

Write your name here

Surname

Other names

Centre Number

Candidate Number

Edexcel GCSE

Religious Studies

Unit 15: Buddhism

Thursday 31 May 2012 – Afternoon

Time: 1 hour 30 minutes

Paper Reference

5RS15/01

You do not need any other materials.

Total Marks

Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer **ONE** question from each of the **four** sections.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
– *there may be more space than you need.*

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 80.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*
- Questions labelled with an **asterisk** (*) are ones where the quality of your written communication will be assessed
– *you should take particular care with your spelling, punctuation and grammar, as well as the clarity of expression, on these questions.*

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Keep an eye on the time.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Turn over ►

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PEARSON

SECTION 1 – BELIEFS AND VALUES

You must answer ONE question from this section.

EITHER

- 1 (a) What is meant by **parinibbana**? (2)
- (b) Do you think the three marks of existence are important?
Give **two** reasons for your point of view. (4)
- * (c) Explain why the way of meditation (samadhi) is important for many Buddhists. (8)
- (d) "The Dhammapada is not relevant today."
In your answer you should refer to Buddhism.
- (i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion. (3)
- (ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you. (3)

(Total for Question 1 = 20 marks)

OR

- 2 (a) Name **two** of the five **khandas**? (2)
- (b) Do you think the Four Noble Truths are the most important Buddhist teachings?
Give **two** reasons for your point of view. (4)
- * (c) Explain why the Wheel of Existence is important for some Buddhists. (8)
- (d) "The Tipitaka should only be used by monks and nuns."
In your answer you should refer to Buddhism.
- (i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion. (3)
- (ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you. (3)

(Total for Question 2 = 20 marks)



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 .

Chosen question number: **Question 1** **Question 2**

Write your answer here:

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SECTION 2 – COMMUNITY AND TRADITION

You must answer ONE question from this section.

EITHER

- 3 (a) What is an **Arahant**? (2)
- (b) Do you think all people should follow the dhamma?
Give **two** reasons for your point of view. (4)
- * (c) Explain why a Theravada vihara has certain features. (8)
- (d) "People can learn nothing from the ascetic practices of the Buddha."
In your answer you should refer to Buddhism.
- (i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion. (3)
- (ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you. (3)

(Total for Question 3 = 20 marks)

OR

- 4 (a) What is the **sangha**? (2)
- (b) Do you think Theravada Buddhism is the only true form of Buddhism?
Give **two** reasons for your point of view. (4)
- * (c) Explain the distinctive features of the Western Buddhist Order. (8)
- (d) "The four sights are the beginning of Buddhism."
In your answer you should refer to Buddhism.
- (i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion. (3)
- (ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you. (3)

(Total for Question 4 = 20 marks)



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 .

Chosen question number: **Question 3** **Question 4**

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SECTION 3 – WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION

You must answer ONE question from this section.

EITHER

- 5 (a) What is **dhyana**? (2)
- (b) Do you think Vassa is relevant today?
Give **two** reasons for your point of view. (4)
- * (c) Explain how puja takes place in the vihara. (8)
- (d) "Samatha is the best type of meditation."
In your answer you should refer to Buddhism.
- (i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion. (3)
- (ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you. (3)

(Total for Question 5 = 20 marks)

OR

- 6 (a) What is a **mala**? (2)
- (b) Do you think rupas serve any purpose for Buddhists?
Give **two** reasons for your point of view. (4)
- * (c) Explain why mantras are used by many Buddhists. (8)
- (d) "Mudras are a distraction in meditation."
In your answer you should refer to Buddhism.
- (i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion. (3)
- (ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you. (3)

(Total for Question 6 = 20 marks)



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 ☒.

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.

EITHER

- 7 (a) What is a **vihara**? (2)
- (b) Do you think living the Buddhist life is easy today?
Give **two** reasons for your point of view. (4)
- *(c) Explain the importance of metta (loving kindness) for Buddhists. (8)
- (d) "The five additional pansils should be optional for monks and nuns."
In your answer you should refer to Buddhism.
- (i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion. (3)
- (ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you. (3)

(Total for Question 7 = 20 marks)

OR

- 8 (a) What is meant by **tiratana**? (2)
- (b) Do you think karuna (compassion) is important for everyone?
Give **two** reasons for your point of view. (4)
- *(c) Explain how one Buddhist organisation helps to relieve suffering in the UK. (8)
- (d) "Buddhists are not responsible for community cohesion."
In your answer you should refer to Buddhism.
- (i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion. (3)
- (ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you. (3)

(Total for Question 8 = 20 marks)



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 .

Chosen question number: **Question 7** **Question 8**

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TOTAL FOR PAPER = 80 MARKS



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