idols in themselves rather than a means to higher levels of realisation and ultimate liberation.

(3 marks) AO2

(d) ‘Hindus need sacred texts in order to follow their faith.’

What do you think? Give reasons for your opinion.

Target : Evaluation of sacred texts

Levels	Criteria	Marks
0	Unsupported opinion or no relevant evaluation.	0 marks
Level 1	Opinion supported by simple reason.	1 mark
Level 2	Opinion supported by one developed reason or two simple reasons.	2 marks
Level 3	Opinion supported by one well developed reason or several simple reasons.	3 marks

Candidates might refer to the following:

- Many Hindus study and interpret the scriptures and incorporate the wisdom into their lives.
- The sacred texts contain the deepest truths and philosophy upon which the practical aspects of faith are built.
- Although some Hindus may have no direct contact with the scriptures their way of life is based upon them.
- Following the faith involves a variety of aspects, most of which do not depend upon scriptures.
- Most Hindus follow their faith and its teachings and practice through custom and family life.
- The faith is acquired more through listening to the older members of the family and religious leaders than the scriptures.

(3 marks) AO2

A4 Temple Worship

(a) Give two features of Hindu mandirs (temples).

Target: Knowledge and understanding of Hindu temples

Candidates might select two of the following:

Shaped like a mountain / Shikara or tower or spire above the deity / or murti / murtis or statues of the deities / many shrines dedicated to various deities / Garbha griha inner shrine containing the main deity / mandapa pillared walkway / entrance with protective deity / Gopuram large gateway.

1 mark for each.

(2 marks) AO1

(b) Describe how Hindus worship in the mandir (temple).

Target: Knowledge of Hindu worship

Levels	Criteria	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.	0 marks
Level 1	Something relevant or worthy of credit.	1 mark
Level 2	Elementary knowledge and understanding, e.g. two simple points.	2 marks
Level 3	Sound knowledge and understanding.	3 marks

Candidates may refer to the following points:

Circumambulation of temple / personal cleansing / ring bell at entrance / prostrations before chosen deity / offerings of fruit, flowers, money / arti / chanting / Darshan / receive prashad.

(3 marks) AO1

(c) 'Temples are essential for Hindu worship.'

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view.

Target: Evaluation of temple worship

Levels	Criteria	Marks	Quality of Written Communication
0	Unsupported opinion or no relevant evaluation.	0 marks	The candidate's presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar seriously obstruct understanding.
Level 1	Opinion supported by simple reason.	1 mark	The candidate presents some relevant information in a simple form. The text produced is usually legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar allow meaning to be derived, although errors are sometimes obstructive.
Level 2	Opinion supported by one developed reason or two simple reasons.	2 marks	
Level 3	Opinion supported by one well developed reason or several simple reasons. N.B. Candidates who make no religious comment should not achieve more than Level 3.	3 marks	The candidate presents relevant information in a way which assists with the communication of meaning. The text produced is legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently accurate not to obscure meaning.
Level 4	Opinion supported by two developed reasons with reference to religion.	4 marks	
Level 5	Evidence of reasoned consideration of two different points of view, showing informed insights and knowledge and understanding of religion.	5 marks	The candidate presents relevant information coherently, employing structure and style to render meaning clear. The text produced is legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently accurate to render meaning clear.
Level 6	A well-argued response, with evidence of reasoned consideration of two different points of view showing informed insights and ability to apply knowledge and understanding of religion effectively.	6 marks	

Agree

- Only temple priests who reside at temples are qualified to perform certain rituals.
- Darshan, a sighting or vision of the deity is only possible at temples.
- Temples have special sacredness and the power and energies of the deities.
- Temples are the special places of the deities or shines to special saints and bring the worshipper closer to god.
- Temples are gathering places for the whole community.
- Some ceremonies can only take place in temples.

Other views

- For Hindus God is everywhere, including rivers and trees, so no need for temples.
- Many daily rituals take place in the home rather than the temples.
- Personal faith and commitment is more important than visiting holy places.

(6 marks) AO2

Part B

B5 Personal Duties and Family Relationships

(a) Describe the sacred thread ceremony.

Target: Knowledge and understanding of rites of passage

Levels	Criteria	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.	0 marks
Level 1	Something relevant or worthy of credit.	1 mark
Level 2	Elementary knowledge and understanding, e.g. two simple points.	2 marks
Level 3	Sound knowledge and understanding.	3 marks
Level 4	A clear knowledge and understanding with some development and / or analysis.	4 marks
Level 5	A detailed answer with some development and / or analysis.	5 marks
Level 6	A full and coherent answer showing good development and / or analysis.	6 marks

Appropriate only to higher castes / boy aged 12 or 13 / head shaved / special meal with mother / ritual with cloth with father / special sacred fire is lit by brahmin priest / offerings / presented to his guru / given the sacred thread yajnopaveet with three strands / initiation ritual / boy asks to be taught the gayatri hymn / takes vows of celibacy / given staff / party.

(6 marks) AO1

(b) ‘Performing rites of passage is the most important duty for Hindus.’

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view.

Target: Evaluation of rites of passage

Levels	Criteria	Marks	Quality of Written Communication
0	Unsupported opinion or no relevant evaluation.	0 marks	The candidate’s presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar seriously obstruct understanding.
Level 1	Opinion supported by simple reason.	1 mark	The candidate presents some relevant information in a simple form. The text produced is usually legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar allow meaning to be derived, although errors are sometimes obstructive.
Level 2	Opinion supported by one developed reason or two simple reasons.	2 marks	
Level 3	Opinion supported by one well developed reason or several simple reasons. N.B. Candidates who make no religious comment should not achieve more than Level 3.	3 marks	The candidate presents relevant information in a way which assists with the communication of meaning. The text produced is legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently accurate not to obscure meaning.
Level 4	Opinion supported by two developed reasons with reference to religion.	4 marks	
Level 5	Evidence of reasoned consideration of two different points of view, showing informed insights and knowledge and understanding of religion.	5 marks	The candidate presents relevant information coherently, employing structure and style to render meaning clear. The text produced is legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently accurate to render meaning clear.
Level 6	A well-argued response, with evidence of reasoned consideration of two different points of view showing informed insights and ability to apply knowledge and understanding of religion effectively.	6 marks	

Agree

- All rites of passage mark the most significant stages in life for Hindus and demonstrate to them the essential values and rules related to that stage.
- All Hindus engage in these rituals as they are family and social occasions which reinforce cultural values.
- Without these rituals the Hindu way of life would not be preserved.
- The social and moral value and duties are expressed and reinforced by these rituals.
- It unites the family and community.

Other views

- Hindus do not need rituals to make a commitment to these moral values.
- There are much more important aspects to the Hindu way of life including religious devotions and following a spiritual path.
- These rites of passage have become elaborate and sometimes expensive social occasions which have lost their religious meaning and are more for show.

(6 marks) AO2

(c) Explain the meaning of varnasramadharm for Hindus.

Target: Knowledge and understanding of varnasramadharm

Levels	Criteria	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.	0 marks
Level 1	Something relevant or worthy of credit.	1 mark
Level 2	Elementary knowledge and understanding, e.g. two simple points.	2 marks
Level 3	Sound knowledge and understanding.	3 marks
Level 4	A clear knowledge and understanding with some development and / or analysis.	4 marks
Level 5	A detailed answer with some development and / or analysis.	5 marks
Level 6	A full and coherent answer showing good development and / or analysis.	6 marks

Varna refers to colour or caste and includes the four main castes of brahmins, kshatriyas, vaishyas and shrudras. Each of these castes have duties to perform to ensure the stability and harmony of society.

Ashramas are the stages in life of student, householder, retired person and homeless wanderer. Dharma refers to the laws as moral principles which must be adhered to by all Hindus to ensure good karma for themselves as individuals as well as the moral harmony of society ensuring that righteousness rather than evil prevails.

Give credit for a general explanation of the term as a whole.

(6 marks) AO1

(d) ‘The caste system should have no place in Hinduism.’

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view.

Target: Evaluation of attitudes towards the caste system

Levels	Criteria	Marks	Quality of Written Communication
0	Unsupported opinion or no relevant evaluation.	0 marks	The candidate’s presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar seriously obstruct understanding.
Level 1	Opinion supported by simple reason.	1 mark	The candidate presents some relevant information in a simple form. The text produced is usually legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar allow meaning to be derived, although errors are sometimes obstructive.
Level 2	Opinion supported by one developed reason or two simple reasons.	2 marks	
Level 3	Opinion supported by one well developed reason or several simple reasons. N.B. Candidates who make no religious comment should not achieve more than Level 3.	3 marks	The candidate presents relevant information in a way which assists with the communication of meaning. The text produced is legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently accurate not to obscure meaning.
Level 4	Opinion supported by two developed reasons with reference to religion.	4 marks	
Level 5	Evidence of reasoned consideration of two different points of view, showing informed insights and knowledge and understanding of religion.	5 marks	The candidate presents relevant information coherently, employing structure and style to render meaning clear. The text produced is legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently accurate to render meaning clear.
Level 6	A well-argued response, with evidence of reasoned consideration of two different points of view showing informed insights and ability to apply knowledge and understanding of religion effectively.	6 marks	

Agree

- The caste system is not accepted or believed in by many Hindus.
- It is no longer relevant in modern India.
- Caste discrimination is outlawed.
- It is seen as part of backward and rural India.
- Many low caste Hindus have become very wealthy or taken up high government office.
- The caste system is part of history and culture and independent of Hinduism.
- It was part of Aryan culture.

Other views

- The notion of caste is an integral part of the Hindu society based on occupation and life styles.
- Marriage is based on caste and it is socially unacceptable to marry into a lower caste.
- Caste is supported and reinforced by the beliefs in karma and reincarnation.
- Caste is very entrenched in the attitudes of many Hindus.

(6 marks) AO2

B6 Justice and Equality

(a) Explain Hindu attitudes to race.

Target: Knowledge and understanding of prejudice and discrimination with reference to race in Hinduism

Levels	Criteria	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.	0 marks
Level 1	Something relevant or worthy of credit.	1 mark
Level 2	Elementary knowledge and understanding, e.g. two simple points.	2 marks
Level 3	Sound knowledge and understanding.	3 marks
Level 4	A clear knowledge and understanding with some development and / or analysis.	4 marks
Level 5	A detailed answer with some development and / or analysis.	5 marks
Level 6	A full and coherent answer showing good development and / or analysis.	6 marks

- All beings are equal as the true self is the soul or atman and this is the same in everyone.
- Hinduism has always encompassed a variety of races and cultures within itself.
- Presence in India of scheduled tribes (aboriginals) and castes usually darker skins who are given protection by law and positive discrimination with regards to education.
- Caste is sometimes linked to race.
- Awareness of cultural differences between lighter skinned northern Indians and Dravidian south, Tamils, etc.
- Still preference for lighter skinned people for marriage, etc.
- General Hindu attitude of non harm and generosity and universality of god in all beings.

(6 marks) AO1

(b) ‘Hindus are tolerant of all other religions.’

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view.

Target: Evaluation of Hindu attitudes towards other religions

Levels	Criteria	Marks	Quality of Written Communication
0	Unsupported opinion or no relevant evaluation.	0 marks	The candidate’s presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar seriously obstruct understanding.
Level 1	Opinion supported by simple reason.	1 mark	The candidate presents some relevant information in a simple form. The text produced is usually legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar allow meaning to be derived, although errors are sometimes obstructive.
Level 2	Opinion supported by one developed reason or two simple reasons.	2 marks	
Level 3	Opinion supported by one well developed reason or several simple reasons. N.B. Candidates who make no religious comment should not achieve more than Level 3.	3 marks	The candidate presents relevant information in a way which assists with the communication of meaning. The text produced is legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently accurate not to obscure meaning.
Level 4	Opinion supported by two developed reasons with reference to religion.	4 marks	
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Level 6	A well-argued response, with evidence of reasoned consideration of two different points of view showing informed insights and ability to apply knowledge and understanding of religion effectively.	6 marks	

Agree

- Hindus have not had wars with other religious cultures.
- Hindus believe all religions are different paths to the same truth.
- Hindus worship figures such as Jesus Christ and Guru Nanak.
- Some common saints from sant tradition of Muslim and Sikh saints.
- Hinduism has absorbed into itself many influences from other religions and some sects combine different beliefs.
- Hinduism welcomes and values the diversity of different religious philosophies.
- Hinduism does not claim exclusive possession of truth but acknowledges the various ways of reaching ultimate truth.

Other views

- Considerable intolerance of Muslims.
- Some groups of Hindus responsible for destroying mosques and engaging in communal conflict in India.
- Some dislike and criticism of Christianity and missions from some Hindus in 19th century.
- Some tensions with Sikh community over Kashmir and reprisals against Sikhs after assassination of Indira Gandhi.

(6 marks) AO2

(c) Explain Hindu attitudes towards the role and status of women.

Target: Knowledge and understanding of the role and status of women in Hinduism

Levels	Criteria	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.	0 marks
Level 1	Something relevant or worthy of credit.	1 mark
Level 2	Elementary knowledge and understanding, e.g. two simple points.	2 marks
Level 3	Sound knowledge and understanding.	3 marks
Level 4	A clear knowledge and understanding with some development and / or analysis.	4 marks
Level 5	A detailed answer with some development and / or analysis.	5 marks
Level 6	A full and coherent answer showing good development and / or analysis.	6 marks

- Role of mother given very high status.
- Mother goddess is part of worship in Hinduism.
- Everything good, blissful, protective and evil destroying is associated with the mother goddess.
- Variety of views about role of woman in the home.
- Some think she should be subservient to her husband, others advocate equality.
- In the past widows were given low status and even committed suicide at husband's funeral pyre.
- Modern reformers have changed this attitude.
- Hindu depiction of popular deities show male and female aspects as equal.
- Marriage is important to all women as part of the householder stage of life.
- She is expected to honour and respect her husband and bring up the children well and educate them.
- As a wife and mother the Hindu ideal is for her to be utterly devoted to her family and to bring religious observance and devotion to the gods in the home.
- Women organise and perform daily puja.
- Her status is secure when she gives birth to a son.
- Sometimes girl babies are not as popular as sons as the father has to provide a dowry and sons are needed to provide certain essential ceremonies.

(6 marks) AO1

(d) ‘Men are more important than women in Hindu society.’

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view.

Target: Evaluation of Hindu attitudes towards women

Levels	Criteria	Marks	Quality of Written Communication
0	Unsupported opinion or no relevant evaluation.	0 marks	The candidate’s presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar seriously obstruct understanding.
Level 1	Opinion supported by simple reason.	1 mark	The candidate presents some relevant information in a simple form. The text produced is usually legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar allow meaning to be derived, although errors are sometimes obstructive.
Level 2	Opinion supported by one developed reason or two simple reasons.	2 marks	
Level 3	Opinion supported by one well developed reason or several simple reasons. N.B. Candidates who make no religious comment should not achieve more than Level 3.	3 marks	The candidate presents relevant information in a way which assists with the communication of meaning. The text produced is legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently accurate not to obscure meaning.
Level 4	Opinion supported by two developed reasons with reference to religion.	4 marks	
Level 5	Evidence of reasoned consideration of two different points of view, showing informed insights and knowledge and understanding of religion.	5 marks	The candidate presents relevant information coherently, employing structure and style to render meaning clear. The text produced is legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently accurate to render meaning clear.
Level 6	A well-argued response, with evidence of reasoned consideration of two different points of view showing informed insights and ability to apply knowledge and understanding of religion effectively.	6 marks	

Agree

- Traditional values of the subservience of women are still strong in more rural communities.
- Widowhood is still regarded as a very lowly status.
- Men are still required for certain ceremonies to be effective especially funerals.
- Different roles for women rather than equality emphasised in Indian / Hindu society.

Other views

- The ideal of equality has already been achieved.
- Importance of leaders like Indira Gandhi.
- Hindu society has become rapidly modernised and is constantly changing.
- It is now possible for women to achieve as much economically as men.
- Many Hindu reformers campaigned for equal rights of women and many successful educational movements and organisations have championed women's rights and equality.

(6 marks) AO2