



# **Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit State Examinations Commission**

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - ORDINARY LEVEL**

THURSDAY, 23 JUNE 2005, AFTERNOON, 2.00 to 4.00

Total Marks: 320

### ***General Directions for Candidates***

CANDIDATES MUST ATTEMPT THE FOLLOWING:

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

## UNIT ONE

(80 marks)

YOU SHOULD SPEND APPROXIMATELY 30 MINUTES COMPLETING THIS UNIT.

YOU MUST ATTEMPT TWO OF THE FOLLOWING THREE QUESTIONS.

(All questions carry 40 marks each)

### SECTION A THE SEARCH FOR MEANING AND VALUES

#### QUESTION 1. THE CONTEMPORARY CONTEXT

- a. State **two** questions about the meaning of life from any **one** philosopher you have studied. (10 marks)
- b. Outline the answer given to a question about the meaning of life from any **one** philosopher you have studied. (15 marks)
- c. Outline **one** example of the search for the meaning of life in today's music, art, film or literature. (15 marks)

#### QUESTION 2. EVIDENCE OF RELIGIOUS BELIEF

- a. Describe **one** rite from the ancient world which shows evidence of religious belief. (10 marks)
- b. Briefly outline the religious belief suggested by this rite. (15 marks)
- c. Describe **one** other way in which religious belief was expressed in the ancient world. (15 marks)

#### QUESTION 3. CONCEPTS OF GOD

- a. What does the term "monotheism" mean? (10 marks)
- b. Name **two** religions that are examples of monotheism. (10 marks)
- c. Briefly outline the understanding of God found in **one** of the religions you have named above. (20 marks)

## UNIT TWO

(160 marks)

YOU SHOULD SPEND APPROXIMATELY 60 MINUTES COMPLETING THIS UNIT.

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

(All questions carry 80 marks each)

### SECTION B CHRISTIANITY - EARLY CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES

Choose **one** of the early Christian communities listed below and answer the questions that follow.

♦ Corinth ♦ Philippi ♦ Thessalonica

- Describe the way of life of the community you have chosen above. (30 marks)
- Outline **one** problem this community had to deal with. (20 marks)
- Explain how the religious beliefs of the community helped it to deal with such problems. (30 marks)

### SECTION C WORLD RELIGIONS - TIMES AND SEASONS

*Every religion has special days and seasons it celebrates every year.*

- Choose **two** of the world religions listed below.  
Name a special day or season that each religion you have chosen celebrates every year.  
♦ Buddhism ♦ Christianity ♦ Hinduism ♦ Islam ♦ Judaism (20 marks)
- Outline a religious rite associated with **one** of the special days or seasons you have named. (20 marks)
- Explain the meaning of this rite for members of the world religion you have chosen. (40 marks)

### SECTION D MORAL DECISION-MAKING - CONSCIENCE

- What is conscience? (20 marks)
- Describe **two** ways in which a person can inform his / her conscience. (20 marks)
- Religious **or** civil authorities can sometimes find themselves in conflict with a person's individual conscience. Describe a situation in which such a conflict might arise and explain why this conflict might have arisen. (40 marks)

## UNIT THREE

(80 marks)

YOU SHOULD SPEND APPROXIMATELY 30 MINUTES COMPLETING THIS UNIT.

YOU MUST ATTEMPT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING FOUR SECTIONS.

(All questions carry 80 marks each)

### SECTION E RELIGION AND GENDER

◆ Buddhism ◆ Christianity ◆ Hinduism ◆ Islam ◆ Judaism

Compare the roles of men and women in **one** of the above world religions.

(80 marks)

### SECTION F JUSTICE AND PEACE

◆ Justice as Right Relationship ◆ Justice as Fair Play ◆ Justice as the Upholding of Human Rights

a. Outline **one** of the above visions of justice.

(40 marks)

b. Explain the relationship between justice and peace.

(40 marks)

### SECTION H THE BIBLE AND SACRED TEXT

*The Ten Wedding Attendants*

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“At that time the Kingdom of heaven will be like this. Once there were ten girls who took their oil lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and the other five were wise...”

(Matthew 25:1 - 2  
*Good News Bible*)

“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise...”

(Matthew 25:1 - 2  
*New Revised Standard Version*)

“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible...”

(Matthew 25:1 - 2  
*The Jerusalem Bible*)

a. What is a parable?

(10 marks)

b. i. Outline the story of *The Ten Wedding Attendants*.

(20 marks)

ii. In what way is this story of *The Ten Wedding Attendants* a good example of a parable? (20 marks)

c. Explain how the parable of *The Ten Wedding Attendants* has meaning for Christians today. (30 marks)

## SECTION J RELIGION AND SCIENCE

Commenting on the ecological crisis Pope John Paul II remarked:

*“ Man, especially in our time, has without hesitation devastated wooded plains and valleys, polluted waters, disfigured the earth’s habitat, made the air unbreathable ... and turned luxuriant areas into deserts.”*

a. What is the ecological crisis facing today’s world? (20 marks)

b. Explain how the understanding of creation in **one** of the following world religions might help in finding a solution to the ecological crisis.

◆ Buddhism ◆ Christianity ◆ Hinduism ◆ Islam ◆ Judaism

(30 marks)

c. Taking the views of **one** of the world religions named above, explain what those views have in common with the views of science on the crisis. (30 marks)

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