

General Certificate of Education
January 2007
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



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

Wednesday 17 January 2007 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 will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise information clearly and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

SECTION A BUDDHISM

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

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

‘The Four Holy Truths of Buddhism were discovered by the Buddha and were shared with the world. Their importance for Buddhists is reflected in the fact that they are central to every variety or form of the religion.’

(a) Explain the meaning of the first Holy Truth (dukkha). *(10 marks)*

(b) Explain what Buddhism teaches in the fourth Holy Truth (magga). *(10 marks)*

2 (a) Explain the importance of the Buddha and the Dhamma for Buddhists. *(15 marks)*

(b) Outline the role of the Sangha in Buddhism, and assess the claim that one can practise Buddhism without being part of the Sangha. *(25 marks)*

3 (a) Explain the nature and purpose of meditation in Zen Buddhism. *(15 marks)*

(b) Outline **one other** form of Buddhist meditation, and assess the claim that meditation is more for calming the mind than for leading to enlightenment. *(25 marks)*

SECTION B CHRISTIANITY

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

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

‘Christians hold differing views about the rite of baptism. For some, it is important that babies should be baptised as soon as possible after birth; others think that baptism should only be for believers.’

- (a) Explain the religious reasons why some Christians baptise babies. *(10 marks)*
- (b) Explain the religious reasons why some Christians baptise only believers. *(10 marks)*

5 (a) Explain what Christians mean when they say that Jesus was the ‘Son of God’. *(15 marks)*

- (b) Outline Christian beliefs about the Holy Spirit, and assess the claim that, for most Christians, Jesus is more important than the Holy Spirit. *(25 marks)*

6 (a) Outline the meaning of the bread and wine in the Christian eucharist, and explain the ways in which they are used in the various forms of the Christian eucharist. *(15 marks)*

- (b) (i) Outline the significance of water in Christian baptism.
- (ii) ‘The eucharist and baptism can be meaningful for people present even if they do not grasp the full significance of the bread, wine and water.’

Assess this claim. *(25 marks)*

Turn over for SECTION C

SECTION C HINDUISM

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

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

‘The presence of European powers in India in the 19th century led to several reform movements that have sometimes been called the Hindu Renaissance. Two significant movements were the Brahmo Samaj and the Arya Samaj. These shared some common aims but developed very different responses to the European influences and had unique visions for the reform of Hinduism.’

(a) Outline the aims of both the Brahmo Samaj and the Arya Samaj. *(10 marks)*

(b) Outline the achievements of each of these reform movements. *(10 marks)*

8 (a) Explain the nature and role of avatars, with particular reference to Krishna and Rama. *(15 marks)*

(b) Explain the meaning of the Om symbol, and assess the view that the Om symbol is the perfect expression of the Hindu concept of God. *(25 marks)*

9 (a) Explain the purpose and describe the main features of temple worship in Hinduism. *(15 marks)*

(b) Examine the purpose of puja in the home, and assess the view that worship in the home is more important to Hindus than worship in the temple. *(25 marks)*

SECTION D ISLAM

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

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

‘Both the Qur’an and the practice of prayer are important in the daily life of Muslims. Use of the Qur’an and the practice of prayer help to support faith and keep Muslims on the straight path.’

- (a) Explain how Muslims may use the Qur’an in daily life. *(10 marks)*
- (b) Explain how prayer may be helpful to Muslims in daily life. *(10 marks)*

11 (a) Examine the variety of religious beliefs and practices found in the pre-Islamic context (jahiliyya). *(15 marks)*

- (b) Outline the responses of the people of Makkah (Mecca) to the teaching of Muhammad in the period 612-622, and assess the claim that Muhammad’s role in Makkah (Mecca) was simply to warn the people against immorality. *(25 marks)*

12 (a) Explain what Islam teaches about prophets of God. *(15 marks)*

- (b) Explain the concept of ‘Muslim’, and assess the claim that, for Muslims, the best way to show commitment to Islam is to follow the example of Muhammad. *(25 marks)*

Turn over for SECTION E

SECTION E JUDAISM

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

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

‘High Holy Days, such as Rosh Hashanah, are particularly important for Jews. They are occasions when beliefs and theological concepts are expressed through ritual and practice, both in the home and in the synagogue.’

- (a) Outline how Jews observe Rosh Hashanah both in the home and in the synagogue. *(10 marks)*
- (b) Explain the significance of Rosh Hashanah for Jews today. *(10 marks)*

14 (a) Explain the reasons why Jewish reform movements emerged in the 19th century. *(15 marks)*

- (b) Explain the features which make Reform Judaism distinctive today, and assess the claim that “the Reform movement has destroyed true Judaism”. *(25 marks)*

15 (a) Examine the concept of covenant in Judaism. *(15 marks)*

- (b) Examine the role of kashrut in keeping a Jewish home, and assess the claim that keeping kashrut is essential to keeping covenant. *(25 marks)*

SECTION F SIKHISM

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

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

The Mool (Mul) Mantra states:

“One God,
True Name,
Creator,
Without fear,
Without hate,
Eternal,
Without birth,
Self revealed,
By the Guru’s grace.”

- (a) Explain the concept of God found in the Mool (Mul) Mantra. *(10 marks)*
- (b) Explain the significance of the Mool (Mul) Mantra for Sikhs. *(10 marks)*
- 17** (a) Examine the historical origins of the langar. *(15 marks)*
- (b) Briefly examine the concept of sewa, and assess the view that the practice of langar is the best form of sewa today. *(25 marks)*
- 18** (a) Examine the contribution of Guru Arjan to Sikhism. *(15 marks)*
- (b) (i) Outline the contribution of Guru Gobind Singh to Sikhism.
- (ii) Assess the claim that ‘the Guru Granth Sahib is far more important to Sikhs today than the Khalsa’. *(25 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page