

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

### **University of Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) in the UK and USA**

With effect from the June 2003 examination University of Cambridge International Examinations will only accept entries in the UK and USA from students registered on courses at CIE registered Centres.

UK and USA private candidates will not be eligible to enter CIE examinations unless they are repatriating from outside the UK/USA and are part way through a course leading to a CIE examination. In that case a letter of support from the Principal of the school which they had attended is required. Other UK and USA private candidates should not embark on courses leading to a CIE examination after June 2003.

This regulation applies only to entry by private candidates in the UK and USA. Entry by private candidates through Centres in other countries is not affected.

Further details are available from Customer Services at University of Cambridge International Examinations.

**You can find syllabuses and information about CIE teacher training events on the CIE Website ([www.cie.org.uk](http://www.cie.org.uk)).**

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# HINDUISM

## GCE Ordinary Level

### Syllabus 2055

Available worldwide from 2004  
Available in the October/November examination session only

## AIMS

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The aims of the syllabus are to:

1. develop an enquiring and critical approach to the study of Hinduism
2. introduce candidates to a variety of interpretations of the ideas contained in Hinduism
3. help the candidates to identify and explore the religious and ethical questions raised in the prescribed texts.

## ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

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Candidates should be able to:

1. recall relevant points from the text(s) and from background information
2. use knowledge, illustrations and traditions contained in the texts to explain them with understanding
3. identify and explain the use of symbolism, parable, allegory etc. in the texts studied
4. interpret and analyse the major themes for religious and moral understanding.

## ASSESSMENT SCHEME

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There will be one question paper of 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hours duration, comprising four sections: A, B, C, and D. Three questions will be set in each section of which at least one question will be in two parts. Candidates will be required to answer **five** questions, at least one from each section.

## SYLLABUS CONTENT

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### Section A : Aspects of knowledge, action and devotion

The following concepts are to be studied (with reference to specific texts)  
Ultimate Being (Brahman), Knowledge (Jnana), Devotion (Bhakti) and Action (Karma)

- (a) Kena Upanishad - III.1 - 4.2
- (b) Chandogya Upanishad - VI.10.1 - VI.13.3
- (c) Shrimad Bhagavad Gita - Chapter II Verses 47 & 48 and Chapter III
- (d) Shri Ramacharitamanas - Ayodhya - Kanda Doha 99 - 102  
Aranya - Kanda Doha 34 - 36

### Section B : Worship and Festivals

- (a) The main iconographic features and attributes of Shiva, Ganesha, Kartikeya (Murugan) and Durga.
- (b) The following Avataras of Vishnu: Rama, Krishna and Buddha.
- (c) Maha Shivaratri, Ganesh Chaturthi, Cavadi and Deepavali.

### Section C : Hindu Ethics

- (a) The four varnas.
- (b) The four ashramas.
- (c) The four purusharthas.
- (d) The following samskaras: Namakarana, Mundana, Upanayana, Vivaha and Antyeshti.

### Section D : Reform and Reformers in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries

- (a) Rammohan Roy and the Brahmo Samaj.
- (b) Swami Dayananda Saraswati and the Arya Samaj.
- (c) Ramakrishna Paramhansa: His experiences of God.
- (d) Mahandas Karamchand Gandhi: His concepts of Truth and Non-violence.

### Specified Texts

Dr S. Radhakrishnan (editor); *The Principal Upanishads*; Harper Collins, India; 1995; ISBN 8172231245

Dr S. Radhakrishnan (editor); *The Bhagavadgita*; Harper Collins, India; ISBN 8172230877

*Shri Ramacharitamansa*; Gita Press, India

### Resources for Teachers

T. M. Mahadevan; *Outlines of Hinduism*; Chetan Pvt Ltd, India; South Asia Books; 1984; ISBN 0836457862

Dhanpati Pandey; *Swami Dayanand Saraswati*; Director Publications Division, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, Patiala House, New Delhi 11000, India

HINDUISM 2055 O LEVEL 2006

Rajbali Pandey; *Hindu Samskaras*; Motilal Banarsidass, India; 2002; ISBN 8120804341

M. Ramnohur; *Hinduism For All*; Neeta Prakashan, India; 2002; ISBN 8172025890

D. S. Sarma; *Hinduism Through the Ages*; Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, India; 1967; 2000

*Please note that other editions of the above books may exist with different ISBN numbers.*



**UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS**  
General Certificate of Education Ordinary Level

**HINDUISM**

**2055/01**

Paper 1

**Specimen paper**

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.  
No Additional Materials are required.

**2 hours 30 minutes**

**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.  
Write in dark blue or black pen in the spaces provided on the Question Paper.  
Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **five** questions, at least **one** from each section.  
At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.  
The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.



**SPECIMEN QUESTION PAPER**

**2055 Hinduism**

Answer **five** questions, at least **one** from each section

**SECTION A**

1. What do you gather from Kena Upanishad (III.1.4.2) about the nature of Ultimate Being? [20]
2. Referring to the specified text, how does Krishna convince Arjuna to perform his duty? [20]
3. With reference to the specified text, write briefly on:
  - (a) The nine forms of Bhakti; [10]
  - (b) The meeting of the boatman with Lord Rama. [10]

**SECTION B**

4. Show the importance of **either** Ganesh **or** Durga and his/her worship in Hindu tradition. [20]
5. (a) What do you understand by Avatara? [8]  
(b) Explain the purpose of Rama or Buddha Avatara. [12]
6. Explain the iconographic features of Shiva. [20]  
OR  
Describe the Maha Shivaratri festival and give its importance. [20]

**SECTION C**

7. Explain the term Varna. Describe the duties of any two Varnas. [20]
8. (a) What do you understand by 'Ashrama' in traditional Hinduism? [8]  
(b) How can Brahmacharya Ashram help to develop our personality? [12]
9. In traditional Hinduism, how important is the Viveha Samskara? [20]

**SECTION D**

10. Describe how Rammohan Roy was successful in abolishing the practice of 'Sati'. [20]
11. Give a brief account of social and religious reforms brought by Swami Dayananda Saraswati. [20]
12. Write briefly on:
  - (a) Any religious experience of Ramkrishna Paramhansa. [10]
  - (b) Mahatma Gandhi's concept of non-violence. [10]



**UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS**

**GCE Ordinary Level**

**SPECIMEN MARK SCHEME**

**2055 HINDUISM**

**2055/01**

**Paper 1 (Written), maximum raw mark 100**

This specimen mark scheme is an aid to teachers and students, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which Examiners award marks. It only provides notes and does not give detailed sample answers. It does not indicate the details of the discussions that take place at an Examiners' meeting before marking begins.

All Examiners are instructed that alternative correct answers and unexpected approaches in candidates' scripts must be given marks that fairly reflect the relevant knowledge and skills demonstrated.



UNIVERSITY *of* CAMBRIDGE  
International Examinations

**MARK SCHEME : SPECIMEN QUESTION PAPER  
2055 Hinduism**

**1. What do you gather from (Kena Upanishad III.1.4.2) about the nature of Ultimate Being? [20]**

Candidates will be expected to write briefly about the nature of Ultimate Reality in Hinduism and discuss the portrayal of Brahman in Kena Upanishad (sp. text). (3)

A brief sketch of the story and description of Agni, Vayu and Indra. The puzzle of these gods. The test and their incapacibilities. Who is Uma? (5)

The Nature of Brahman as the candidates find it in Kena Upanishad. (7)

The symbolism associated with Agni, Vayu and Indra. How this helps us to have the understanding of God. (5)

**2. Referring to the specified text, how does Krishna convince Arjuna to perform his duty? [20]**

The bewilderment of Arjuna - his difficulty in choosing between Knowledge and Action. (2)

Why Krishna lays emphasis on Action. Action and the modes of nature - Action is better than inaction - emphasis on Swadharma - different examples given in the text - Janaka and others attaining perfection. Action and maintenance of world equilibrium. Krishna Himself performing action - all actions must be surrendered to God. Action and Sacrifice. Barriers to action should be eliminated. (15)

Candidates are expected to use quotations from the text to support their arguments. (3)

**3. With reference to the specified text write briefly on:**

**(a) The nine forms of Bhakti;**

**(b) The meeting of the boatman with Lord Rama. [20]**

**(a)** Candidates will be expected to locate the importance of Shabari in the text and illustrate the nature of this meeting. (2)

Why does Lord Rama lay emphasis on Bhakti?  
An exposé of each form of devotion giving their importance in our life. (8)

**(b)** The context of this meeting and its importance. (2)

How the boatman is graced by Lord Rama's meeting. The conversation and its essence. The happiness derived and the devotion portrayed. (8)

**4. Show the importance of either Ganesh or Durga and his/her worship in Hindu tradition. [20]**

The place Ganesh occupies in Hinduism (2)

**Ganesh** as the son of Shiva - His personality - picture and features associated with Him - symbolism. (9)

- His worship - importance of His worship e.g. First worship of every Hindu goes to Him. Results of His worship. Ganesh Chaturthi and its place in Hinduism. (9)
- Place of Female worship and **Durga** in Hinduism. (2)
- Her personality - meaning of Durga - manifestation of Durga - legends/stories/myths associated with Her. (9)
- When Durga is worshipped. Results of her worship - popularity of Durga Puja. (9)
5. (a) **What do you understand by Avatara?**  
 (b) **Explain the purpose of Rama or Buddha Avatara.** [20]
- (a) Candidates are expected to write about the importance of the Trinity and place of Vishnu indicating the purpose of His coming on earth. (2)
- Meaning of Avatara and importance in Hinduism. (3)  
 Mention of the 10 Avataras may be given. (3)  
 Partial and Full Avataras. (3)
- (b) The personality of Lord **Rama** - the Nature of Ravana's dominance and how Rama helped Vishwamitra. (3)  
 How he eliminated evils on earth. (3)
- His association with different beings during His exile - His rule. Rama as ideal son, brother, king, husband. Rama as upholder of Dharma. (9)
- OR**
- The birth of **Buddha** and conditions during his age. The four sights and his search for truth. (4)
- Buddha's personality - how He gave a new direction to life. Elimination of animal sacrifice, caste-barriers etc. Purification of Hinduism by Him. Established a new social order in life. (8)
6. **Explain the iconographic features of Shiva.**  
**OR**  
**Describe the Maha Shivaratri festival and give its importance.** [20]
- Place of **Shiva** in Hindu Trinity - His different names. His person - three eyes - matted tresses - moon - serpents etc. The symbolism associated with Him. (8)
- A detailed exposé must be given to discuss the essence of each of the features associated with Him. (8)
- How these are important to unveil His personality in His worship. (4)
- OR**
- Various functions of God in Hindu Pantheon, Shiva's place therein. (1)
- His personality - special attributes. (2)
- Description of Maha Shivaratri
- Preparation
  - Fasts
  - Pilgrimage
  - Use of 'Canwar'
  - The procession
  - Night vigil
- (10)

Importance of all these and cultural as well as spiritual significance. (3)

Devotees and their personality. (2)

How Maha Shivaratri helps to become better in the future. (2)

**7. Explain the term Varna. Describe the duties of any two Varnas. [20]**

Meaning of Varna - 'Vri' to choose - Importance of Varna Dharma in Hindu Ethics. The four Varnas. Origin of Varna may be given. Personified society. (4)

A detailed description of each Varna and the importance must be given. (2 x 8)

**Brahmana**

His personality. His duties and characteristics.

How he helps development in the society. His relationship with others. Brahman as adviser, teacher etc. His life of service.

**Kshatriya**

His personality - His place in the Personified society. His main duties and how he is ready to serve. His importance. What can happen if he neglects his responsibilities.

**Vaishya**

His personality. Place in the Varna Dharma. The main responsibilities of the Vaishya in the social and economic growth of the society. His activities must be regulated by Dharma.

**Sudra**

The personality of Sudra. His is a life of service and dedication to the three other members of the society.

Manual work and place he occupies. Importance of this group in the Hindu Social Structure.

**8. (a) What do you understand by 'Ashrama' in traditional Hinduism?  
(b) How can Brahmacharya Ashrama help to develop our personality? [20]**

(a) Meaning of Ashrama Dharma - to exert, to struggle. Place of Ashrama in our life - How each Ashrama is important - 4 Ashramas and place in Hinduism. (8)

(b) Meaning of Brahmacharya and its place in the Ashrama Dharma. Activities in the Brahmacharya Ashrama and their importance. Age admitted to the Gurukula and life there - disciplines in the Gurukula. (8)

Brahmacharaya and development of personality. How Brahmacharya Ashrama is important for the other ashramas. (4)

9. ***In traditional Hinduism, how important is Vivaha Samskara?*** [20]
- Meaning of Samskara to be given to illustrate the significance of Vivaha Samskara in our life.  
Objectives of Samskara. (2)
- Importance of Marriage**
- (a) Household sacrifices  
(b) Progeny  
(c) Satisfaction of biological urges. (3)
- Brief description of Vivaha. (2)
- A detailed study of the features associated with Vivaha e.g. welcome to the bridegroom etc.  
- the importance of the seven steps. (13)
10. ***Describe how Rammohan Roy was successful in abolishing the practice of 'Sati'.*** [20]
- Conditions of women in Modern Age - place of Rammohan in Modern Hinduism. (3)
- Why/How he attempted to eliminate 'Sati' from the social scene. (4)
- Persecution by orthodox Hindu priests and others. How he was helped by British Government, contribution of Lord Bentick in this regard. (8)
- Act passed and effect on society. (3)
- 'The abolishing of Sati' his greatest contribution. Place of women after this. (2)
11. ***Give a brief account of social and religious reforms brought by Swami Dayananda Saraswati.*** [20]
- Conditions in the social and religious scenes e.g. Caste barriers - untouchability, purdah, child - marriage, idol worship - pilgrimage, animal sacrifice, Puranika Hinduism etc. (5)
- 'Back to the Vedas'  
'Opening of Arya Samaj - Vedic Schools - Kanya Maha Vidyalayas'  
'India for Indians'  
'Yajna and its importance'  
'Monotheism'  
'No place for Puranika Hinduism and features associated with it'  
'Shuddhi'  
'Sangathan' (12)
- How these changes brought a new consciousness among Hindus.  
His place in Hinduism. (3)
12. ***Write briefly on:***
- (a) ***Any religious experience of Shri Ramakrishna Paramhansa***  
(b) ***Mahatma Gandhi's concept of non-violence*** [20]
- (a) Ramakrishna's personality since childhood, interest in religion etc.  
His quest for the visions of Mother Kali - meditating the whole day - his faith, sincerity, etc. in religion.  
Sadhana for Hanuman - praying Him, imploring Him, Hatha Yoga etc.  
His visions of Prophet or Christ.  
Use of Vaisnava modes of worship.  
Place of the Guru in his life.

What do the religious experiences of Ramakrishna convey to us? (10)

- (b) Place of M K Gandhi in Hinduism.  
Meaning of Non-violence and its place in Hinduism.  
Non-violence and its application in Gandhi's life and how this is extended to everybody  
Non-violence - justice, equality, better understanding in life, peace, stability etc.  
Non-violence and relationship with Truth, Satyagraha and liberation of India.  
Greatest contribution of M K Ghandi. (10)