



**There are two questions in this section. Choose ONE of them.  
Do not use pencil. Use blue or black ink.  
Indicate which question you are answering by marking the box (☒).  
If you change your mind, put a line through the box (☒) and then indicate  
your new question with a cross (☒).**

**SECTION 1: BELIEFS AND VALUES**

**You must answer ONE question from this section. Write your answer in the spaces provided.**

**EITHER**

1. (a) What is **anatta**? (2)
- (b) Outline Buddhist beliefs about anicca (impermanence). (6)
- (c) Explain why it is important for Buddhists to follow the Middle Way. (8)
- (d) *‘People would rather be reborn than gain nibbana.’*  
Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion, showing you have considered another point of view. (4)

**Q1**

**(Total 20 marks)**

**OR**

2. (a) What is **samsara**? (2)
- (b) Outline Buddhist beliefs about samadhi. (6)
- (c) Explain why the five khandas (qualities) are important for Buddhists. (8)
- (d) *‘We are who we are. There’s no point in trying to change ourselves.’*  
Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion, showing you have considered another point of view. In your answer, you should refer to Buddhism. (4)

**Q2**

**(Total 20 marks)**



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Chosen Question Number:

**Question 1**

**Question 2**

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**SECTION 2: COMMUNITY AND TRADITION**

You must answer ONE question from this section. Write your answer in the spaces provided.

**EITHER**

3. (a) What is the **sangha**? (2)
- (b) Outline Buddhist beliefs about the parinibbana of the Buddha. (6)
- (c) Explain why the Dhammapada is important for Buddhists. (8)
- (d) *‘You don’t need to be a monk or a nun to be a good Buddhist.’*  
 Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion, showing you have considered another point of view. (4)

**Q3**

(Total 20 marks)

**OR**

4. (a) What is a **bhikkuni**? (2)
- (b) Outline the role of the vihara (monastery) in Buddhism. (6)
- (c) Explain how living the life of an ascetic changed Gotama’s beliefs. (8)
- (d) *‘Siddattha Gotama would have been happier if he’d stayed in his father’s palace.’*  
 Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion, showing you have considered another point of view. (4)

**Q4**

(Total 20 marks)



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Chosen Question Number: **Question 3**

**Question 4**

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**SECTION 3: WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION**

**You must answer ONE question from this section. Write your answer in the spaces provided.**

**EITHER**

- 5.** (a) What is **Vassa**? (2)
- (b) Outline how mantras (chants) are used in Buddhist worship. (6)
- (c) Explain why mudras (gestures) are important in Buddhism. (8)
- (d) ‘*Worshipping at a vihara is better than worshipping at home.*’
- Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion, showing you have considered another point of view. (4)
- (Total 20 marks)**

**Q5**

**OR**

- 6.** (a) What is a **rupa**? (2)
- (b) Outline how a Buddhist might perform worship in a vihara. (6)
- (c) Explain why Vassa is important for many Buddhists. (8)
- (d) ‘*Meditation is selfish.*’
- Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion, showing you have considered another point of view. In your answer, you should refer to Buddhism. (4)
- (Total 20 marks)**

**Q6**



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Chosen Question Number:

**Question 5**

**Question 6**

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**SECTION 4: LIVING THE BUDDHIST LIFE**

**You must answer ONE question from this section. Write your answer in the spaces  
provided.**

**EITHER**

7. (a) What is **vipassana**? (2)
- (b) Outline the additional precepts followed by bhikkus and bhikkunis. (6)
- (c) Explain why the negative application of the Five Precepts (pansils) is important for Buddhists. (8)
- (d) ‘*All Buddhists should be vegetarians.*’
- Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion, showing you have considered another point of view. (4)

**Q7**

**(Total 20 marks)**

**OR**

8. (a) What is the **vinaya**? (2)
- (b) Outline how Buddhists try to develop kshanti (patience). (6)
- (c) Explain why the positive application of the Five Precepts (pansils) is important for Buddhists. (8)
- (d) ‘*Being a monk or a nun is easy.*’
- Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion, showing you have considered another point of view. In your answer, you should refer to Buddhism. (4)

**Q8**

**(Total 20 marks)**



Chosen Question Number:

**Question 7**

**Question 8**

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