

# Pearson Edexcel GCE

## Religious Studies

Advanced Subsidiary

Unit 1: Religious Studies – Foundations

Thursday 18 May 2017 – 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  
– *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 on these questions with your spelling, punctuation and grammar, as well as the clarity of expression.*

### 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).

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## Philosophy

### EITHER

- 1 (a) (i) 'The design argument starts from a general pattern of order in the universe and concludes that the existence of God is probable.'
- Examine the key ideas in this claim. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that the design argument is difficult to justify. (9)
- 
- (Total for Question 1 (a) = 30 marks)**

### OR

- (b) (i) Examine the view that 'nothing takes place without sufficient reason' and examine how this applies to the cosmological argument. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that the cosmological argument is credible. (9)
- 
- (Total for Question 1 (b) = 30 marks)**

### EITHER

- 2 (a) (i) Examine why suffering may be interpreted as a problem for religious belief and examine **one** solution to this problem. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that the problem of suffering is an unresolved problem for religious belief. (9)
- 
- (Total for Question 2 (a) = 30 marks)**

### OR

- (b) (i) Examine **two** definitions associated with miracles and **two** reasons to believe in miracles. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that belief in miracles leads to belief in a God unworthy of respect. (9)
- 
- (Total for Question 2 (b) = 30 marks)**

## Ethics

### EITHER

- 3 (a) (i) Examine the important concepts of Utilitarianism **or** Situation Ethics. (21)
- (ii) To what extent are these concepts undermined by criticisms? (9)

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

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### OR

- (b) (i) Examine the key arguments in support of the view that morality is independent of religion. (21)
- (ii) To what extent is this view open to challenge? (9)

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

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### EITHER

- 4 (a) (i) Examine the important beliefs associated with pacifism. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that these beliefs are easily undermined. (9)

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

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### OR

- (b) (i) Examine the problems raised for morality by **two** dilemmas in sexual ethics. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that religious beliefs cause confusion in matters of sexual ethics. (9)

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

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## Buddhism

### EITHER

- 5 (a) (i) Examine the key features of the religious context at the time of the Buddha. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the influences of these features on the Buddha up to, and including, his enlightenment. (9)

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

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### OR

- (b) (i) Examine the view that the enlightenment of the Buddha was the turning point in his life. (21)
- (ii) Comment on **two** possible problems for Buddhists associated with the enlightenment of the Buddha. (9)

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

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### EITHER

- 6 (a) (i) Examine **three** essential ideas of the Dharma. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the importance of these ideas for the laity. (9)

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

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### OR

- (b) (i) Examine the importance of calming the mind (samatha) and insight (vipassana) in Buddhist meditation. (21)
- (ii) Comment on **two** possible problems associated with the practice of meditation for Buddhists and potential solutions to these problems. (9)

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

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## Christianity

### EITHER

- 7 (a) (i) Examine different 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)**

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### 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)**

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### EITHER

- 8 (a) (i) Examine Christian beliefs about God as personal and creator. (21)
- (ii) How far are these beliefs still relevant today? (9)

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

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### OR

- (b) (i) Examine the ways in which the Eucharist is practised in **two** different Christian traditions. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the significance of these practices for Christian belief about the nature of the Eucharist. (9)

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

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## Hinduism

### EITHER

- 9 (a) (i) Examine the key features of the Indus Valley culture. (21)
- (ii) Select **two** of these features and comment on their possible influence on the development of Hinduism. (9)

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

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### OR

- (b) (i) Examine key beliefs about the gods in the Vedic period. (21)
- (ii) Comment on any **two** problems for Hindus related to this topic. (9)

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

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### EITHER

- 10 (a) (i) Examine the key beliefs and practices of **two** of the following:
- karma yoga
  - jnana yoga
  - bhakti yoga.
- (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that the similarities between the **two** types of yoga selected in (i) are more important than the differences. (9)

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

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### OR

- (b) (i) Examine the beliefs and practices of devotees of Siva and Sakti. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the reasons why Krishna is so significant for many Hindus. (9)

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

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## Islam

### EITHER

11 (a) (i) Examine the claim that pre-Islamic Arabia had a diversity of religious traditions. (21)

(ii) Comment on the distinctive contributions of Muhammad in the context of this diversity of religious traditions. (9)

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

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### OR

(b) (i) Examine **three** contributions by Muhammad to the development of the ummah in Medina. (21)

(ii) Comment on the significance of theocracy during the period in Medina. (9)

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

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### EITHER

12 (a) (i) Examine the key beliefs about the Day of Judgement and resurrection within the Six beliefs. (21)

(ii) Comment on possible areas of debate related to these ideas in the context of Islam. (9)

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

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### OR

(b) (i) 'There is no god but Allah and Muhammad is his prophet.'  
Examine the importance of the shahada for prayer. (21)

(ii) Comment on the significance of prayer for Muslims. (9)

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

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## Judaism

### EITHER

- 13** (a) (i) Examine the important features of Rabbinic Judaism with special reference to Judah Halevi. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the differences between Judah Halevi and Rashi. (9)

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

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### OR

- (b) (i) Examine the attempts by Maimonides to link human understanding with religious belief through the use of reason. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the difficulties associated with this attempt. (9)

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

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### EITHER

- 14** (a) (i) Examine the tensions between religious traditions and secularism as seen in the emergence of Reform Judaism. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that Reform Judaism may be seen as a betrayal of Judaism. (9)

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

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### OR

- (b) (i) Examine the distinguishing beliefs about God in Orthodox Judaism. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the claim that the preservation of Judaism depends on adapting to the modern world. (9)

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

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## **Sikhism**

### **EITHER**

- 15** (a) (i) Explain the effect of the historical and religious context on the life of Guru Gobind Singh. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the importance of Guru Gobind Singh for the Sikh way of life. (9)

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

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### **OR**

- (b) (i) Examine the compilation, role and status of the Guru Granth Sahib. (21)
- (ii) How far is it true to say that the Guru Granth Sahib is the most important Guru for Sikhs? (9)

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

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### **EITHER**

- 16** (a) (i) Examine the main features of Sikh devotion. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that nam simran is the most important part of devotion. (9)

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

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### **OR**

- (b) (i) Examine the main features of the discipline of the Khalsa. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that the Khalsa is the basis of Sikh identity. (9)

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

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## New Testament

### EITHER

- 17 (a) (i) Examine **either** the contribution of Jesus' teaching concerning riches (Luke's Gospel) **or** the importance of any **two** 'I am' sayings (Fourth Gospel). (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that **either** this teaching **or** the 'I am' sayings are crucial to the Gospel. (9)

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

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### OR

- (b) (i) Examine the important contributions of **either** the calming of the storm and the raising of Jairus' daughter (Luke's Gospel) **or** the healing of the lame man and the healing of the blind man (Fourth Gospel). (21)
- (ii) Discuss the view that the miracles or signs were not the most important feature of Jesus' ministry. (9)

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

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### EITHER

- 18 (a) (i) What can be learned from **either** Jesus' teaching in Luke's Gospel on prayer and praise **or** from his conversations with his mother and with the woman caught in adultery (Fourth Gospel)? (21)
- (ii) To what extent is **either** Jesus' teaching in Luke's Gospel on prayer and praise **or** his conversations with women (Fourth Gospel) important to the whole Gospel? (9)

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

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### OR

- (b) (i) Examine the key teachings in the Gospel regarding the nature of discipleship. (21)
- (ii) Comment on the view that the ministry of John the Baptist was vital to Jesus' own ministry. (9)

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

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**TOTAL FOR PAPER = 90 MARKS**

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# Religious Studies

**Advanced Subsidiary**

**Unit 1: Religious Studies – Foundations**

Thursday 18 May 2017 – Morning

**Time: 1 hour 45 minutes**

Paper Reference

**6RS01/01**

**Answer Book**

Do not return the question paper with the answer book.

Total Marks

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## Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- 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  
– *there may be more space than you need.*
- You should indicate your first question choice on page 2 and answer it on pages 2–9.
- You should indicate your second question choice on page 10 and answer it on pages 10–17.
- You should indicate your third question choice on page 18 and answer it on pages 18–25.

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Indicate your first question choice on this page. You will be asked to indicate your second question choice on page 10.

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross . If you change your mind, put a line through the box  and then indicate your new question with a cross .

- Chosen question number:
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Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross . If you change your mind, put a line through the box  and then indicate your new question with a cross .

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   Question 2             Question 8             Question 14   
   Question 3             Question 9             Question 15   
   Question 4             Question 10             Question 16   
   Question 5             Question 11             Question 17   
   Question 6             Question 12             Question 18

In the box, state whether you are answering part (a) or part (b).

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Indicate your third question choice on this page.

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