

Edexcel GCE

Religious Studies

Advanced Subsidiary

Unit 1: Religious Studies – Foundations

Monday 13 May 2013 – Morning

Time: 1 hour 45 minutes

Paper Reference

6RS01/01

You must have:

Answer Book (enclosed)

Instructions

- Answer **three** questions. For each question you may only answer **either** part a or part b but **not** both.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided in the Answer Book.
– *there may be more space than you need.*
- Do not return this question paper with the Answer Book.

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 90.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*
- Quality of written communication will be taken into account in the marking of all your responses
– *you should take particular care with your spelling, punctuation and grammar, as well as the clarity of expression, on these questions.*

Advice

- The assessment of your answers will be based on your knowledge and understanding of the topic in question (assessed in part (i) of each question for 70% of the marks) and your evaluative skills (assessed in part (ii) of each question for 30% of the marks).

Turn over ►

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PEARSON

Philosophy

EITHER

- 1 (a) (i) Examine the key strengths of the design argument for the existence of God. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the claim that this argument totally fails to prove the existence of God. (9)

(Total for Question 1(a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the fundamental concepts of the cosmological argument for the existence of God. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that this is a compelling argument for the existence of God. (9)

(Total for Question 1(b) = 30 marks)

EITHER

- 2 (a) (i) Examine the problem of suffering and the key characteristics of one or more solutions. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the claim that there is a successful solution to the problem of suffering. (9)

(Total for Question 2(a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the strengths and weaknesses of belief in miracles. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that it is probably a mistake to believe in miracles. (9)

(Total for Question 2(b) = 30 marks)

Ethics

EITHER

- 3 (a) (i) Outline the important features of Utilitarianism. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that the weaknesses of Utilitarianism outweigh its strengths. (9)

(Total for Question 3(a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the strengths and weaknesses of Situation Ethics. (21)
- (ii) To what extent can Situation Ethics be accurately described as a religious ethical theory? (9)

(Total for Question 3(b) = 30 marks)

EITHER

- 4 (a) (i) 'A nation or state must be able to make the decision to go to war on some occasions'. Examine this claim with reference to the Just War Theory. (21)
- (ii) To what extent could religious beliefs be used to justify this view? (9)

(Total for Question 4(a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) Outline the key problems raised by **two** dilemmas in sexual ethics. (21)
- (ii) 'People must be free to make their own decisions about how they respond to sexual ethics'. Comment on this claim. (9)

(Total for Question 4(b) = 30 marks)

Buddhism

EITHER

5 (a) (i) Examine the religious and social context prior to the time of the Buddha. (21)

(ii) Comment on the Buddha's distinctive reaction to these contexts. (9)

(Total for Question 5(a) = 30 marks)

OR

(b) (i) Examine the importance of the enlightenment in the life of Gautama. (21)

(ii) Comment on the significance of Gautama's enlightenment for Buddhists. (9)

(Total for Question 5(b) = 30 marks)

EITHER

6 (a) (i) Examine the key features of the three refuges. (21)

(ii) Comment on the view that these refuges represent the essence of Buddhism. (9)

(Total for Question 6(a) = 30 marks)

OR

(b) (i) Examine the main purposes of Buddhist meditation. (21)

(ii) Comment on the challenges posed to Buddhists by meditation. (9)

(Total for Question 6(b) = 30 marks)

Christianity

EITHER

- 7 (a) (i) Examine the differing teachings during the Reformation period about the Person and work of Jesus. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of these teachings for Christians. (9)

(Total for Question 7(a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the Church's teachings about the life and work of Jesus in one historical, religious and social context. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of these teachings for Christians. (9)

(Total for Question 7(b) = 30 marks)

EITHER

- 8 (a) (i) Examine Christian beliefs about God as creator. (21)
- (ii) How far is it reasonable to accept these beliefs in the modern world? (9)

(Total for Question 8(a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) Examine different teachings on baptism in **two** Christian Churches. (21)
- (ii) Comment on how the different practices demonstrate the different teachings of these two Churches. (9)

(Total for Question 8(b) = 30 marks)

Hinduism

EITHER

- 9 (a) (i) Examine the distinctive features of the origins of Hinduism. You may include the Indus Valley culture. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the claim that these origins are of limited importance for the development of Hinduism. (9)

(Total for Question 9(a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) Examine **three** fundamental beliefs associated with the Vedic period. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of some Vedic practices for the development of Hinduism. (9)

(Total for Question 9(b) = 30 marks)

EITHER

- 10 (a) (i) Examine the key features of yoga. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that one of these selected features is more important than the others. (9)

(Total for Question 10(a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the important features of belief and practice associated with Rama and Siva. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that devotion to Rama and Siva typifies Hindu worship. (9)

(Total for Question 10(b) = 30 marks)

Islam

EITHER

11 (a) (i) Examine the religious features prior to the time of Muhammad. (21)

(ii) Comment on the possible success of Muhammad in overcoming these religious features. (9)

(Total for Question 11(a) = 30 marks)

OR

(b) (i) Examine the key features of Muhammad as leader and statesman in Madinah. (21)

(ii) Comment on the view that the decisive factor in the success of Muhammad as statesman was based on religious beliefs. (9)

(Total for Question 11(b) = 30 marks)

EITHER

12 (a) (i) Examine the ways in which the five pillars underpin the umma. (21)

(ii) Comment on the view that the umma is a hope rather than a fact of Islam. (9)

(Total for Question 12(a) = 30 marks)

OR

(b) (i) Examine **three** of the following:

- resurrection
- day of judgement
- paradise
- hell.

(21)

(ii) Comment on the implications for moral behaviour of the **three** beliefs selected in (i). (9)

(Total for Question 12(b) = 30 marks)

Judaism

EITHER

- 13** (a) (i) Examine the key teachings of Judah Halevi. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the extent to which Judah Halevi helped the Jews meet the challenges of Christianity and Islam. (9)

(Total for Question 13(a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the key theological emphases of Maimonides. (21)
- (ii) Comment on possible reasons for the undoubted influence of these emphases within Judaism. (9)

(Total for Question 13(b) = 30 marks)

EITHER

- 14** (a) (i) Examine the main differences between Orthodox and Reform Judaism. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the claim that there are significant similarities between Orthodox and Reform Judaism. (9)

(Total for Question 14(a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) Examine Conservative and Liberal Judaism regarding tradition and adaptation. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that one of these movements is of greater significance than the other for modern Judaism. (9)

(Total for Question 14(b) = 30 marks)

Sikhism

EITHER

- 15** (a) (i) Give an account of the religious **or** historical context of the life of Guru Gobind Singh. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that Guru Gobind Singh is the most important Guru. (9)

(Total for Question 15(a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) Give an account of the role and importance of the Guru Granth Sahib. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that its authority makes it the only Guru a Sikh needs today. (9)

(Total for Question 15(b) = 30 marks)

EITHER

- 16** (a) (i) Examine the different forms of devotional worship. (21)
- (ii) To what extent is worship in the congregation more important than private devotion? (9)

(Total for Question 16(a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) Examine the main features of the discipline of the Khalsa. (21)
- (ii) To what extent is the Khalsa the basis of the Sikh identity? (9)

(Total for Question 16(b) = 30 marks)

New Testament

EITHER

- 17 (a) (i) Examine **either** the contribution made by Jesus' teaching on wealth and poverty (Luke's Gospel) **or** examine the meaning of **two** of the 'I am' sayings (Fourth Gospel). (21)
- (ii) 'These teachings/sayings are vital for understanding the Gospel'. Comment on this claim. (9)

(Total for Question 17(a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) What do **either** the healing of the bleeding woman and the raising of Jairus' daughter (Luke's Gospel) **or** the turning of water into wine and the feeding of the five thousand (Fourth Gospel) reveal about the ministry of Jesus? (21)
- (ii) Consider the claim that the miracles of Jesus were always likely to lead to controversy. (9)

(Total for Question 17(b) = 30 marks)

EITHER

- 18 (a) (i) Examine **either** the Gospel's emphasis on prayer and praise (Luke's Gospel) **or** examine the important elements of **two** of Jesus' meetings with women (Fourth Gospel). (21)
- (ii) Why are these emphases **or** meetings important for understanding the ministry of Jesus? (9)

(Total for Question 18(a) = 30 marks)

OR

- (b) (i) What were the significant teachings of Jesus regarding the life of discipleship? (21)
- (ii) To what extent is the Holy Spirit important for Jesus' ministry? (9)

(Total for Question 18(b) = 30 marks)

TOTAL FOR PAPER = 90 MARKS

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