

General Certificate of Secondary Education
June 2005



RELIGIOUS STUDIES (SPECIFICATION B) 30601
RELIGIOUS STUDIES (SPECIFICATION B) (SHORT COURSE)
Unit 1 Thinking about God and Morality

Tuesday 14 June 2005 1.30 pm to 3.15 pm

<p>In addition to this paper you will require: a 12-page answer book.</p>
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Time allowed: 1 hour 45 minutes

Instructions

- Use blue or black ink or ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for the paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is 30601.
- Answer **four** questions.
In Section A answer both Questions A1 **and** A2.
In Section B answer **either** Question B3 **or** Question B4 **and either** Question B5 **or** Question B6.
- No more than **two** religions, **one of which must be Christianity**, should be used in your answers to any one question.
- Do **not** use more than **three** religions in the paper as a whole.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 83.
- Mark allocations are shown in brackets.
- You will be awarded up to three marks for quality of written communication.
You are required to:
 - Present relevant information in a form that suits its purposes.
 - Ensure that the text is legible and that spelling, punctuation and grammar are accurate so that the meaning is clear.
 - Use a suitable structure and style of writing.

Advice

- You are advised not to spend more than 25 minutes on each question.

SECTION A THINKING ABOUT GOD

Each question carries 20 marks.

A1 The Existence of God

Read the quotation in **Figure 1**.

“God looked at everything he had made, and he was very pleased.”
Genesis 1³¹

Figure 1

- (a) (i) Is the quotation in **Figure 1** more likely to be believed by an *atheist* or a *theist*? (1 mark)
- (ii) Give **one** reason for your answer. (1 mark)
- (b) Describe **one** creation story from a religious tradition. (5 marks)
- (c) Explain the First Cause argument for God’s existence. (4 marks)
- (d) Explain how believing that God created the world might influence the way religious people live their lives. (4 marks)
- (e) “A loving God would not have made a world where people suffer.”

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. (5 marks)

A2 Religious Experience and the Nature of God

Look at **Figure 2**.

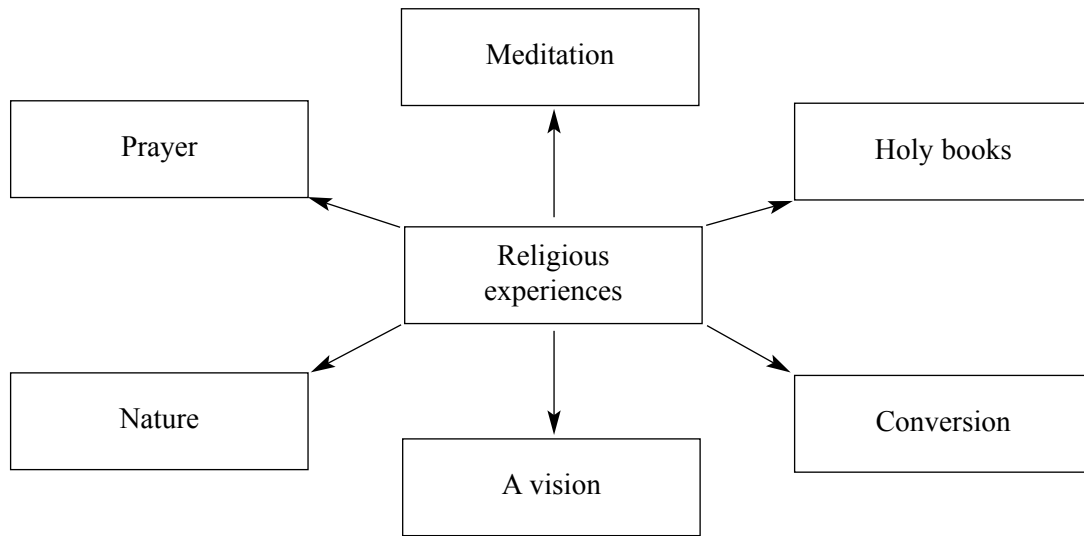


Figure 2

- (a) (i) Give **one** example of special revelation. (1 mark)
- (ii) Why is the example given special revelation? (1 mark)
- (b) How might **either** prayer **or** meditation help someone to experience God? (3 marks)
- (c) Explain what believers can learn about what God is like from holy books. Use examples of holy books from **two** religious traditions in your answer. (6 marks)
- (d) (i) Explain what religious believers mean when they say that God is *personal*. (2 marks)
- (ii) Explain **one** difficulty in thinking of God as *personal*. (2 marks)
- (e) “Religious experiences prove that God exists.”

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. (5 marks)

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SECTION B THINKING ABOUT MORALITY

Answer **two** questions.

Answer **either** Question B3 **or** Question B4 **and either** Question B5 **or** Question B6.

Each question carries 20 marks.

EITHER

B3 Abortion and Prejudice

Look at **Figure 3**.

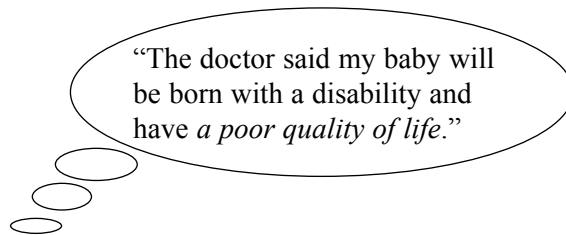


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Figure 3

- (a) (i) Explain what is meant by “a poor quality of life.” *(2 marks)*
- (ii) Explain why some religious people think abortion is acceptable if the baby will have a disability. *(3 marks)*
- (b) How might a religious leader help someone make a moral decision? *(2 marks)*
- (c) Explain teachings about abortion from **two** religious traditions. Name **each** religion or Christian denomination. *(8 marks)*
- (d) “Children with disabilities experience more prejudice than other children.”

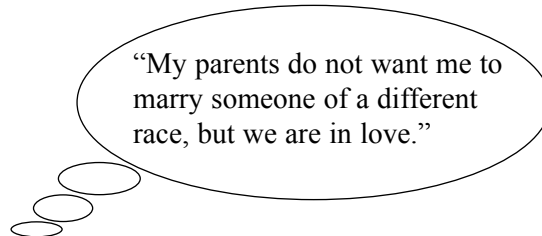
Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to religious arguments in your answer. *(5 marks)*

Do **not** answer Question B4 if you have answered Question B3.

OR

B4 Marriage

Look at **Figure 4**.



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Figure 4

- (a) (i) Explain religious attitudes towards marrying someone of a different race. *(2 marks)*
- (ii) Explain why some religious people think that it is not important to be 'in love' before getting married. *(3 marks)*
- (b) How might a religious leader help someone make a moral decision? *(2 marks)*
- (c) Explain teachings about marriage from **two** religious traditions. Name **each** religion or Christian denomination. *(8 marks)*
- (d) "It is wrong to marry someone against your parents' wishes."

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to religious arguments in your answer. *(5 marks)*

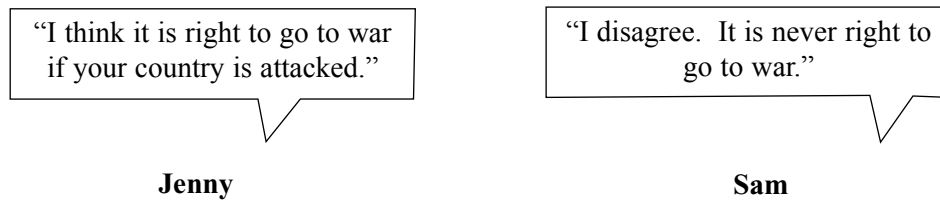
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Answer **either** Question B5 or Question B6.

EITHER

B5 War and Peace

Look at **Figure 5**.



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Figure 5

- (a) (i) Sam said, “It is never right to go to war.” Is this statement an example of *absolute* morality or *relative* morality? (1 mark)
- (ii) Explain the difference between *absolute* and *relative* morality. (2 marks)
- (b) Jenny said, “It is right to go to war if your country is attacked.”

Give and explain **three other** circumstances when some religious believers would say it is right to fight in a war. (6 marks)

- (c) Explain teachings about the importance of peace from **two** religious traditions. Name **each** religion or Christian denomination. (6 marks)
- (d) “The world can never be at peace; there will always be wars.”

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to religious arguments in your answer. (5 marks)

Do **not** answer Question B6 if you have answered Question B5.

OR

B6 The Natural World

Look at **Figure 6**.



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Figure 6

- (a) (i) Janet said, "It is alright to kill animals, if it is for food." Is this statement an example of *absolute morality* **or** *relative morality*? (1 mark)
- (ii) Explain the difference between *absolute* and *relative* morality. (2 marks)
- (b) Steve said, "It is always wrong to kill animals, even for food."

Give and explain **three other** uses of animals that some religious believers would say are wrong. (6 marks)

- (c) Explain teachings about the environment from **two** religious traditions. Name **each** religion or Christian denomination. (6 marks)
- (d) "There is nothing one person alone can do to protect the natural world."

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to religious arguments in your answer. (5 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

NO QUESTIONS APPEAR ON THIS PAGE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COPYRIGHT-HOLDERS AND PUBLISHERS

Figure 4 M Fleming, *Revise for Religious Studies GCSE AQA B Thinking About God and Morality*, Heinemann (2003)

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