

General Certificate of Education  
January 2003  
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



**RELIGIOUS STUDIES** **RS05**  
**Unit 5 An introduction to Aspects of a Major World Faith**

Tuesday 21 January 2003 Afternoon Session

**In addition to this paper you will require:**  
an 8-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour 15 minutes

**Instructions**

- Use blue or black ink or ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is RS05.
- Choose **one Section** only.  
Section A Buddhism page 2  
Section B Christianity page 3  
Section C Hinduism page 4  
Section D Islam page 5  
Section E Judaism page 6  
Section F Sikhism page 7  
Answer **two** questions: **the first** question **and one other** from your chosen section.

**Information**

- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- Mark allocations are shown in brackets.
- You will be assessed on your ability to use an appropriate form and style of writing, to organise relevant information clearly and coherently, and to use specialist vocabulary, where appropriate. The degree of legibility of your handwriting and the level of accuracy of your spelling, punctuation and grammar will also be taken into account.

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**SECTION A BUDDHISM**

Answer Question 1 **and either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

Each question carries 40 marks.

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**1** Read the passage and answer questions (a) to (d) which follow.

“The example of the Buddha stated in the Dhamma, and the practice of meditation within the Sangha, are the main features of Buddhist life.”

- (a) Describe how Buddhists practise Vipassana meditation. *(10 marks)*
- (b) Explain the distinctive features of Zen meditation. *(10 marks)*
- (c) Explain the purpose of meditation for Buddhists. *(10 marks)*
- (d) Assess the view that meditation is the main feature of Buddhist life. *(10 marks)*

- 2**
- (a) Explain what is meant by the Fourth Holy Truth, as expressed in the eightfold path. *(20 marks)*
  - (b) Explain what is meant by the Third Holy Truth, and assess the claim that following every aspect of the eightfold path is impossible for many Buddhists. *(20 marks)*

- 3**
- (a) Describe the key features of Mahayana Buddhism. *(20 marks)*
  - (b) Explain why some claim that Mahayana Buddhism is a far more compassionate tradition than Theravada Buddhism, and assess how far this claim is true. *(20 marks)*

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**SECTION B CHRISTIANITY**

Answer Question 4 **and either** Question 5 **or** Question 6.

Each question carries 40 marks.

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**4** Read the passage and answer the questions (a) to (d) which follow.

“Casual observers, walking into a service in a Catholic Church, would find it very different from an Orthodox Church. They might, indeed, wonder whether both belonged to the same religion.”

- (a) Outline the main features of worship in an Orthodox Church. *(10 marks)*
- (b) Outline the main features of worship in a Catholic Church. *(10 marks)*
- (c) Explain the reasons for the differences in worship in these two Churches. *(10 marks)*
- (d) Assess how far it is true to say that services of worship in these Churches have little in common. *(10 marks)*

**5** (a) Explain what Christians mean when they describe God as ‘Father, Son and Holy Spirit’. *(20 marks)*

(b) Outline briefly why the Church came to describe Jesus as ‘God and man’, and assess how far the definitions of the Nicene Creed can be said to help an understanding of Jesus’ identity. *(20 marks)*

**6** (a) Describe the service of baptism in a Baptist church. *(20 marks)*

(b) Explain the reasons for this particular form of baptism, and assess the view that the form of baptism is less important than the reason for being baptised. *(20 marks)*

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**SECTION C HINDUISM**

Answer Question 7 **and either** Question 8 **or** Question 9.

Each question carries 40 marks.

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7 Read the passage and answer questions (a) to (d) which follow.

“Hindu temples are the dwelling places of the gods, who are cared for and honoured there. They range from small wayside shrines to magnificent buildings which are works of art, some built over centuries.”

- (a) Describe the main features of worship in Hindu temples. *(10 marks)*
- (b) Explain the meaning of these features. *(10 marks)*
- (c) Why do many Hindus have a shrine to the deities in their home? *(10 marks)*
- (d) Assess the claim that temple worship is central to the Hindu faith. *(10 marks)*

- 8
- (a) Explain the meaning of the concept of Brahman and the importance of the Om symbol for Hindus. *(20 marks)*
  - (b) Explain the relationship between Brahman and atman, and assess the claim that most Hindus relate to personal gods rather than to the concept of Brahman. *(20 marks)*

- 9
- (a) Why did reform movements emerge within Hinduism in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries? *(20 marks)*
  - (b) Give an account of the aims and work of one of these reform movements, and assess how far it was successful in achieving its aims. *(20 marks)*

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**SECTION D ISLAM**

Answer Question 10 **and either** Question 11 **or** Question 12.

Each question carries 40 marks.

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**10** Read the passage and answer questions (a) to (d) which follow.

“Islam is a total way of life. As a Muslim your duty is to accept the will of Allah and act out your faith by upholding the ‘pillars of Islam’, including prayer and fasting. You live your life in preparation for Judgement Day.”

- (a) Explain what is meant by the terms ‘Islam’ and ‘Muslim’. *(10 marks)*
- (b) Explain what is meant by the term ‘pillar’ within Islam. *(10 marks)*
- (c) Explain what Muslims believe about Judgement Day. *(10 marks)*
- (d) “Muslims must live their lives in fear of Judgement Day.”

Assess this view. *(10 marks)*

**11** (a) Examine the religious beliefs which Muhammad encountered in pre-Islamic Arabia. *(20 marks)*

- (b) Explain how Muslims believe Muhammad was chosen as a prophet of God, and assess the truth of the claim that “Islam was a completely new religion”. *(20 marks)*

**12** (a) Explain how the message revealed to Muhammad in Madinah (Medina) was different from the message revealed to Muhammad in Makkah (Mecca). *(20 marks)*

- (b) Explain the importance of the Qur’an for Muslims, and assess the claim that the Qur’an has less relevance to Muslims today than the teaching and example of Muhammad. *(20 marks)*

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**SECTION E JUDAISM**

Answer Question 13 **and either** Question 14 **or** Question 15.

Each question carries 40 marks.

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**13** Read the passage and answer questions (a) to (d) which follow.

“Jews have always believed that they are a special group of people. A large part of that ‘specialness’ has been drawn from the Jewish ideas of Covenant.”

- (a) Outline the Covenants established between God and Abraham, and God and Moses. *(10 marks)*
- (b) Explain what was ‘special’ about these two Covenants. *(10 marks)*
- (c) Explain how ideas about Covenant are expressed in Jewish practice today. *(10 marks)*
- (d) Assess the view that without a belief in the Covenant relationship with God, Judaism would not exist as it is today. *(10 marks)*

**14** (a) Describe how Rosh Hashanah is observed in an Orthodox Jewish community. *(20 marks)*

(b) Explain why most Jews will observe Rosh Hashanah, and assess how far Rosh Hashanah helps Jews to understand their relationship with God. *(20 marks)*

**15** (a) Outline the main differences between Orthodox and Reform Jewish practice today. *(20 marks)*

(b) Examine the theological differences between Orthodox and Reform Jews today, and discuss how far Reform Judaism may be said to be better suited to the needs of 21<sup>st</sup> century Jews. *(20 marks)*

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**SECTION F SIKHISM**

Answer Question 16 **and either** Question 17 **or** Question 18.

Each question carries 40 marks.

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**16** Read the passage and answer questions (a) to (d) which follow.

“While Guru Arjan supervised the writing of the Adi Granth, it was Guru Gobind Singh who founded the Khalsa. At the festival of Vaisakhi in 1699 Sikhs gathered at Anandpur to hear Guru Gobind Singh speak. Guru Gobind Singh challenged them, “Who will give their head to the Guru?”. One by one, five Sikhs came forward and offered their heads to the Guru. Guru Gobind Singh said that they would be known as the panj piare (five beloved ones), and become the first five members of the Khalsa.”

- (a) Examine the nature of the commitment to which Guru Gobind Singh was challenging the people. *(10 marks)*
- (b) Explain how Sikhs today show their commitment to God in their worship in the home. *(10 marks)*
- (c) Describe the contribution of Guru Arjan to Sikhism. *(10 marks)*
- (d) “If Guru Arjan had not supervised the writing of the Adi Granth there would have been no Sikhs willing to give their heads to the Guru in 1699.”

Assess this claim. *(10 marks)*

**17** (a) How did Guru Nanak’s life and teaching challenge the religious and social conditions of his day? *(20 marks)*

(b) “The other Gurus added little that was new to the teaching of Guru Nanak.”

Explain this statement, and assess how far it is true. *(20 marks)*

**18** (a) Explain the ways in which the gurdwara is the “Gateway to the Guru”. *(20 marks)*

(b) Examine the reasons why the langar is called the ‘laboratory of sewa’, and assess the extent to which Sikh belief in equality of humanity is shown in the langar today. *(20 marks)*

**END OF QUESTIONS**