

Oxford Cambridge and RSA Examinations
General Certificate of Secondary Education

RELIGIOUS STUDIES B (PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS)
PAPER 1

1931/1

Specimen Paper 2003

Additional materials: Answer Paper
Candidates answer on the answer paper.

TIME 2 hours.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Answer **one** question from each of any **four** topics.
- Answer **four** questions in total.
- You must not answer more than one question from each topic.
- Write your answers, in blue or black ink, on the answer paper provided.
- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is 84.
- You will be awarded up to 4 marks in the first question you answer for the quality of Written Communication.

Topic 1 – The Nature of God

Do not answer more than **ONE** question from this topic.

1 Christianity

- (a) Describe the reasons Christians might give in support of their belief in God. [8]
- (b) Explain how believing that the Bible is the word of God might affect the lives of Christians. [7]
- (c) ‘There is no way of knowing what God might be like.’

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

2 Hinduism

- (a) Describe the reasons Hindus might give in support of their belief in God. [8]
- (b) Explain how believing that the Vedas are holy books might affect the lives of Hindus. [7]
- (c) ‘There is no way of knowing what God might be like.’

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

3 Islam

- (a) Describe the reasons Muslims might give in support of their belief in God. [8]
- (b) Explain how believing that the Qur’an is a holy book might affect the lives of Muslims. [7]
- (c) ‘There is no way of knowing what Allah might be like.’

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

4 Judaism

- (a) Describe the reasons Jews might give in support of their belief in G-d. [8]
- (b) Explain how believing that the Torah is a holy book might affect the lives of Jews. [7]
- (c) ‘There is no way of knowing what G-d might be like.’

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

Topic 2 – The Nature of Belief

Do not answer more than **ONE** question from this topic.

5 Christianity

- (a) Describe how a Christian might worship God at home. [8]
- (b) Explain how praying every day might help Christians in their daily lives. [7]
- (c) ‘Religious pictures help people to worship God.’

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

6 Hinduism

- (a) Describe how a Hindu might worship God at home. [8]
- (b) Explain how praying every day might help Hindus in their daily lives. [7]
- (c) ‘Religious pictures help people to worship God.’

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

7 Islam

- (a) Describe how a Muslim might worship Allah at home. [8]
- (b) Explain how praying every day might help Muslims in their daily lives. [7]
- (c) ‘Religious pictures help people to worship God.’

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

8 Judaism

- (a) Describe how a Jew might worship G-d at home. [8]
- (b) Explain how praying every day might help Jews in their daily lives. [7]
- (c) ‘Religious pictures help people to worship G-d.’

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

Topic 3 – Religion and Science

Do not answer more than **ONE** question from this topic.

9 Christianity

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. (Genesis 1:1-2)

- (a) Describe Christian beliefs about the origins of the world. [8]
- (b) Explain why Christians might feel that they have a duty to take care of the planet. [7]
- (c) 'We were put in the world for a reason.'

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

10 Hinduism

'In the beginning, my dear, this universe was Being only, — one only, — without a second.' (Chandogya Upanishad VI,ii,1)

- (a) Describe Hindu beliefs about the origins of the world. [8]
- (b) Explain why Hindus might feel that they have a duty to take care of the planet. [7]
- (c) 'We were put in the world for a reason.'

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

11 Islam

'Your Guardian-Lord is Allah. Who created the heavens and the earth in six Days. Then He Established Himself upon the Throne.' (Surah 7:54)

- (a) Describe Muslim beliefs about the origins of the world. [8]
- (b) Explain why Muslims might feel that they have a duty to take care of the planet. [7]
- (c) 'We were put in the world for a reason.'

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

12 Judaism

‘In the beginning of G-d’s creating the heavens and the earth – when the earth was astonishingly empty, with darkness upon the surface of the deep, and the Divine Presence hovered upon the surface of the waters...’ (Genesis 1:1-2)

- (a)** Describe Jewish beliefs about the origins of the world. [8]
- (b)** Explain why Jews might feel that they have a duty to take care of the planet. [7]
- (c)** ‘We were put in the world for a reason.’

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

Topic 4 – Death and the Afterlife

Do not answer more than **ONE** question from this topic.

13 Christianity



A Christian funeral service

- (a) Describe Christian beliefs about what happens to evil people after death. [8]
- (b) Explain how a Christian funeral service might comfort someone whose close friend has died. [7]
- (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 answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer. [5]

14 Hinduism



The Burning Ghat at Varanasi

- (a) Describe Hindu beliefs about what happens to evil people after death. [8]
- (b) Explain how a Hindu funeral service might comfort someone whose close friend has died. [7]
- (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 answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer. [5]

15 Islam



A Muslim burial

- (a) Describe Muslim beliefs about what happens to evil people after death. [8]
- (b) Explain how a Muslim funeral service might comfort someone whose close friend has died. [7]
- (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 answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer. [5]

16 Judaism



A Jewish burial

- (a) Describe Jewish beliefs about what happens to evil people after death. [8]
- (b) Explain how a Jewish funeral service might comfort someone whose close friend has died. [7]
- (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 answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer. [5]

Topic 5 – Good and Evil

Do not answer more than **ONE** question from this topic.

17 Christianity

- (a) Describe Christian beliefs about the Devil (Satan). [8]
- (b) Explain the ways in which a Christian might try to find out the right answer to a difficult moral problem. [7]
- (c) 'If people suffer, it is usually their own fault.'

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

18 Hinduism

- (a) Describe Hindu beliefs about evil. [8]
- (b) Explain the ways in which a Hindu might try to find out the right answer to a difficult moral problem. [7]
- (c) 'If people suffer, it is usually their own fault.'

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

19 Islam

- (a) Describe Muslim beliefs about Shaytan (Iblis). [8]
- (b) Explain the ways in which a Muslim might try to find out the right answer to a difficult moral problem. [7]
- (c) 'If people suffer, it is usually their own fault.'

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

20 Judaism

- (a) Describe Jewish beliefs about Satan. [8]
- (b) Explain the ways in which a Jew might try to find out the right answer to a difficult moral problem.
- (c) 'If people suffer, it is usually their own fault.'

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