



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2012

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION — HIGHER LEVEL

FRIDAY, 22 JUNE — MORNING, 9.30 to 12.00

Total Marks: 320

General Directions for Candidates

CANDIDATES MUST ANSWER THE FOLLOWING:

- **ONE QUESTION FROM UNIT ONE**
- **TWO QUESTIONS FROM UNIT TWO**
- **ONE QUESTION FROM UNIT THREE**

YOU SHOULD SPEND APPROXIMATELY 30 MINUTES COMPLETING THIS UNIT.

YOU MUST ANSWER ONE OF THE FOLLOWING TWO QUESTIONS.

(All questions carry 80 marks each)

SECTION A THE SEARCH FOR MEANING AND VALUES

Question 1.

Answer a) and b).

a) Outline **one** of Plato's philosophical ideas about the nature of reality. (40 marks)

b) *Since ancient times people have expressed religious beliefs in different ways.*

Investigate how evidence of religious belief can be seen in **one** work of art/artefact from ancient times. (40 marks)

Question 2.

Answer a) and b).

a) Examine the way in which **one** modern scientific theory about how the universe began could influence a person's understanding of the meaning of life. (40 marks)



(Source: Softkey Multimedia Inc.)

b) Explain how the ideas about the existence of God presented by *either* Anselm *or* Aquinas have relevance for people of faith today. (40 marks)

UNIT TWO

(160 marks)

YOU SHOULD SPEND APPROXIMATELY **60** MINUTES COMPLETING THIS UNIT.

YOU MUST ANSWER **TWO** OF THE FOLLOWING THREE SECTIONS.

(All sections carry **80** marks each)

SECTION B CHRISTIANITY: ORIGINS AND CONTEMPORARY EXPRESSIONS

Answer a) and b).

- a) Evaluate what can be learnt about Jesus of Nazareth from the writings of **two** of the following:
- JOSEPHUS ● SAINT PAUL ● TACITUS (40 marks)
- b) i. Outline the understanding of Jesus that can be found today in **one** example from any of the following: ● ART ● FILM ● MUSIC (20 marks)
- ii. Assess the extent to which the understanding of Jesus outlined in part *b)i* above is true to the gospel accounts of the life of Jesus. (20 marks)

SECTION C WORLD RELIGIONS

Answer a) and b).

- a) ❖ AFRICAN TRADITIONAL RELIGION ❖ A NEW RELIGIOUS MOVEMENT
 ❖ BAHA'I FAITH ❖ CHINESE RELIGION ❖ SIKH RELIGION
- Examine the influence of religious belief on the lifestyle of members in **one** of the above. (40 marks)
- b) i. Describe the way in which religious belief is expressed in a rite of birth/initiation associated with *either* Christianity *or* Judaism. (20 marks)
- ii. Compare the rite of birth/initiation that you have described above with a rite of birth/initiation associated with **one** of the following world religions:
- ◆ BUDDHISM ◆ HINDUISM ◆ ISLAM (20 marks)

SECTION D MORAL DECISION - MAKING

Answer a) and b).

- a) Trace the way in which moral failure is evident in **one** example of structural injustice that you have studied. (40 marks)
- b) i. *Morality is a natural human phenomenon.*
Investigate **one** way in which evidence for this statement can be seen in Ancient Greek civilization. (20 marks)
- ii. Compare the communal values found in **two** charters that you have studied. (20 marks)

UNIT THREE

(80 marks)

YOU SHOULD SPEND APPROXIMATELY 30 MINUTES COMPLETING THIS UNIT.

YOU MUST ANSWER ONE OF THE FOLLOWING FOUR SECTIONS.

(All sections carry 80 marks each)

SECTION E RELIGION AND GENDER

◆ BUDDHISM ◆ CHRISTIANITY ◆ HINDUISM ◆ ISLAM ◆ JUDAISM

Discuss the way in which *either* a feminist theology *or* a feminist spirituality has contributed

to the participation of women in **one** of the above world religions.

(80 marks)

SECTION F ISSUES OF JUSTICE AND PEACE

Answer a) and b).

a) ◆ BUDDHISM ◆ CHRISTIANITY ◆ HINDUISM ◆ ISLAM ◆ JUDAISM

Examine the influence of the understanding of peace in **one** of the above world religions

on the use of non-violence by its members.

(40 marks)

b) Discuss the role *either* non-violence as lifestyle *or* non-violence as protest could play

in resolving **one** conflict situation that you have studied.

(40 marks)

SECTION G WORSHIP, PRAYER AND RITUAL

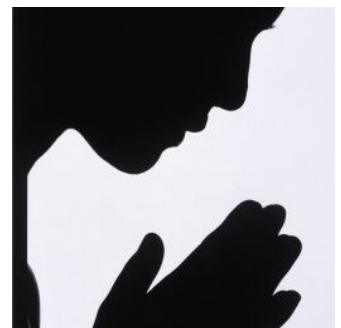
Answer a) and b).

a) ● REFLECTION ● SACRAMENT ● THE EXPERIENCE OF AWE

Discuss the role **two** of the above can play in the prayer life of

people of faith today.

(40 marks)



(Source: images.google.com)

b) Outline how the spiritual dimension of life takes expression in **one** mystical tradition

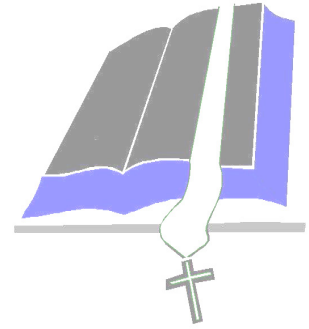
that you have studied.

(40 marks)

Answer a) and b).

- a) ● THE LABOURERS
 IN THE VINEYARD
 (Matthew 20:1-16)
- THE UNJUST
 STEWARD
 (Luke 16:1-13)

Examine the impact **each** of the above parables had on
its original audience. (40 marks)



(Source: Sofikey Multimedia Inc.)

- b) Discuss the implications for Christians today of **each** of the parables listed in part a) above. (40 marks)

Blank Page

Blank Page

Blank Page