

General Certificate of Education
January 2006
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



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

Tuesday 17 January 2006 9.00 am to 10.00 am

For this paper you must have:

- 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.
Answer **the first** question **and one other** from your chosen section.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 60.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers. All questions should be answered in continuous prose. Quality of Written Communication will be assessed in all answers.

SECTION A BUDDHISM

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

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

‘Meditation is perhaps the most obvious identifying feature of Buddhism. It holds great importance for the individual Buddhist and is perhaps the most important aspect of the Buddhist religion. There are many different types of meditation but Samatha meditation is very popular.’

(a) Outline the ways in which Samatha meditation is practised. *(10 marks)*

(b) Explain the purposes of meditation in Buddhism. *(10 marks)*

2 (a) Explain the historical and social factors that led to the emergence of Buddhism in India at the time of the Buddha. *(15 marks)*

(b) Outline the religious factors that led to the emergence of Buddhism in India at the time of the Buddha, and assess the view that Buddhism was a reaction against the religious ideas of the time. *(25 marks)*

3 (a) Explain what Buddhism teaches about the second and third Holy Truths. *(15 marks)*

(b) Outline the teachings found in the fourth Holy Truth, and assess the claim that the way of the Buddha offers a practical solution to suffering rather than relying on the faith of believers. *(25 marks)*

SECTION B CHRISTIANITY

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

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

‘For Roman Catholics, the baptism of a baby is an important event. It is an event which is of significance for the whole life of that child, and is believed to have enormous effects for the child throughout his or her life.’

- (a) Outline the ways in which baptism is administered in a Roman Catholic church. *(10 marks)*
- (b) Explain what the Roman Catholic Church believes about the significance of baptism. *(10 marks)*

- 5 (a) Explain Christian beliefs about the nature of God the Son. *(15 marks)*
- (b) Outline the ways in which beliefs about Jesus are expressed in Christian worship, and assess the claim that, for Christians, Jesus is the most important person of the Trinity. *(25 marks)*

- 6 (a) Describe what may be known of the organisation of the Christian Church in the 1st century. *(15 marks)*
- (b) Outline the nature of the sense of mission in the Christian Church in the 1st century, and assess the claim that this sense of mission was the most important aspect of the character of the church in the 1st century. *(25 marks)*

Turn over for Section C

SECTION C HINDUISM

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

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

‘In India around 2 700 BCE there emerged a great civilisation, popularly referred to as the Indus Valley civilisation. Without written records, our knowledge of this civilisation is very limited, but we may be sure that it had certain features which are found in Hinduism today.’

(a) Describe the religious features of the Indus Valley civilisation. *(10 marks)*

(b) Outline those features of the Indus Valley civilisation which are found in Hinduism today. *(10 marks)*

8 (a) Examine the Hindu concept of God as Brahman. *(15 marks)*

(b) Explain what is meant by the Hindu Trimurti, and assess the view that without personal gods Hindus can never fully know God. *(25 marks)*

9 (a) Outline the roles of temple priests, sannyasins and gurus within Hinduism. *(15 marks)*

(b) Explain the purpose of the ritual of puja in Hinduism, and assess the view that rituals performed by holy men are essential for all Hindus. *(25 marks)*

SECTION D ISLAM

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

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

‘The Qur’an is more than a book, it is a source of inspiration for Muslims. It is so important to Muslims that many read parts of it every day. It is the focal point of Islam and the main source of guidance for Muslims today.’

- (a) Explain the ways in which Muslims use the Qur’an as an aid to worship. *(10 marks)*
- (b) Explain how the use of the Qur’an in daily life shows its special status in Islam. *(10 marks)*

- 11** (a) Explain the main features of the message preached by Muhammad to the people of Makkah (Mecca) before the hijra. *(15 marks)*
- (b) Explain how the people of Makkah (Mecca) opposed Muhammad before the hijra, and assess the claim that Muhammad challenged their way of life rather than their religious beliefs and practices. *(25 marks)*

- 12** (a) Explain how prayer in Islam is intended to bring Muslims closer to God. *(15 marks)*
- (b) Outline Islamic teaching on reward and punishment, and assess the claim that this teaching has little impact on the life of Muslims today. *(25 marks)*

Turn over for the Section E

SECTION E JUDAISM

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

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

‘Sometimes people speak about God working in a mysterious way, but within Judaism there is a clear belief that God can be seen at work through history as he achieves his purpose for humanity and, in particular, for his chosen people.’

(a) Explain what Jews believe when they talk about God working through history. *(10 marks)*

(b) Explain what Jews believe about their special relationship with God. *(10 marks)*

14 (a) Explain the ways in which some important Jewish practices are founded upon the covenants established between God and Abraham, and God and Moses. *(15 marks)*

(b) Outline the reasons for the emergence of Jewish reform movements in the 19th century, and assess how far these movements maintained the practices founded upon the covenants with Abraham and Moses. *(25 marks)*

15 (a) Explain how Shabbat is observed in a Jewish home. *(15 marks)*

(b) Outline other religious practices in a Jewish home, and assess how important the Jewish home is for 21st century Jews. *(25 marks)*

SECTION F SIKHISM

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

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

‘When I visited my Sikh friend’s house, I saw pictures of the Sikh Gurus, and a small book of daily prayer wrapped in a piece of cloth. They did not have a copy of the Guru Granth Sahib as they did not have a spare room where it could be installed.’

(a) Describe the practice of Sikh worship in the home. *(10 marks)*

(b) Explain how respect is shown to the Guru Granth Sahib in the home. *(10 marks)*

17 (a) Explain the contribution of Guru Har Gobind to Sikhism. *(15 marks)*

(b) (i) Outline the contribution of Guru Gobind Singh to Sikhism.

(ii) Assess the claim that the change of Sikhism from a spiritual path to a military path was started by Guru Har Gobind and completed by Guru Gobind Singh. *(25 marks)*

18 (a) Examine the concepts of God in Sikhism. *(15 marks)*

(b) Explain why Sikhs believe the Guru Granth Sahib is the living Guru, and assess the claim that it is only by the reading of the Guru Granth Sahib that Sikhs receive grace from God. *(25 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page