

General Certificate of Secondary Education
June 2006



RELIGIOUS STUDIES (SPECIFICATION B) 30604
RELIGIOUS STUDIES (SPECIFICATION B) (SHORT COURSE)
Unit 4 Truth, Spirituality and Contemporary Issues

Tuesday 13 June 2006 1.30 pm to 3.15 pm

For this paper you must have:

- a 12-page answer book

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 this paper is AQQA. The *Paper Reference* is 30604.
- Answer **four** questions.
 - In Section A answer **Question A1**.
 - In Section B answer **any three** questions from **Questions B2 to B7**.
- Do all rough work in the answer book. Cross through any work that you do not want marked.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 83.
Three of these marks will be awarded for the Quality of Written Communication.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- You are required to:
 - Present relevant information in a form that suits its purposes.
 - Ensure that 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.

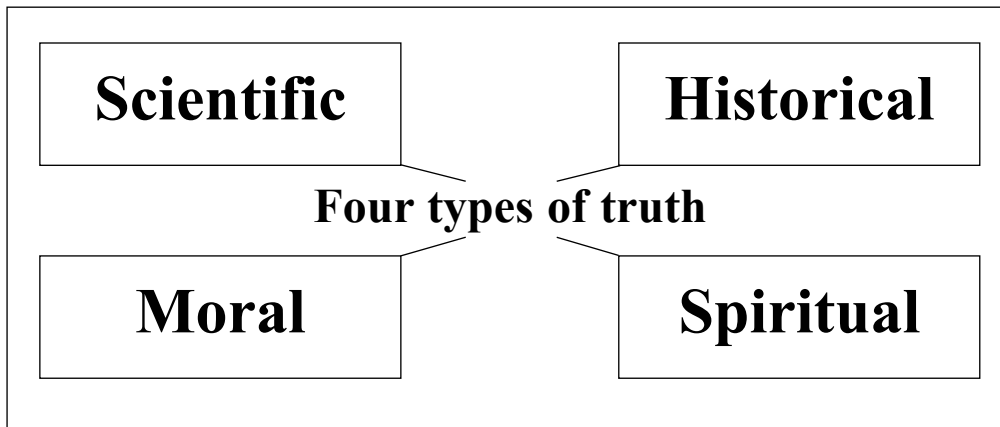
Advice

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

SECTION A TRUTH, SPIRITUALITY AND CONTEMPORARY ISSUESAnswer **Question A1**.This question carries 20 marks.

A1 Truth and Spirituality

Look at the diagram below which contains four different types of truth.



- (a) (i) Which type of truth is based on documentary and archaeological evidence?
(ii) Which type of truth is based on religious authorities and conscience? *(2 marks)*
- (b) What problems may be caused by relying **only** on scientific truth? *(3 marks)*
- (c) What is the difference between evidence and proof? *(2 marks)*
- (d) Explain why a person may choose to belong to a faith community. *(4 marks)*
- (e) Explain how religious belief helps a person to answer ultimate questions. *(4 marks)*
- (f) 'Spirituality is very important in the 21st century.'

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

SECTION B RELIGIOUS RESPONSES TO CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

Answer **three** questions.

You **must** refer to **two** religions or Christian denominations in each question.

Each question carries 20 marks.

B2 Religious Attitudes to Matters of Life

- (a) (i) What is cloning? *(1 mark)*
- (ii) Give **two** reasons why some religious people are in favour of cloning. *(2 marks)*
- (b) Explain **two** reasons why some religious people disagree with research on embryos. *(4 marks)*
- (c) How might religious beliefs and teachings help a believer to decide whether to have fertility treatment? You should refer to **two** religions or Christian denominations in your answer. *(8 marks)*
- (d) ‘All religious believers should give blood.’

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

B3 Religious Attitudes to Matters of Death

- (a) (i) What is a hospice? *(1 mark)*
- (ii) Give **two** reasons why some religious people support the work of a hospice. *(2 marks)*
- (b) Explain **two** reasons why some religious people think that suicide is wrong. *(4 marks)*
- (c) How might religious beliefs and teachings help a believer to decide whether it is right to continue a person’s life with a life support machine? You should refer to **two** religions or Christian denominations in your answer. *(8 marks)*
- (d) ‘Religious believers should never support euthanasia.’

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

Turn over ►

B4 Religious Attitudes to Drug Abuse

- (a) (i) Name a **legal** drug. *(1 mark)*
- (ii) Explain **two** reasons why some religious people want taxes raised from the sale of social drugs to be used for medical research. *(2 marks)*
- (b) Explain **two** reasons why some religious people use **legal** drugs. *(4 marks)*
- (c) Explain why most religious believers would not use **illegal** drugs. You should refer to **two** religions or Christian denominations in your answer. *(8 marks)*
- (d) 'Religious people should not smoke.'

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

B5 Religious Attitudes to Media and Technology

- (a) (i) What is pornography? *(1 mark)*
- (ii) Give **two** reasons why some religious people are against pornography. *(2 marks)*
- (b) Explain **two** reasons why some religious people are concerned about the content of some newspapers. *(4 marks)*
- (c) How might religious beliefs and teachings help a believer to decide whether to allow children to listen to songs containing bad language and references to violence? You should refer to **two** religions or Christian denominations in your answer. *(8 marks)*
- (d) 'It is wrong to make fun of religion on television.'

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

B6 Religious Attitudes to Crime and Punishment

- (a) (i) What is parole? *(1 mark)*
- (ii) Give **two** reasons why many religious people agree with parole. *(2 marks)*
- (b) Explain **two** reasons why some people commit crimes. *(4 marks)*
- (c) How might religious beliefs and teachings influence a believer's attitude to the punishment of murderers? You should refer to **two** religions or Christian denominations in your answer. *(8 marks)*
- (d) 'Religious offences should be treated as seriously as any other crime.'

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

B7 Religious Attitudes to Rich and Poor in Society

- (a) (i) What is a 'fat cat' salary? *(1 mark)*
- (ii) Give **two** reasons why some religious people are against 'fat cat' salaries. *(2 marks)*
- (b) Explain **two** reasons why religious people are encouraged to work. *(4 marks)*
- (c) Explain why religious believers should help the homeless. You should refer to **two** religions or Christian denominations in your answer. *(8 marks)*
- (d) 'Helping the poor is the responsibility of religious people.'

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

END OF QUESTIONS

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