

Religious Studies B

General Certificate of Secondary Education **GCSE 1931**

General Certificate of Secondary Education (Short Course) **GCSE 1031**

Mark Schemes for the Components

June 2006

1931/1031/MS/R/06

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Mark Scheme 1031
June 2006

Topic 1 – The Nature of God1 Christianity

- (a) Describe what Christians believe about miracles. [8]

Answers may include general material about miracles in the sense of what they are and that they appear in the Bible. Others may refer to miracles such as Lourdes and more modern day events.

- (b) Explain how believing in miracles might help a Christian. [7]

Some may argue that the existence of Biblical miracles would help a Christian, others might say that experiencing a miracle or knowing about one might strengthen faith. It can also be argued that when a miracle does not happen it can damage faith.

- (c) 'If miracles were true, they would happen all the time.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer. [5]

Some may argue that if they did happen all the time then they would not be miracles but normal events. Others may produce a simpler response that because they do not happen all the time does not change anything or, indeed, proves their veracity.

2 Hinduism

- (a) Describe what Hindus believe about avatars. [8]

Hindu beliefs about avatars arise from the sacred texts which show the many avatars (or worldly appearances) of Vishnu. Candidates may include some of these in their answers and show how these appearances helped human beings.

- (b) Explain how believing in avatars might help strengthen the faith of a Hindu. [7]

Belief that the gods may appear on earth at times of crisis and disaster may well help strengthen a Hindu's personal faith in the gods and a belief in their ongoing concern with humanity.

- (c) 'If avatars really came to earth, they would be here all the time.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer. [5]

Some may argue that the stories of avatars would help a Hindu, others might say that they appeared so long ago that they have little effect on anyone's life today. It could be said that it is up to the gods when an avatar appears and that nothing should be read into this.

3 Islam

- (a) Describe what Muslims believe about miracles. [8]

Answers may include general material about miracles in the sense of what they are and that they appear in the Qur'an. Others may refer to more modern miracles such as some health and scientific ones.

- (b) Explain how believing in miracles might help a Muslim. [7]

Some may argue that the existence of Qur'anic miracles would help a Muslim, others might say that experiencing a miracle or knowing about one might strengthen faith. It can also be argued that when a miracle does not happen it can damage faith.

- (c) 'If miracles were true, they would happen all the time.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer.

[5]

Some may argue that if they did happen all the time then they would not be miracles but normal events. Others may produce a simpler response that because they do not happen all the time does not change anything or, indeed, proves their veracity.

4 Judaism

- (a) Describe what Jews believe about miracles. [8]

Answers may include general material about miracles in the sense of what they are and that they appear in the Bible. Others may refer to more modern miracles such as some health and scientific ones.

- (b) Explain how believing in miracles might help a Jew. [7]

Some may argue that the existence of Biblical miracles would help a Jew, others might say that experiencing a miracle or knowing about one might strengthen faith. It can also be argued that when a miracle does not happen it can damage faith.

- (c) 'If miracles were true, they would happen all the time.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer.

[5]

Some may argue that if they did happen all the time then they would not be miracles but normal events. Others may produce a simpler response that because they do not happen all the time does not change anything or, indeed, proves their veracity.

Topic 2 – The Nature of Belief5 Christianity

- (a) Describe a Christian place of public worship. [8]

Candidates can choose any place of worship from a cathedral to a Meeting House. Look for accuracy of description, not explanation here. Answers may focus on specifics such as particular religious furnishings or look more generally at design and, perhaps, architecture.

- (b) Explain how the features of this building reflect Christian beliefs. [7]

Answers are likely to focus on a few main features such as cross, crucifix, statues etc. and should offer clear explanations of how they reflect belief.

- (c) 'People do not need symbols to worship God.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer. [5]

Candidates are free to answer either way. All religions use symbols in different ways but some may nevertheless feel that worship should be personal between the worshipper and God and that, therefore, symbols are a potential hindrance.

6 Hinduism

- (a) Describe a Hindu place of public worship. [8]

Candidates can choose any kind of Hindu temple. Look for accuracy of description, not explanation here. Answers may focus on specifics such as particular religious furnishings or look more generally at design and, perhaps, architecture.

- (b) Explain how the features of this building reflect Hindu beliefs. [7]

Answers are likely to focus on a few main features such as statues of the gods, incense, bells etc. and should offer clear explanations of how they reflect belief.

- (c) 'People do not need symbols to worship God.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer. [5]

Candidates are free to answer either way. All religions use symbols in different ways but some may nevertheless feel that worship should be personal between the worshipper and God and that, therefore, symbols are a potential hindrance.

7 Islam

- (a) Describe a Muslim place of public worship. [8]

Candidates can choose any type of mosque. Look for accuracy of description, not explanation here. Answers may focus on specifics such as particular religious furnishings or look more generally at design and, perhaps, architecture.

- (b) Explain how the features of this building reflect Muslim beliefs. [7]

Answers are likely to focus on a few main features such as minbar, mihrab, qibla wall, dome, empty prayer space etc. and should offer clear explanations of how they reflect belief, in particular they are likely to comment on the lack of pictures etc.

- (c) 'People do not need symbols to worship Allah.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer.

[5]

Candidates are free to answer either way. All religions use symbols in different ways but some may nevertheless feel that worship should be personal between the worshipper and Allah and that, therefore, symbols are a potential hindrance.

8 Judaism

- (a) Describe a Jewish place of public worship.

[8]

Candidates can choose any type of synagogue. Look for accuracy of description, not explanation here. Answers may focus on specifics such as particular religious furnishings or look more generally at design and, perhaps, architecture.

- (b) Explain how the features of this building reflect Jewish beliefs.

[7]

Answers are likely to focus on a few main features such as ark, scrolls, bimah, menorah etc. and should offer clear explanations of how they reflect belief.

- (c) 'People do not need symbols to worship G-d.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer.

[5]

Candidates are free to answer either way. All religions use symbols in different ways but some may nevertheless feel that worship should be personal between the worshipper and G-d and that, therefore, symbols are a potential hindrance.

Topic 3 – Religion and Science9 Christianity

- (a) Describe Christian teachings about the origins of humanity. [8]

Although the question asks about humanity, many are likely to place this as the last part of creation. This is acceptable but other answers may focus clearly on one or both of the creation accounts in Genesis.

- (b) Explain why Christians might believe that they should care for animals. [7]

Answers are likely to focus on an idea of stewardship and explain the responsibility which was therefore given to humans at the creation. Others may take a more general view of responsibility.

- (c) 'Human beings are not capable of caring for the environment.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer. [5]

Many may answer that human beings are capable of being stewards but do not do so. Others may feel that constant failure suggests that the statement is true.

10 Hinduism

- (a) Describe Hindu teachings about the origins of humanity. [8]

Answers may deal with any of the Hindu beliefs about creation but it is most likely that candidates will focus on a text such as the Purusha Sukta to offer an account.

- (b) Explain why Hindus believe that they should care for animals. [7]

Answers are likely to focus on an idea of stewardship but it is the idea of atman and rebirth which is likely to be the central idea. Some may comment on the treatment of sacred cows.

- (c) 'Human beings are not capable of caring for the environment.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer. [5]

Many may answer that human beings are capable of being stewards but do not do so. Others may feel that constant failure suggests that the statement is true.

11 Islam

- (a) Describe Muslim teachings about the origins of humanity. [8]

Although the question asks about humanity, many are likely to discuss creation as a whole. This is acceptable but answers should not simply be an account from the Jewish scriptures as this is different from that in the Qur'an. Other answers may focus clearly on the accounts in the Qur'an.

- (b) Explain why Muslims might believe that they should care for animals. [7]

Answers are likely to focus on an idea of stewardship and explain the responsibility which was therefore given to humans at the creation. Others may take a more general view of responsibility.

- (c) 'Human beings are not capable of caring for the environment.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer.

[5]

Many may answer that human beings are capable of being stewards but do not do so. Others may feel that constant failure suggests that the statement is true.

12 Judaism

- (a) Describe Jewish teachings about the origins of humanity.

[8]

Although the question asks about humanity, many are likely to place this as the last part of creation. This is acceptable but other answers may focus clearly on one or both of the creation accounts in Genesis.

- (b) Explain why Jews might believe that they should care for animals.

[7]

Answers are likely to focus on an idea of stewardship and explain the responsibility which was therefore given to humans at the creation. Others may take a more general view of responsibility.

- (c) 'Human beings are not capable of caring for the environment.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer.

[5]

Many may answer that human beings are capable of being stewards but do not do so. Others may feel that constant failure suggests that the statement is true.

Topic 4 – Death and the Afterlife13 Christianity

- (a) Describe Christian beliefs about heaven and hell. [8]

Most are likely to offer an essentially mediæval view of heaven with clouds, angels, harps and hell with fire, devils and pitchforks. However, there may be more modern interpretations of these concepts.

- (b) Explain how these beliefs might affect the way a person lives. [7]

Answers are likely to consider that people want to go to heaven when they die rather than hell and so will look at good behaviour, living according to the teachings of the Bible as a possible outcome.

- (c) 'It cannot be true that there is life after death, because there is no evidence for it.'
Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer. [5]

Some will argue that ghosts and near-death experiences do provide evidence and others may cite the resurrection but generally candidates are likely to focus on faith and belief as being more necessary than factual evidence.

14 Hinduism

- (a) Describe Hindu beliefs about samsara and rebirth. [8]

Candidates should be able to give a clear description of samsara as the cycle of birth and rebirth and the idea of the atman being the part of the person which lives on through successions of rebirth. Beliefs may include the idea that it is possible to escape eventually from this cycle.

- (b) Explain how these beliefs might affect the way a person lives. [7]

Answers are likely to consider that people want to escape from constant rebirth and therefore will try to live their lives according to their dharma to the best of their ability in the hope of eventual release.

- (c) 'It cannot be true that there is life after death, because there is no evidence for it.'
Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer. [5]

Some will argue that ghosts and near-death experiences do provide evidence but generally candidates are likely to focus on faith and belief as being more necessary than factual evidence and point out that Hinduism would not accept remembrance of past lives as evidence for this statement.

15 Islam

- (a) Describe Muslim beliefs about heaven and hell. [8]

Most are likely to offer a fairly simple view of hell and punishment whilst offering an idea of a heavenly Paradise which will reward those who live according to the will of Allah.

- (b) Explain how these beliefs might affect the way a person lives. [7]

Answers are likely to consider that people want to go to heaven when they die rather than hell and so will look at good behaviour, living according to the teachings of the Qur'an as a possible outcome.

- (c) 'It cannot be true that there is life after death, because there is no evidence for it.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer.

[5]

Some will argue that ghosts and near-death experiences do provide evidence but generally candidates are likely to focus on faith and belief as being more necessary than factual evidence.

16 Judaism

- (a) Describe Jewish beliefs about heaven and Sheol. [8]

Most are likely to offer an essentially mediæval view of heaven with clouds, angels, harps and Sheol with fire, devils and pitchforks. However, there may be more modern interpretations of these concepts. Some candidates may be able to comment that teachings about heaven and hell are unclear in Judaism.

- (b) Explain how these beliefs might affect the way a person lives. [7]

Answers are likely to consider that people want to go to heaven when they die rather than hell and so will look at good behaviour, living according to the teachings of the Bible as a possible outcome. Others may suggest that because these beliefs are not clear then people must simply live according to the mitzvot and not concern themselves about what will happen when they die.

- (c) 'It cannot be true that there is life after death, because there is no evidence for it.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer.

[5]

Some will argue that ghosts and near-death experiences do provide evidence but generally candidates are likely to focus on faith and belief as being more necessary than factual evidence.

Topic 5 – Good and Evil17 Christianity

- (a) Describe Christian beliefs about God and the Devil. [8]

Candidates may conclude that God is by definition good and that this goodness pervades all dealings with God. They may suggest that God is the antithesis of evil, represented by the Devil and that it is this latter which may also be an agent of God.

- (b) Explain how these beliefs might help people who are suffering. [7]

The belief that God is all good and therefore must care for creation might help people believe that however much they are suffering, nevertheless this suffering will eventually end and they will be rewarded according to this goodness. Some may make the New Testament link between the ideas of illness and sin.

- (c) 'If God was really good then people would not suffer.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

[5]

This essentially addresses the Problem of Evil but this is not expected in responses at this level. Candidates will probably offer simple suggestions as to how God can allow evil (do not expect Process Theodicy) whilst others may suggest that the existence of evil suggests that there is no God.

18 Hinduism

- (a) Describe Hindu beliefs about good and evil being parts of the nature of God. [8]

Candidates may conclude that God is by definition good and that this goodness pervades all dealings with God. They should also consider that evil is the other aspect of God who would be incomplete without both. They should not confuse destruction (e.g. Shiva) with evil.

- (b) Explain how these beliefs might help people who are suffering. [7]

The belief that God is all good and therefore must care for creation might help people believe that however much they are suffering, nevertheless this suffering will eventually end and they will be rewarded according to this goodness. They may also comment that belief in karma and rebirth may help believers accept suffering.

- (c) 'If God was really good then people would not suffer.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer.

[5]

This essentially addresses the Problem of Evil but this is not expected in responses at this level. Candidates will probably offer simple suggestions as to how God can allow evil (do not expect Process Theodicy) whilst others may suggest that the existence of evil suggests that there is no God.

19 Islam

- (a) Describe Muslim beliefs about Allah and Shaytan. [8]

Candidates may conclude that Allah is by definition good and that this goodness pervades all dealings with Allah. They may suggest that Allah is the antithesis of evil, represented by the Shaytan.

- (b) Explain how these beliefs might help people who are suffering. [7]

The belief that Allah is all good and therefore must care for creation might help people believe that however much they are suffering, nevertheless this suffering will eventually end and they will be rewarded according to this goodness.

- (c) 'If Allah was really good then people would not suffer.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer.

[5]

This essentially addresses the Problem of Evil but this is not expected in responses at this level. Candidates will probably offer simple suggestions as to how Allah can allow evil (do not expect Process Theodicy) whilst others may suggest that the existence of evil suggests that there is no god.

20 Judaism

- (a) Describe Jewish beliefs about G-d and Satan. [8]

Candidates may conclude that G-d is by definition good and that this goodness pervades all dealings with G-d. They may suggest that G-d is the antithesis of evil, represented by the Devil though the Devil in Judaism is a rather different concept than that in Christianity.

- (b) Explain how these beliefs might help people who are suffering. [7]

The belief that G-d is all good and therefore must care for creation might help people believe that however much they are suffering, nevertheless this suffering will eventually end and they will be rewarded according to this goodness.

- (c) 'If G-d was really good then people would not suffer.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer.

[5]

This essentially addresses the Problem of Evil but this is not expected in responses at this level. Candidates will probably offer simple suggestions as to how G-d can allow evil (do not expect Process Theodicy) whilst others may suggest that the existence of evil suggests that there is no g-d.

Topic 6 – Religion and Human Relationships21 Christianity

- (a) Describe the roles of men and women in a Christian family. [8]

Candidates are likely to focus on the traditional roles of men and women in a family (not particularly Christian) and comment on changing attitudes towards this. More clearly Christian teaching might be that Jesus appears to challenge this traditional view sometimes although on other occasions and in the epistles the traditional role appears to be emphasised.

- (b) Explain Christian attitudes towards divorce. [7]

Many are likely to suggest that divorce is not allowed on the basis of ‘those whom God hath joined together...’. More astute answers may comment that many churches do permit divorce and remarriage whilst the Roman Catholic Church does not and that annulment is not an equivalent to divorce.

- (c) ‘Every Christian should get married.’
Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. [5]

On the basis of ‘go forth and multiply’ and ‘better to marry than to burn’ this point could be argued but candidates might also point to the religious and celibate priests to suggest that this is not the case. Others may comment on ideas about extra-marital sex.

22 Hinduism

- (a) Describe the roles of men and women in a Hindu family. [8]

Candidates are likely to focus on the traditional roles of men and women in a family (not particularly Hindu) and comment on changing attitudes. More clearly Hindu teaching may emphasise the importance of both parties and their different roles.

- (b) Explain Hindu attitudes towards divorce. [7]

Hinduism does not, of course, encourage divorce but is willing to accept it when it is clear that a couple are not suited and reconciliation is not possible.

- (c) ‘Every Hindu should get married.’
Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. [5]

In general terms the statement is correct. Candidates may even stress the idea that children help the cycle of rebirth. They may comment that even Holy Men in the final stage of their ashrama are married when younger.

23 Islam

- (a) Describe the roles of men and women in a Muslim family. [8]

Candidates are likely to focus on the traditional roles of men and women in a family (not particularly Muslim) and comment on changing attitudes. More clearly Muslim teaching as that husband and wife are equal but different and may focus on the mother’s duty of instructing children in their faith at home.

- (b) Explain Muslim attitudes towards divorce. [7]

Islam does not, of course, encourage divorce but is willing to accept it when it is clear that a couple are not suited and reconciliation is not possible. Answers may consider that both men and women can seek a divorce and the various conditions which are imposed on each.

- (c) 'Every Muslim should get married.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. [5]

On the basis of procreation this point could be argued but candidates might also point to the fact that Imams are generally married and that celibacy is not condoned in Islam.

24 Judaism

- (a) Describe the roles of men and women in a Jewish family. [8]

Candidates are likely to focus on the traditional roles of men and women in a family (not particularly Jewish) and comment on changing attitudes. More clearly Jewish teaching might be that men and women are regarded as equal but that they have different religious and family responsibilities.

- (b) Explain Jewish attitudes towards divorce. [7]

Judaism does not, of course, encourage divorce but is willing to accept it when it is clear that a couple are not suited and reconciliation is not possible. Answers might consider that the husband must agree to the divorce before it can be granted by the Beth Din (in Orthodox Judaism).

- (c) 'Every Jew should get married.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. [5]

On the basis of 'go forth and multiply' this point could be argued but candidates might also point out that celibacy has no place in Judaism and every Jew should be married.

Topic 7 – Religion and Medical Ethics25 Christianity

- (a) Describe Christian attitudes towards abortion. [8]

Answers will probably cover the familiar ground that God gave life and so only God can take it away, that abortion is murdering a new life, that life begins at conception, ensoulment etc. They may give church teaching as well as Biblical. Some may consider other viewpoints 'woman's right to choose' etc.

- (b) Explain why some Christians might be against fertility treatment. [7]

Many Christians welcome fertility treatment whilst others consider that it goes against the teaching of Natural Law and that a barren woman must accept her state.

- (c) 'It is up to God to decide if a woman is going to have a baby.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

[5]

This follows on from the idea that everything about life is God's will and that it should not be interfered with but accepted. Expect some discussion about whether it is fair and reasonable to accept this.

26 Hinduism

- (a) Describe Hindu attitudes towards abortion. [8]

Hinduism does not welcome abortion but does not treat it as anathema in the way some other faiths do. If it is judged necessary on medical (physical or psychological) grounds then it is permitted. However, the faith of the atman must be remembered.

- (b) Explain why some Hindus might be against fertility treatment. [7]

In fact, most Hindus would probably be in favour of fertility treatment to help a woman who is unable to have a baby unaided. Hinduism does not have the same concerns about interfering with God's will which might be found elsewhere.

- (c) 'It is up to God to decide if a woman is going to have a baby.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer.

[5]

This follows on from the idea that everything about life is God's will and that it should not be interfered with but accepted. Expect some discussion about whether it is fair and reasonable to accept this. Some may also consider whether inability to have a child is the result of bad karma.

27 Islam

- (a) Describe Muslim attitudes towards abortion. [8]

Answers will probably cover the familiar ground that Allah gave life and so only Allah can take it away, that abortion is murdering a new life, that life begins at conception, etc. Some may consider other viewpoints 'woman's right to choose' etc.

- (b) Explain why some Muslims might be against fertility treatment. [7]

Many Muslims, though not all, welcome fertility treatment as Allah helping people to understand the wonders of science and put it into operation to help humanity, whilst others consider that it goes against the basic teaching and that a barren woman must accept her state.

- (c) 'It is up to Allah to decide if a woman is going to have a baby.'
Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer. [5]

This follows on from the idea that everything about life is Allah's will and that it should not be interfered with but accepted. Expect some discussion about whether it is fair and reasonable to accept this.

28 Judaism

- (a) Describe Jewish attitudes towards abortion. [8]

Answers will probably cover the familiar ground that G-d gave life and so only G-d can take it away. Jews consider that life begins when the child is born and so although abortion is certainly not welcomed or encouraged there is no concept of ensoulment or any clear cut idea that abortion is murder. Some may consider other viewpoints 'woman's right to choose' etc.

- (b) Explain why some Jews might be against fertility treatment. [7]

Many Jews welcome fertility treatment whilst others consider that it goes against G-d's will, citing Biblical examples, and that a barren woman must accept her state.

- (c) 'It is up to G-d to decide if a woman is going to have a baby.'
Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer. [5]

This follows on from the idea that everything about life is G-d's will and that it should not be interfered with but accepted. Expect some discussion about whether it is fair and reasonable to accept this.

Topic 8 – Religion and Equality29 Christianity

- (a) Describe Christian beliefs about equality. [8]

The New Testament does not teach that everyone is equal except when talking about God's creation and the oft-mis-quoted references in Paul which simply emphasis that all Christians are equal. However, there are texts in both Old and New Testament which suggest that people should certainly be treated equally. Church teaching might be used to strengthen the argument.

- (b) Explain Christian teaching about the role of women in society. [7]

Christianity has historically put women in a secondary role in society and teaching about women priests might be used to illustrate this. Jesus' example of the treatment of his mother could stress one point whilst the woman with the alabaster jar indicates another view.

- (c) 'Men and woman are not equal.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

[5]

This allows candidates free rein to argue in both directions. Christian teaching must obviously be included for a good answer.

30 Hinduism

- (a) Describe Hindu beliefs about equality. [8]

Some candidates will undoubtedly consider the traditional idea of the caste system in addressing this question. They may cite the creation of humanity in the Purusha Sukta to justify this. Others may adopt a broader and more modern view of true equality in Hinduism.

- (b) Explain Hindu teaching about the role of women in society. [7]

According to Hindu teaching men and women are equal in society and although women do have a traditional role as mothers and carers, nevertheless women who work and are in business have great respect.

- (c) 'Men and woman are not equal.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer.

[5]

This allows candidates free rein to argue in both directions. Hindu teaching must obviously be included for a good answer.

31 Islam

- (a) Describe Muslim beliefs about equality. [8]

Islam does teach very clearly that everyone is equal and should be treated equally. The message is contained in the Qur'an when Allah creates humanity and says that different appearances and colours are to add variety and wonder, not in any way to argue that some are better than others.

- (b) Explain Muslim teaching about the role of women in society. [7]

Candidates may reiterate media stereotypes about the treatment of women in society and cite extreme fundamentalist societies. On the other hand, Islam itself teaches that woman have the right to run businesses, make and keep their own money and have the respect of men.

- (c) 'Men and woman are not equal.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer.

[5]

This allows candidates free rein to argue in both directions. Muslim teaching must obviously be included for a good answer.

32 Judaism

- (a) Describe Jewish beliefs about equality.

[8]

Judaism does teach very clearly that everyone is equal and should be treated equally. The message is contained in the Bible when they are reminded that they were once strangers and exiles.

- (b) Explain Jewish teaching about the role of women in society.

[7]

Candidates may reiterate media stereotypes about the treatment of women in society and cite extreme fundamentalist societies. On the other hand, Judaism itself teaches that women have the right to run businesses, make and keep their own money and have the respect of men.

- (c) 'Men and woman are not equal.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer.

[5]

This allows candidates free rein to argue in both directions. Jewish teaching must obviously be included for a good answer.

Topic 9 – Religion, Poverty and Wealth33 Christianity

- (a) Describe Christian teachings about concern for the poor. [8]

Christian teaching is exemplified in the teaching of Jesus and the behaviour of the disciples in the New Testament. Candidates should be able to explore some of these with examples.

- (b) Explain why Christians might give money to charity. [7]

Charity has always been part of Christianity since the time of the Deacons in Jerusalem and before. Candidates may give tithing or latter-day collections as examples of helping those less fortunate.

- (c) 'People must look after their family before they worry about the poor.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer. [5]

Candidates can argue either way but are likely to try to seek a balance in their discussions. Some may suggest that care for the family goes without saying as a first principle of life, regardless of religion. Others might feel that concern for the poor is such an important aspect of faith that it must override all other issues.

34 Hinduism

- (a) Describe Hindu teachings about concern for the poor. [8]

Hindu teaching is exemplified in the teaching and examples of the gods. Candidates should be able to explore some of these with examples. They may also emphasis the need to care for the community as part of the responsibility for the atman.

- (b) Explain why Hindus might give money to charity. [7]

Charity has always been part of Hinduism and continues today. It is a way of caring for the poor and of fulfilling one's dharma.

- (c) 'People must look after their family before they worry about the poor.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer. [5]

Candidates can argue either way but are likely to try to seek a balance in their discussions. Some may suggest that care for the family goes without saying as a first principle of life, regardless of religion. Others might feel that concern for the poor is such an important aspect of faith that it must override all other issues.

35 Islam

- (a) Describe Muslim teachings about concern for the poor. [8]

Muslim teaching is exemplified in the Qur'an and, though not strictly charity, in the teaching about zakah. Candidates should be able to explore these with examples.

- (b) Explain why Muslims might give money to charity. [7]

Charity has always been part of Islam since the time of Muhammad Δ . Candidates may give zakah or additional charitable collections as examples of helping those less fortunate.

- (c) 'People must look after their family before they worry about the poor.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer.

[5]

Candidates can argue either way but are likely to try to seek a balance in their discussions. Some may suggest that care for the family goes without saying as a first principle of life, regardless of religion. Others might feel that concern for the poor is such an important aspect of faith that it must override all other issues.

36 Judaism

(a) Describe Jewish teachings about concern for the poor. [8]

Jewish teaching is exemplified in the Bible and in the mitzvah of tzedakah. Candidates should be able to explore some of these with examples.

(b) Explain why Jews might give money to charity. [7]

Charity has always been part of Judaism (the gleaners in Ruth) since the earliest days. Candidates may give tzedakah or latter-day collections as examples of helping those less fortunate.

(c) 'People must look after their family before they worry about the poor.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer.

[5]

Candidates can argue either way but are likely to try to seek a balance in their discussions. Some may suggest that care for the family goes without saying as a first principle of life, regardless of religion. Others might feel that concern for the poor is such an important aspect of faith that it must override all other issues.

Topic 10 – Religion, Peace and Justice37 Christianity

- (a) Describe Christian teachings about war. [8]

Candidates may take a number of routes into this. They could consider that murder is forbidden in the Ten Commandments, that Just War is permitted, that Jesus may, or may not, have been a pacifist.

- (b) Explain why Christians might work for peace. [7]

Answers are probably going to be that they are generally opposed to violence but they may also reflect on occasions when violence may be necessary. Answers may consider whether Jesus was a pacifist or taught pacific ideals. Specific examples such as the Quakers might be used.

- (c) 'Violence is sometimes necessary.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer. [5]

From an absolute pacifist perspective the statement is wrong and this may be considered, on the other hand candidates may consider that there are positions when most people might be pushed to violence as a last resort.

38 Hinduism

- (a) Describe Hindu teachings about war. [8]

Candidates may consider that, out of respect for all life, Hindus are generally opposed to war and are pacifists but that Hinduism recognises that violence may be required and that someone born to be a soldier must fulfil their dharma in that respect.

- (b) Explain why Hindus might work for peace. [7]

Answers are probably going to be that they are generally opposed to violence but they may also reflect on occasions when violence may be necessary. Answers may consider whether Hinduism is essentially pacifist.

- (c) 'Violence is sometimes necessary.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer. [5]

From an absolute pacifist perspective the statement is wrong and this may be considered, on the other hand candidates may consider that there are positions when most people might be pushed to violence as a last resort.

39 Islam

- (a) Describe Muslim teachings about war. [8]

Candidates may take a number of routes into this. They could consider that murder is forbidden, that Holy War (Lesser Jihad) is permitted in certain circumstances, that Islam is essentially a pacific (peace-loving) religion.

- (b) Explain why Muslims might work for peace. [7]

Answers are probably going to be that they are generally opposed to violence but they may also reflect on occasions when violence may be necessary. Answers may consider whether Islam is essentially pacifist and to what extent lesser jihad overrides this consideration.

- (c) 'Violence is sometimes necessary.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer.

[5]

From an absolute pacifist perspective the statement is wrong and this may be considered, on the other hand candidates may consider that there are positions when most people might be pushed to violence as a last resort.

40 Judaism

- (a) Describe Jewish teachings about war. [8]

Candidates may take a number of roots into this. They could consider that murder is forbidden in the Ten Commandments, that Just War is permitted, that Judaism is essentially a pacific religion.

- (b) Explain why Jews might work for peace. [7]

Answers are probably going to be that they are generally opposed to violence but they may also reflect on occasions when violence may be necessary. Answers may consider whether Judaism is essentially pacifist or whether teaching on Holy War etc. essentially overrides this.

- (c) 'Violence is sometimes necessary.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer.

[5]

From an absolute pacifist perspective the statement is wrong and this may be considered, on the other hand candidates may consider that there are positions when most people might be pushed to violence as a last resort.

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Topic 1 – The Nature of God1 Christianity

- (a) Describe what Christians believe about miracles. [8]

Answers may include general material about miracles in the sense of what they are and that they appear in the Bible. Others may refer to miracles such as Lourdes and more modern day events.

- (b) Explain how believing in miracles might help a Christian. [7]

Some may argue that the existence of Biblical miracles would help a Christian, others might say that experiencing a miracle or knowing about one might strengthen faith. It can also be argued that when a miracle does not happen it can damage faith.

- (c) 'If miracles were true, they would happen all the time.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

[5]

Some may argue that if they did happen all the time then they would not be miracles but normal events. Others may produce a simpler response that because they do not happen all the time does not change anything or, indeed, proves their veracity.

2 Hinduism

- (a) Describe what Hindus believe about avatars. [8]

Hindu beliefs about avatars arise from the sacred texts which show the many avatars (or worldly appearances) of Vishnu. Candidates may include some of these in their answers and show how these appearances helped human beings.

- (b) Explain how believing in avatars might help strengthen the faith of a Hindu.

[7]

Belief that the gods may appear on earth at times of crisis and disaster may well help strengthen a Hindu's personal faith in the gods and a belief in their ongoing concern with humanity.

- (c) 'If avatars really came to earth, they would be here all the time.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer.

[5]

Some may argue that the stories of avatars would help a Hindu, others might say that they appeared so long ago that they have little effect on anyone's life today. It could be said that it is up to the gods when an avatar appears and that nothing should be read into this.

3 Islam

- (a) Describe what Muslims believe about miracles. [8]

Answers may include general material about miracles in the sense of what they are and that they appear in the Qur'an. Others may refer to more modern miracles such as some health and scientific ones.

- (b) Explain how believing in miracles might help a Muslim. [7]

Some may argue that the existence of Qur'anic miracles would help a Muslim, others might say that experiencing a miracle or knowing about one might strengthen faith. It can also be argued that when a miracle does not happen it can damage faith.

- (c) 'If miracles were true, they would happen all the time.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer.

[5]

Some may argue that if they did happen all the time then they would not be miracles but normal events. Others may produce a simpler response that because they do not happen all the time does not change anything or, indeed, proves their veracity.

4 Judaism

- (a) Describe what Jews believe about miracles.

[8]

Answers may include general material about miracles in the sense of what they are and that they appear in the Bible. Others may refer to more modern miracles such as some health and scientific ones.

- (b) Explain how believing in miracles might help a Jew.

[7]

Some may argue that the existence of Biblical miracles would help a Jew, others might say that experiencing a miracle or knowing about one might strengthen faith. It can also be argued that when a miracle does not happen it can damage faith.

- (c) 'If miracles were true, they would happen all the time.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer.

[5]

Some may argue that if they did happen all the time then they would not be miracles but normal events. Others may produce a simpler response that because they do not happen all the time does not change anything or, indeed, proves their veracity.

Topic 2 – The Nature of Belief5 Christianity

- (a) Describe a Christian place of public worship. [8]

Candidates can choose any place of worship from a cathedral to a Meeting House. Look for accuracy of description, not explanation here. Answers may focus on specifics such as particular religious furnishings or look more generally at design and, perhaps, architecture.

- (b) Explain how the features of this building reflect Christian beliefs. [7]

Answers are likely to focus on a few main features such as cross, crucifix, statues etc. and should offer clear explanations of how they reflect belief.

- (c) 'People do not need symbols to worship God.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

[5]

Candidates are free to answer either way. All religions use symbols in different ways but some may nevertheless feel that worship should be personal between the worshipper and God and that, therefore, symbols are a potential hindrance.

6 Hinduism

- (a) Describe a Hindu place of public worship. [8]

Candidates can choose any kind of Hindu temple. Look for accuracy of description, not explanation here. Answers may focus on specifics such as particular religious furnishings or look more generally at design and, perhaps, architecture.

- (b) Explain how the features of this building reflect Hindu beliefs. [7]

Answers are likely to focus on a few main features such as statues of the gods, incense, bells etc. and should offer clear explanations of how they reflect belief.

- (c) 'People do not need symbols to worship God.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer.

[5]

Candidates are free to answer either way. All religions use symbols in different ways but some may nevertheless feel that worship should be personal between the worshipper and God and that, therefore, symbols are a potential hindrance.

7 Islam

- (a) Describe a Muslim place of public worship. [8]

Candidates can choose any type of mosque. Look for accuracy of description, not explanation here. Answers may focus on specifics such as particular religious furnishings or look more generally at design and, perhaps, architecture.

- (b) Explain how the features of this building reflect Muslim beliefs. [7]

Answers are likely to focus on a few main features such as minbar, mihrab, quibla wall, dome, empty prayer space etc. and should offer clear explanations of how they reflect belief, in particular they are likely to comment on the lack of pictures etc.

- (c) 'People do not need symbols to worship Allah.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer.

[5]

Candidates are free to answer either way. All religions use symbols in different ways but some may nevertheless feel that worship should be personal between the worshipper and Allah and that, therefore, symbols are a potential hindrance.

8 Judaism

- (a) Describe a Jewish place of public worship. [8]

Candidates can choose any type of synagogue. Look for accuracy of description, not explanation here. Answers may focus on specifics such as particular religious furnishings or look more generally at design and, perhaps, architecture.

- (b) Explain how the features of this building reflect Jewish beliefs. [7]

Answers are likely to focus on a few main features such as ark, scrolls, bimah, menorah etc. and should offer clear explanations of how they reflect belief.

- (c) 'People do not need symbols to worship G-d.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer.

[5]

Candidates are free to answer either way. All religions use symbols in different ways but some may nevertheless feel that worship should be personal between the worshipper and G-d and that, therefore, symbols are a potential hindrance.

Topic 3 – Religion and Science9 Christianity

- (a) Describe Christian teachings about the origins of humanity. [8]

Although the question asks about humanity, many are likely to place this as the last part of creation. This is acceptable but other answers may focus clearly on one or both of the creation accounts in Genesis.

- (b) Explain why Christians might believe that they should care for animals. [7]

Answers are likely to focus on an idea of stewardship and explain the responsibility which was therefore given to humans at the creation. Others may take a more general view of responsibility.

- (c) 'Human beings are not capable of caring for the environment.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

[5]

Many may answer that human beings are capable of being stewards but do not do so. Others may feel that constant failure suggests that the statement is true.

10 Hinduism

- (a) Describe Hindu teachings about the origins of humanity. [8]

Answers may deal with any of the Hindu beliefs about creation but it is most likely that candidates will focus on a text such as the Purusha Sukta to offer an account.

- (b) Explain why Hindus believe that they should care for animals. [7]

Answers are likely to focus on an idea of stewardship but it is the idea of atman and rebirth which is likely to be the central idea. Some may comment on the treatment of sacred cows.

- (c) 'Human beings are not capable of caring for the environment.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer.

[5]

Many may answer that human beings are capable of being stewards but do not do so. Others may feel that constant failure suggests that the statement is true.

11 Islam

- (a) Describe Muslim teachings about the origins of humanity. [8]

Although the question asks about humanity, many are likely to discuss creation as a whole. This is acceptable but answers should not simply be an account from the Jewish scriptures as this is different from that in the Qur'an. Other answers may focus clearly on the accounts in the Qur'an.

- (b) Explain why Muslims might believe that they should care for animals. [7]

Answers are likely to focus on an idea of stewardship and explain the responsibility which was therefore given to humans at the creation. Others may take a more general view of responsibility.

- (c) 'Human beings are not capable of caring for the environment.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer.

[5]

Many may answer that human beings are capable of being stewards but do not do so. Others may feel that constant failure suggests that the statement is true.

12 Judaism

- (a) Describe Jewish teachings about the origins of humanity. [8]

Although the question asks about humanity, many are likely to place this as the last part of creation. This is acceptable but other answers may focus clearly on one or both of the creation accounts in Genesis.

- (b) Explain why Jews might believe that they should care for animals. [7]

Answers are likely to focus on an idea of stewardship and explain the responsibility which was therefore given to humans at the creation. Others may take a more general view of responsibility.

- (c) 'Human beings are not capable of caring for the environment.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer.

[5]

Many may answer that human beings are capable of being stewards but do not do so. Others may feel that constant failure suggests that the statement is true.

Topic 4 – Death and the Afterlife13 Christianity

- (a) Describe Christian beliefs about heaven and hell. [8]

Most are likely to offer an essentially mediæval view of heaven with clouds, angels, harps and hell with fire, devils and pitchforks. However, there may be more modern interpretations of these concepts.

- (b) Explain how these beliefs might affect the way a person lives. [7]

Answers are likely to consider that people want to go to heaven when they die rather than hell and so will look at good behaviour, living according to the teachings of the Bible as a possible outcome.

- (c) 'It cannot be true that there is life after death, because there is no evidence for it.'
Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer. [5]

Some will argue that ghosts and near-death experiences do provide evidence and others may cite the resurrection but generally candidates are likely to focus on faith and belief as being more necessary than factual evidence.

14 Hinduism

- (a) Describe Hindu beliefs about samsara and rebirth. [8]

Candidates should be able to give a clear description of samsara as the cycle of birth and rebirth and the idea of the atman being the part of the person which lives on through successions of rebirth. Beliefs may include the idea that it is possible to escape eventually from this cycle.

- (b) Explain how these beliefs might affect the way a person lives. [7]

Answers are likely to consider that people want to escape from constant rebirth and therefore will try to live their lives according to their dharma to the best of their ability in the hope of eventual release.

- (c) 'It cannot be true that there is life after death, because there is no evidence for it.'
Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer. [5]

Some will argue that ghosts and near-death experiences do provide evidence but generally candidates are likely to focus on faith and belief as being more necessary than factual evidence and point out that Hinduism would not accept remembrance of past lives as evidence for this statement.

15 Islam

- (a) Describe Muslim beliefs about heaven and hell. [8]

Most are likely to offer a fairly simple view of hell and punishment whilst offering an idea of a heavenly Paradise which will reward those who live according to the will of Allah.

- (b) Explain how these beliefs might affect the way a person lives. [7]

Answers are likely to consider that people want to go to heaven when they die rather than hell and so will look at good behaviour, living according to the teachings of the Qur'an as a possible outcome.

- (c) 'It cannot be true that there is life after death, because there is no evidence for it.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer.

[5]

Some will argue that ghosts and near-death experiences do provide evidence but generally candidates are likely to focus on faith and belief as being more necessary than factual evidence.

16 Judaism

- (a) Describe Jewish beliefs about heaven and Sheol. [8]

Most are likely to offer an essentially mediæval view of heaven with clouds, angels, harps and Sheol with fire, devils and pitchforks. However, there may be more modern interpretations of these concepts. Some candidates may be able to comment that teachings about heaven and hell are unclear in Judaism.

- (b) Explain how these beliefs might affect the way a person lives. [7]

Answers are likely to consider that people want to go to heaven when they die rather than hell and so will look at good behaviour, living according to the teachings of the Bible as a possible outcome. Others may suggest that because these beliefs are not clear then people must simply live according to the mitzvot and not concern themselves about what will happen when they die.

- (c) 'It cannot be true that there is life after death, because there is no evidence for it.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer.

[5]

Some will argue that ghosts and near-death experiences do provide evidence but generally candidates are likely to focus on faith and belief as being more necessary than factual evidence.

Topic 5 – Good and Evil17 Christianity

- (a) Describe Christian beliefs about God and the Devil. [8]

Candidates may conclude that God is by definition good and that this goodness pervades all dealings with God. They may suggest that God is the antithesis of evil, represented by the Devil and that it is this latter which may also be an agent of God.

- (b) Explain how these beliefs might help people who are suffering. [7]

The belief that God is all good and therefore must care for creation might help people believe that however much they are suffering, nevertheless this suffering will eventually end and they will be rewarded according to this goodness. Some may make the New Testament link between the ideas of illness and sin.

- (c) 'If God was really good then people would not suffer.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

[5]

This essentially addresses the Problem of Evil but this is not expected in responses at this level. Candidates will probably offer simple suggestions as to how God can allow evil (do not expect Process Theodicy) whilst others may suggest that the existence of evil suggests that there is no God.

18 Hinduism

- (a) Describe Hindu beliefs about good and evil being parts of the nature of God. [8]

Candidates may conclude that God is by definition good and that this goodness pervades all dealings with God. They should also consider that evil is the other aspect of God who would be incomplete without both. They should not confuse destruction (e.g. Shiva) with evil.

- (b) Explain how these beliefs might help people who are suffering. [7]

The belief that God is all good and therefore must care for creation might help people believe that however much they are suffering, nevertheless this suffering will eventually end and they will be rewarded according to this goodness. They may also comment that belief in karma and rebirth may help believers accept suffering.

- (c) 'If God was really good then people would not suffer.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer.

[5]

This essentially addresses the Problem of Evil but this is not expected in responses at this level. Candidates will probably offer simple suggestions as to how God can allow evil (do not expect Process Theodicy) whilst others may suggest that the existence of evil suggests that there is no God.

19 Islam

- (a) Describe Muslim beliefs about Allah and Shaytan. [8]

Candidates may conclude that Allah is by definition good and that this goodness pervades all dealings with Allah. They may suggest that Allah is the antithesis of evil, represented by the Shaytan.

- (b) Explain how these beliefs might help people who are suffering. [7]

The belief that Allah is all good and therefore must care for creation might help people believe that however much they are suffering, nevertheless this suffering will eventually end and they will be rewarded according to this goodness.

- (c) 'If Allah was really good then people would not suffer.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer.

[5]

This essentially addresses the Problem of Evil but this is not expected in responses at this level. Candidates will probably offer simple suggestions as to how Allah can allow evil (do not expect Process Theodicy) whilst others may suggest that the existence of evil suggests that there is no god.

20 Judaism

- (a) Describe Jewish beliefs about G-d and Satan. [8]

Candidates may conclude that G-d is by definition good and that this goodness pervades all dealings with G-d. They may suggest that G-d is the antithesis of evil, represented by the Devil though the Devil in Judaism is a rather different concept than that in Christianity.

- (b) Explain how these beliefs might help people who are suffering. [7]

The belief that G-d is all good and therefore must care for creation might help people believe that however much they are suffering, nevertheless this suffering will eventually end and they will be rewarded according to this goodness.

- (c) 'If G-d was really good then people would not suffer.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer.

[5]

This essentially addresses the Problem of Evil but this is not expected in responses at this level. Candidates will probably offer simple suggestions as to how G-d can allow evil (do not expect Process Theodicy) whilst others may suggest that the existence of evil suggests that there is no g-d.

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Topic 6 – Religion and Human Relationships1 Christianity

- (a) Describe Christian teachings found in the marriage ceremony. [8]

The question is about the teachings in the marriage ceremony rather than the ceremony itself but many candidates are likely to write very generally about what happens. The question is looking for the underlying teachings which can be seen in the ceremony, these may include the vows and also that the marriage is before God.

- (b) Explain why some Christians might think that contraception is wrong. [7]

Some Christians would disagree with the use of contraception because it is preventing one of the purposes of marriage and is interfering with God's will that a child should be born.

- (c) 'Every Christian should get married.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view.

[5]

Candidates should be able to say that whereas marriage is a sacrament and therefore a central aspect of Christian life, nevertheless, so is ordination which in the Roman Catholic church means celibacy.

2 Hinduism

- (a) Describe Hindu teachings found in the marriage ceremony. [8]

The question is about the teachings in the marriage ceremony rather than the ceremony itself but many candidates are likely to write very generally about what happens. The question is looking for the underlying teachings which can be seen in the ceremony, these may include the promises made.

- (b) Explain why some Hindus might think that contraception is wrong. [7]

Some Hindus would disagree with the use of contraception because it is preventing the birth of a child and the cycle of rebirth and is interfering with God's will that a child should be born.

- (c) 'Every Hindu should get married.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view.

[5]

Marriage is seen as an essential part of Hindu life and is encouraged. Even Holy Men are married at an earlier stage in their lives. However, it is not a central Hindu teaching.

3 Islam

- (a) Describe Muslim teachings found in the marriage ceremony. [8]

The question is about the teachings in the marriage ceremony rather than the ceremony itself but many candidates are likely to write very generally about what happens. The question is looking for the underlying teachings which can be seen in the ceremony, these may include the promises made.

- (b) Explain why some Muslims might think that contraception is wrong. [7]

Some Muslims would disagree with the use of contraception because it is preventing one of the purposes of marriage and is interfering with God's will that a child should be born.

- (c) 'Every Muslim should get married.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view.

[5]

Marriage is central to Islam and the statement can be easily defended therefore expect other views to be from another faith or secular.

4 Judaism

- (a) Describe Jewish teachings found in the marriage ceremony. [8]

The question is about the teachings in the marriage ceremony rather than the ceremony itself but many candidates are likely to write very generally about what happens. The question is looking for the underlying teachings which can be seen in the ceremony, these may include the promises made.

- (b) Explain why some Jews might think that the contraception is wrong. [7]

Some Jews would disagree with the use of contraception because it is preventing one of the purposes of marriage and is interfering with G-d's will that a child should be borne.

- (c) 'Every Jew should get married.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view.

[5]

This is a central Jewish teaching and can be strongly defended therefore expect other views to be from another faith or secular.

Topic 7 – Religion and Medical Ethics5 Christianity

- (a) Describe Christian teachings about euthanasia. [8]

Answers are likely to focus on the idea that God created all life and that therefore only God has the right to end it. Euthanasia is viewed as murder and therefore against the Ten Commandments.

- (b) Explain why Christians might have different views about euthanasia. [7]

Some Christians may feel that the orthodox teaching of (a) is too harsh and argue that other teachings such as that of agape should be applied to these situations.

- (c) 'People in great pain should be allowed to die if they want to.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

[5]

This allows candidates to build on both (a) and (b) in their answer and reflect on both sides of the argument. Some may consider the difference between physical pain and mental pain and consider whether these should both be treated the same in relation to this issue.

6 Hinduism

- (a) Describe Hindu teachings about euthanasia. [8]

Answers are likely to focus on the idea that God created all life and that therefore only God has the right to end it. Euthanasia is viewed as murder and also killing the life source of the atman.

- (b) Explain why Hindus might have different views about euthanasia. [7]

Some Hindus may feel that the orthodox teaching of (a) is too harsh and argue that other teachings such as compassion should be applied to these situations. Some may see euthanasia as helping the atman on to its next incarnation.

- (c) 'People in great pain should be allowed to die if they want to.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer.

[5]

This allows candidates to build on both (a) and (b) in their answer and reflect on both sides of the argument. Some may consider the difference between physical pain and mental pain and consider whether these should both be treated the same in relation to this issue.

7 Islam

- (a) Describe Muslim teachings about euthanasia. [8]

Answers are likely to focus on the idea that Allah created all life and that therefore only Allah has the right to end it. Euthanasia is viewed as murder and therefore against Allah's will.

- (b) Explain why Muslims might have different views about euthanasia. [7]

Some Muslims may feel that the orthodox teaching of (a) is too harsh and argue that other teachings such as that of compassion should be applied to these situations.

- (c) 'People in great pain should be allowed to die if they want to.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer.

[5]

This allows candidates to build on both (a) and (b) in their answer and reflect on both sides of the argument. Some may consider the difference between physical pain and mental pain and consider whether these should both be treated the same in relation to this issue.

8 Judaism

- (a) Describe Jewish teachings about euthanasia. [8]

Answers are likely to focus on the idea that G-d created all life and that therefore only G-d has the right to end it. Euthanasia is viewed as murder and therefore against the Ten Commandments.

- (b) Explain why Jews might have different views about euthanasia. [7]

Some Jews may feel that the orthodox teaching of (a) is too harsh and argue that other teachings such as that of compassion should be applied to these situations.

- (c) 'People in great pain should be allowed to die if they want to.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer.

[5]

This allows candidates to build on both (a) and (b) in their answer and reflect on both sides of the argument. Some may consider the difference between physical pain and mental pain and consider whether these should both be treated the same in relation to this issue.

Topic 8 – Religion and Equality9 Christianity

- (a) Describe Christian attitudes towards missionary work. [8]

Answers may indicate that Christianity is essentially a missionary faith and that it is the duty of all Christians to spread the teachings of Jesus and the idea of salvation through Jesus. Although 19th century missionary work is now often discredited the essential evangelism of the faith still continues.

- (b) Explain Christian attitudes towards other religions. [7]

Candidates should be aware that Christianity is a missionary religion and claims to represent the one way to God. However, they may acknowledge different Christian attitudes towards ecumenism. In it very difficult to argue that Christianity teaches that all people are equal. Some may refer in a general way to Paul's teachings and should be credited as the interpretation that this teach equality is widely held.

- (c) 'People should not try to persuade others to join their religion.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

[5]

Many may wish to agree with this statement and the idea that it is the right of an individual to follow their faith without hindrance from proselytizers. The other viewpoint may be that it is necessary to show people the right way to live their lives and to reach God.

10 Hinduism

- (a) Describe the work of the Ramakrishna mission. [8]

Answers may show that the mission follows the work of Ramakrishna (1834-1886), one of the three great leaders of the Hindu revival in the 19th century. In 1866 he was a Muslim and claimed to see a vision of Muhammad Δ, a similar experience with Christianity convinced him of the unity of all religions which is the teachings of the mission.

- (b) Explain Hindu attitudes towards other religions. [7]

Some candidates are likely to quote Krishna and Arjuna that all religions and worship are a way to God. Others may consider that some Hindus regard Hinduism as the only way in which it is possible for people to reach moksha. Generally, Hinduism is not a missionary faith and therefore does not teach that people need to be Hindus.

- (c) 'People should not try to persuade others to join their religion.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer.

[5]

Many may wish to agree with this statement and the idea that it is the right of an individual to follow their faith without hindrance from proselytizers. The other viewpoint may be that it is necessary to show people the right way to live their lives and to reach God.

11 Islam

- (a) Describe Muslim attitudes towards missionary work. [8]

Answers may indicate that Islam is essentially a missionary faith and that it is the duty of all Muslims to spread the teachings of Muhammad Δ and word of the Qur'an. Although early Muslim missionary endeavours are now often discredited the essential evangelism of the faith still continues.

- (b) Explain Muslim attitudes towards other religions. [7]

Candidates should be aware that Islam is a missionary religion and represents the one way to Allah. However, they may acknowledge different Muslim attitudes to this. In addition they may consider that the Qur'an talks about the way Jews and Christians, in particular, should be treated and that this is an important part of Muslim belief.

- (c) 'People should not try to persuade others to join their religion.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer.

[5]

Many may wish to agree with this statement and the idea that it is the right of an individual to follow their faith without hindrance from proselytizers. The other viewpoint may be that it is necessary to show people the right way to live their lives and to reach Allah.

12 Judaism

- (a) Describe Jewish attitudes towards missionary work. [8]

Answers may show that Judaism is not a missionary faith and actively deters converts. The only concept of missionary work within Judaism today is the teachings of e.g. the Lubavitch who wish to bring all Jews back to a purer and more orthodox way of living the faith.

- (b) Explain Jewish attitudes towards other religions. [7]

Answers should show that Judaism is strongly opposed to any missionary activity as it believes that people should follow their own faith and their own way towards G-d. Judaism does not welcome converts because the Noachide Code teaches that anyone who lives according to its rules is already on the right path to G-d and does not need to take on the extra duties of Judaism which are only requirements on Jews themselves.

- (c) 'People should not try to persuade others to join their religion.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer.

[5]

Many may wish to agree with this statement and the idea that it is the right of an individual to follow their faith without hindrance from proselytizers. The other viewpoint may be that it is necessary to show people the right way to live their lives and to reach god.

Topic 9 – Religion, Poverty and Wealth13 Christianity

- (a) Describe Christian teachings about moral and immoral occupations. [8]

Answers may consider occupations which would be considered immoral according to Christian teaching. These might include such activities as prostitution, selling drugs, acting as mercenaries or ordinary soldiers, gambling etc. Also they might consider what activities might be particularly suitable for a Christian and give examples such as nursing, caring for others and education.

- (b) Explain Christian attitudes towards the use of money. [7]

Candidates should consider general Christian teachings about the use of money. There are teachings about the giving of charity which can be cited from both the Old and the New Testament – answers might consider giving money to the poor, to the local community and tithing. Some may also consider whether the right use of money includes not gambling, drinking, spending money on luxuries etc.

- (c) 'It is better to be poor than to ignore religious teachings.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

[5]

This allows candidates free rein to argue in both directions. Christian teaching must obviously be included for a good answer. Answers may consider whether there are any grounds on which a believer might ignore religious teachings. Some are likely to consider whether if family members are starving it is permissible to steal or even kill in order to look after them.

14 Hinduism

- (a) Describe Hindu teachings about moral and immoral occupations. [8]

Living according to one's dharma is central to Hinduism so that, to a degree, it controls people's occupations however there are still occupations which go against essential Hindu teachings which mean they are not acceptable. Answers may consider occupations which would be considered immoral according to this teaching. These might include such activities prostitution, selling drugs, acting as mercenaries or ordinary soldiers, gambling etc. Also they might consider what activities might be particularly suitable for a Hindu and give examples such as nursing, caring for others and education.

- (b) Explain Hindu attitudes towards the use of money. [7]

Candidates should consider general Hindu teachings about the use of money. Answers might consider giving money to the poor, to the local community and to the Temple. Some may also consider whether the right use of money includes not gambling, drinking, spending money on luxuries etc.

- (c) 'It is better to be poor than to ignore religious teachings.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer.

[5]

This allows candidate free rein to argue in both directions. Hindu teaching must obviously be included for a good answer. Answers may consider whether there are any grounds on which a believer might ignore religious teachings. Some are likely to consider whether if family members are starving it is permissible to steal or even kill in order to look after them.

15 Islam

- (a) Describe Muslim teachings about moral and immoral occupations. [8]

Answers may consider occupations which would be considered immoral according to Muslim teaching. These might include such activities as prostitution, selling drugs, acting as mercenaries or ordinary soldiers, gambling etc. Also they might consider what activities might be particularly suitable for a Muslim and give examples such as nursing, caring for others and education.

- (b) Explain Muslim attitudes towards the use of money. [7]

Candidates should consider general Muslim teachings about the use of money, responsibility, zakah etc. There are teachings about the giving of charity in the Qur'an. Answers might also consider giving money to the poor, to the local community and the mosque. Some may also consider whether the right use of money includes not gambling, drinking, spending money on luxuries etc.

- (c) 'It is better to be poor than to ignore religious teachings.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer.

[5]

This allows candidate free rein to argue in both directions. Muslim teaching must obviously be included for a good answer. Answers may consider whether there are any grounds on which a believer might ignore religious teachings. Some are likely to consider whether if family members are starving it is permissible to steal or even kill in order to look after them.

16 Judaism

- (a) Describe Jewish teachings about moral and immoral occupations. [8]

Answers may consider occupations which would be considered immoral according to Jewish teaching. These might include such activities as prostitution, selling drugs, acting as mercenaries or ordinary soldiers, gambling etc. Also they might consider what activities might be particularly suitable for a Jew and give examples such as nursing, caring for others and education.

- (b) Explain Jewish attitudes towards the use of money. [7]

Candidates should consider general Jewish teachings about the use of money, responsibility, tzedakah etc. There are teachings about the giving of charity which can be cited from both the Tenakh and Talmud. Answers might consider giving money to the poor, to the local community and the synagogue. Some may also consider whether the right use of money includes not gambling, drinking, spending money on luxuries etc.

- (c) 'It is better to be poor than to ignore religious teachings.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer.

[5]

This allows candidate free rein to argue in both directions. Jewish teaching must obviously be included for a good answer. Answers may consider whether there are any grounds on which a believer might ignore religious teachings. Some are likely to consider whether if family members are starving it is permissible to steal or even kill in order to look after them.

Topic 10 – Religion, Peace and Justice17 Christianity

- (a) Describe Christian teachings about the use of violence. [8]

Answers are probably going to be that Christians are generally opposed to violence but they may also reflect on occasions when violence may be necessary. Some may consider issues of Holy War or Just War in their response whilst others may write about pacifism.

- (b) Explain how Christians might act during a war. [7]

Candidates may take a number of routes into this. They could consider that murder is forbidden in the Ten Commandments, that Just War is permitted, that Jesus may, or may not, have been a pacifist. They may consider conscientious objectors.

- (c) 'Violence is always wrong.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

[5]

From an absolute pacifist perspective the statement is correct and this may be considered, on the other hand candidates may consider that there are positions when most people might be pushed to violence as a last resort.

18 Hinduism

- (a) Describe Hindu teachings about the use of violence. [8]

Out of respect for life and the concept of the atman Hindus are generally opposed to violence and this view needs to be explained.

- (b) Explain how Hindus might act during a war. [7]

Candidates may consider that, out of respect for all life, Hindus are generally opposed to war and are pacifists but that Hinduism recognises that violence may be required and that someone born to be a soldier must fulfil their dharma in that respect.

- (c) 'Violence is always wrong.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer.

[5]

From an absolute pacifist perspective the statement is correct and this may be considered, on the other hand candidates may consider that there are positions when most people might be pushed to violence as a last resort.

19 Islam

- (a) Describe Muslim teachings about the use of violence. [8]

Answers are probably going to be that Muslims are generally opposed to violence but they may also reflect on occasions when violence may be necessary. Answers may include reference to Lesser Jihad and the perhaps inevitable use of violence in those circumstances. They may also consider whether Islam teaches an essentially pacifist view.

- (b) Explain how Muslims might act during a war. [7]

Candidates may take a number of routes into this. They could consider that murder is forbidden, that Holy War (Lesser Jihad) is permitted in certain circumstances, that Islam is essentially a pacific religion.

- (c) 'Violence is always wrong.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer.

[5]

From an absolute pacifist perspective the statement is correct and this may be considered, on the other hand candidates may consider that there are positions when most people might be pushed to violence as a last resort.

20 Judaism

- (a) Describe Jewish teachings about the use of violence. [8]

Answers are probably going to be that Jews are generally opposed to violence but they may also reflect on occasions when violence may be necessary. Answers may consider the various categories of warfare found in Jewish teaching such as Holy War.

- (b) Explain how Jews might act during a war. [7]

Candidates may take a number of roots into this. They could consider that murder is forbidden in the Ten Commandments, that Just War is permitted, that Judaism is essentially a pacific religion.

- (c) 'Violence is always wrong.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer.

[5]

From an absolute pacifist perspective the statement is correct and this may be considered, on the other hand candidates may consider that there are positions when most people might be pushed to violence as a last resort.

**General Certificate of Secondary Education Religious Studies (Philosophy and Ethics) (1031)
June 2006 Assessment Series**

Component Threshold Marks

Component	Max Mark	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Paper 1	84	72	63	55	44	33	23	13
Paper 2	63	55	49	43	34	26	18	10
Paper 3	63	51	45	39	31	23	10	9

Syllabus Options

Paper 1

	Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Overall Threshold Marks	84	82	72	63	55	44	33	23	13
Percentage in Grade		5.2	15.5	16.6	16.0	20.1	14.5	7.0	3.1
Cumulative Percentage in Grade		5.2	20.7	37.3	53.2	73.3	87.8	94.8	98.5

The total entry for the examination was 50,568.

Paper 2, 3

	Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Overall Threshold Marks	80	77	68	61	54	44	34	25	16
Percentage in Grade		4.6	17.5	15.6	15.3	20.1	14.6	6.7	3.3
Cumulative Percentage in Grade		4.6	22.1	37.7	53.0	73.1	87.7	94.4	97.7

The total entry for the examination was 4,699.

Overall

	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Percentage in Grade	5.2	15.6	16.5	15.9	20.1	14.5	6.9	3.7
Cumulative Percentage in Grade	5.2	20.8	37.3	53.2	73.3	87.8	94.7	98.4

The total entry for the examination was 55,267.

General Certificate of Secondary Education Religious Studies (Philosophy and Ethics) (1931)

June 2006 Assessment Series

Component Threshold Marks

Component	Max Mark	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Paper 1	84	72	63	55	44	33	23	13
Paper 2	84	69	61	53	41	29	17	5
Paper 3	63	57	52	47	37	28	19	10
Paper 4	63	56	51	47	36	25	15	5
Paper 5	126	102	90	78	62	47	32	17

Syllabus Options

Paper 1, 2

	Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Overall Threshold Marks	168	160	140	124	108	87	66	46	26
Percentage in Grade		20.3	30.1	17.5	12.1	9.6	5.6	2.8	1.3
Cumulative Percentage in Grade		20.3	50.3	67.8	79.9	89.5	95.2	97.9	99.3

The total entry for the examination was 15,258.

Paper 3, 4, 5

	Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Overall Threshold Marks	315	300	277	254	232	189	146	104	62
Percentage in Grade		18.4	25.8	19.6	13.2	12.3	6.2	2.8	1.4
Cumulative Percentage in Grade		18.4	44.2	63.7	76.9	89.2	95.3	98.1	99.5

The total entry for the examination was 4,473.

Overall

	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Percentage in Grade	19.9	29.1	18.0	12.4	10.2	5.7	2.8	1.4
Cumulative Percentage in Grade	19.9	48.9	66.9	79.3	89.5	95.2	98.0	99.3

The total entry for the examination was 19,731.

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