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Other names

Pearson
Edexcel GCSE

Centre Number

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Candidate Number

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Religious Studies

Unit 15: Buddhism

Wednesday 7 June 2017 – Afternoon

Time: 1 hour 30 minutes

Paper Reference

5RS15/01

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.
- Answer **ONE** question from each of the **four** sections.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
– *there may be more space than you need.*

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 84.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*
- Questions labelled with an **asterisk** (*) are ones where the quality of your written communication will be assessed
– *you should take particular care on these questions with your spelling, punctuation and grammar, as well as the clarity of expression.*
- The marks available for spelling, punctuation and grammar are clearly indicated.

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Turn over ►

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SECTION 1 – BELIEFS AND VALUES

You must answer **ONE** question from this section.

YOU WILL BE ASSESSED ON YOUR SPELLING, PUNCTUATION AND GRAMMAR IN THIS SECTION.

EITHER

- 1 (a) What is **anicca**? (2)
- (b) Do you think the Wheel of Existence is important for all Buddhists?
Give **two** reasons for your point of view. (4)
- *(c) Explain why the five khandas are important for Buddhists. (8)
- (d) "Lay people are just as important as monks and nuns in Buddhism."
In your answer you should refer to Buddhism.
- (i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion. (3)
- (ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you. (3)

(Total for spelling, punctuation and grammar = 4 marks)

(Total for Question 1 = 24 marks)

OR

- 2 (a) What is **parinibbana**? (2)
- (b) Do you think the way of wisdom (prajna) should be followed by everyone?
Give **two** reasons for your point of view. (4)
- *(c) Explain why the sangha is important for Buddhists. (8)
- (d) "Following the Tipitaka is essential in today's society."
In your answer you should refer to Buddhism.
- (i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion. (3)
- (ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you. (3)

(Total for spelling, punctuation and grammar = 4 marks)

(Total for Question 2 = 24 marks)

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Chosen question number: **Question 1** **Question 2**

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SECTION 2 – COMMUNITY AND TRADITION

You must answer ONE question from this section.

EITHER

- 3** (a) What is meant by **Mahayana**? (2)
- (b) Do you think Mahayana viharas should be plain and simple?
Give **two** reasons for your point of view. (4)
- * (c) Explain why the dhamma is important for Buddhists. (8)
- (d) “The Buddha learnt nothing from the time he spent as an ascetic.”
In your answer you should refer to Buddhism.
- (i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion. (3)
- (ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you. (3)

(Total for Question 3 = 20 marks)

OR

- 4** (a) What is an **Arahant**? (2)
- (b) Do you think the four sights were the beginning of Buddhism?
Give **two** reasons for your point of view. (4)
- * (c) Explain the distinctive features of Vajrayana Buddhism. (8)
- (d) “The Buddha’s meditation under the bodhi tree sets an example for all people.”
In your answer you should refer to Buddhism.
- (i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion. (3)
- (ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you. (3)

(Total for Question 4 = 20 marks)

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Chosen question number: **Question 3** **Question 4**

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SECTION 3 – WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION

You must answer ONE question from this section.

EITHER

- 5** (a) What is meant by a **mantra**? (2)
- (b) Do you think rupas distract a Buddhist during puja?
Give **two** reasons for your point of view. (4)
- * (c) Explain why dhyana meditation is important for Buddhists. (8)
- (d) "New Year is an important celebration for Buddhists."
In your answer you should refer to Buddhism.
- (i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion. (3)
- (ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you. (3)

(Total for Question 5 = 20 marks)

OR

- 6** (a) What is a **mala**? (2)
- (b) Do you think Wesak should be celebrated by all Buddhists?
Give **two** reasons for your point of view. (4)
- * (c) Explain why mudras are important for many Buddhists. (8)
- (d) "Puja is better when it is performed in the home."
In your answer you should refer to Buddhism.
- (i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion. (3)
- (ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you. (3)

(Total for Question 6 = 20 marks)

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Chosen question number: **Question 5** **Question 6**

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SECTION 4 – LIVING THE BUDDHIST LIFE

You must answer ONE question from this section.

EITHER

- 7** (a) What is meant by **metta**? (2)
- (b) Do you think the five precepts are all equally important?
Give **two** reasons for your point of view. (4)
- * (c) Explain why right livelihood is important for Buddhists. (8)
- (d) "The main aim of any Buddhist organisation is to reduce suffering."
In your answer you should refer to Buddhism.
- (i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion. (3)
- (ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you. (3)

(Total for Question 7 = 20 marks)

OR

- 8** (a) What is meant by **tiratana**? (2)
- (b) Do you think khanti (patience) is important for all people?
Give **two** reasons for your point of view. (4)
- * (c) Explain why karuna (compassion) is important for Buddhists. (8)
- (d) "The vihara is only important for Buddhists."
In your answer you should refer to Buddhism.
- (i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion. (3)
- (ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you. (3)

(Total for Question 8 = 20 marks)

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Chosen question number: **Question 7** **Question 8**

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TOTAL FOR PAPER = 84 MARKS



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