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Surname

Other names

**Pearson**  
**Edexcel GCE**

Centre Number

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Candidate Number

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# Religious Studies

**Advanced**

**Unit 4: Implications – Hinduism**

Wednesday 17 June 2015 – Afternoon

**Time: 1 hour 15 minutes**

Paper Reference

**6RS04/1E**

**You do not need any other materials.**

Total Marks

## 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.
- Read the passage carefully.
- Answer **BOTH** part (a) and part (b) of the question.
- Answer the question in the spaces provided  
– *there may be more space than you need.*

## Information

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets  
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on the question you choose.*
- 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.*

## Advice

- The assessment of your answers will be based on your knowledge and understanding of the topic in question (for 60% of the marks) and your evaluative skills (for 40% of the marks).

Turn over ►

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**PEARSON**

## Hinduism

The Bhagavad Gita... appears to be more decisive in its ethical pronouncements and perhaps for that reason has had an extraordinary impact on the modern Hindu-Indian mind. The Gita locates itself in the middle of two opposing traditions: Nivritti (abstinent), the austere path of anti-action... and Pravritti (performative), the doing of social and moral duties. Each had ethical ramifications for its time and their respective codes and rules were in competition and conflict.

While the Gita is recognised for the ingenuity with which it raises a host of ethical issues (e.g., should I kill my own kin for the sake of regaining my rightful sovereignty?), its judgements have not satisfied all and sundry. The deep conflict of traditions is resolved through a synthesis of asceticism and duty in the unique concept of nishkama karma or disinterested action. What this implies is that one does not forsake one's apportioned duties but performs them in complete disregard of their fruits or consequences.

(Source adapted from: Bilimoria, P. 'Indian Ethics' in Singer, P. (ed.)  
*A Companion to Ethics*, Blackwell Publishing Ltd., 2001, Edexcel Anthology)

- 1 (a) Examine the argument and/or interpretation in the passage. (30)
- (b) Do you agree with the idea(s) expressed? Justify your point of view and discuss its implications for understanding religion and human experience. (20)

(Total for Question 1 = 50 marks)

**Start your answer on Page 3.**



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**TOTAL FOR PAPER 1E = 50 MARKS**

