

General Certificate of Education  
January 2005  
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



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

Monday 17 January 2005 Morning Session

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

Time allowed: 1 hour

**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 60.
- 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.

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1 Read the passage and answer questions (a) and (b) which follow.

“In India, at the time of the Buddha, religious matters were much debated. Old certainties were met by new questions. New religious movements reacted against old ways or developed new ways of thinking about, and practising, religion. Some people, such as the Buddha, chose to take a completely different path and follow the middle way.”

(a) Describe the religious factors leading to the emergence of Buddhism in India. *(10 marks)*

(b) Outline the meaning of the Fourth Holy Truth (the middle way). *(10 marks)*

2 (a) Explain the meaning of the three refuges. *(15 marks)*

(b) Outline the relationship between the lay and monastic communities in Theravada Buddhism, and assess the claim that monastic Buddhism is superior to the lay form of Buddhism. *(25 marks)*

3 (a) Describe how meditation is practised in Zen Buddhism. *(15 marks)*

(b) Outline **one** other form of Buddhist meditation, and assess the claim that meditation is the most important act for a Buddhist to perform. *(25 marks)*

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**SECTION B CHRISTIANITY**

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

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4 Read the passage and answer questions (a) and (b) which follow.

“Although we can know something about the organisation and mission of the Christian Church in the 1<sup>st</sup> century, it is difficult to get a clear picture of the character of the Church because of the fragmentary nature of the evidence.”

(a) Outline what may be known of the organisation of the Church of the 1<sup>st</sup> century. *(10 marks)*

(b) Outline what may be known of the mission of the Church in the 1<sup>st</sup> century. *(10 marks)*

5 (a) Outline the main features of worship in an Orthodox church and in a Protestant church. *(15 marks)*

(b) “The worship in an Orthodox church focuses on mystery; that in a Protestant church focuses on understanding.”

Explain the meaning of this claim, and assess how far it is true. *(25 marks)*

6 (a) Explain what the Nicene Creed means by describing God in terms of the three persons of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. *(15 marks)*

(b) Explain how Christians express this three-fold nature in worship today, and assess how far the language of three persons is helpful to Christians in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. *(25 marks)*

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**SECTION C HINDUISM**

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

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

“India is sometimes called the land of temples as they are found everywhere; for example, in places associated with the appearances of the gods, or where special miracles have taken place. At the same time every Hindu home is a temple and a place of worship.”

(a) Describe the main features of temple worship in Hinduism. *(10 marks)*

(b) Explain why Hindus worship both in the temple and in the home. *(10 marks)*

8 (a) Examine the Hindu concept of god as it is expressed in the Om symbol and in the trimurti of Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva. *(15 marks)*

(b) “In Hinduism, the only way to obtain union with God is through realisation of the nature of the self, (atman) rather than in the worship of personal deities.”

Explain the nature of the self (atman) in Hinduism, and assess this view. *(25 marks)*

9 (a) Examine the social and religious aspects of the Indus Valley Civilisation. *(15 marks)*

(b) Outline those aspects of Hinduism which the modern reform movements attempted to change, and assess the view that there is no common core of belief or practice in Hinduism. *(25 marks)*

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**SECTION D ISLAM**

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

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

“For Muslims the Shahadah is a declaration of their faith. ‘There is no God but God and Muhammad is the prophet of God.’ The Qur’an reveals the message of God, and the Sunnah and the Hadith contain the example and the teachings of the prophet Muhammad.”

(a) Explain what is meant by “There is no God but God”. *(10 marks)*

(b) Explain why it is important for Muslims to follow the example of the prophet Muhammad. *(10 marks)*

**11** (a) Explain what is meant by jahiliyya in the context of pre-Islamic society. *(15 marks)*

(b) Explain why the people of Makkah (Mecca) challenged Muhammad, and assess the claim that Muhammad faced the same challenges in Madinah (Medina) as he did in Makkah (Mecca). *(25 marks)*

**12** (a) Explain the importance of belief in judgement in Islam. *(15 marks)*

(b) Explain what Muslims see as the benefits of fasting, and assess the claim that it is only fasting which keeps one on the straight path as a Muslim. *(25 marks)*

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**SECTION E JUDAISM**

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

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

“Jews believe that they have a special relationship with God. This is set down in the various covenants found in the Jewish scriptures. Many think that the covenant relationship with God is so important that Jews should be reminded about this in all that they do. For this reason, they see reminders in a variety of actions and traditions practised by Jews.”

(a) Outline Jewish teaching about the nature of God. *(10 marks)*

(b) Explain how the idea of covenant is expressed in the Jewish scriptures. *(10 marks)*

**14** (a) Explain how and why Orthodox Jews reacted to the Jewish reform movements which emerged in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. *(15 marks)*

(b) Outline the unique features of Reform Judaism as practised today, and assess the view that it is only Reform Judaism which has allowed Judaism to survive into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. *(25 marks)*

**15** (a) Outline the main religious practices carried out in an Orthodox Jewish home today. *(15 marks)*

(b) Explain how Shabbat is observed in an Orthodox synagogue, and assess whether the home or the synagogue is the most important place for the Jew today. *(25 marks)*

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**SECTION F SIKHISM**

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

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

“Many Sikhs had gathered together for the festival of Vaisakhi in 1699. Suddenly Guru Gobind Singh challenged those present to ‘give their heads to the Guru’. Five Sikhs volunteered to do so. Guru Gobind Singh called them the panj piare, or beloved ones, and said that they would be the first five members of the Khalsa.”

- (a) Explain why Guru Gobind Singh started the Khalsa in 1699. *(10 marks)*
- (b) Explain the importance of the Khalsa for Sikhs today. *(10 marks)*

**17** (a) “The establishment of the langar was a response to the religious, political and social climate of 15<sup>th</sup> century Punjab.”

Explain why the langar was established. *(15 marks)*

- (b) Examine the belief and practice of the langar today, and assess the claim that the langar has lost its original meaning and purpose. *(25 marks)*

**18** (a) Examine the role of the Guru Granth Sahib in the worship service (diwan) in the gurdwara.

*(15 marks)*

- (b) Explain the purpose of the gurdwara, and assess the view that the gurdwara is essential in Sikh life today. *(25 marks)*

**END OF QUESTIONS**