



# Victorian Certificate of Education

## 2007

SUPERVISOR TO ATTACH PROCESSING LABEL HERE

### STUDENT NUMBER

Letter

Figures

Words


# RELIGION AND SOCIETY

## Written examination

Tuesday 20 November 2007

Reading time: 11.45 am to 12.00 noon (15 minutes)

Writing time: 12.00 noon to 2.00 pm (2 hours)

## QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOK

### Structure of book

<i>Section</i>	<i>Number of questions</i>	<i>Number of questions to be answered</i>	<i>Number of marks</i>
A	4	4	20
B	2	2	40
C	3	1	40
			Total 100

- Students are permitted to bring into the examination room: pens, pencils, highlighters, erasers, sharpeners and rulers.
- Students are NOT permitted to bring into the examination room: blank sheets of paper and/or white out liquid/tape.
- No calculator is allowed in this examination.

#### Materials supplied

- Question and answer book of 17 pages, including **Assessment criteria** on page 17.
- Additional space is available at the end of the book if you need extra paper to complete an answer.

#### Instructions

- Write your **student number** in the space provided above on this page.
- All written responses must be in English.

**Students are NOT permitted to bring mobile phones and/or any other unauthorised electronic devices into the examination room.**

**SECTION A – Short answer questions**

**Instructions for Section A**  
Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.

**Question 1**

What makes a belief a core belief within a religious tradition?

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3 marks

**Question 2**

Why do contemporary social or moral challenges pose a problem for religious traditions?

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4 marks

**Question 3**

What does it mean to say that a religious belief is either reaffirmed and/or reformulated?

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5 marks

**Question 4**

In the course of their historical development, religious traditions face a range of internal and external challenges.

From one or more religious tradition(s) you have studied, select one **internal** and one **external** challenge.

**a. i.** Identify one **internal** challenge for a religious tradition.

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**ii.** Briefly state what was specifically challenged within this religious tradition.

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1 + 3 = 4 marks

**b. i.** Identify one **external** challenge for a religious tradition.

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**ii.** Briefly state what was specifically challenged within this religious tradition.

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1 + 3 = 4 marks

Total 20 marks

**SECTION B – Extended response questions**

**Instructions for Section B**

Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.

**Question 1**

Complete the following to illustrate the relationship between the core religious beliefs of a religious tradition and a significant life experience(s) of an individual or group.

- a. i. Identify the individual or group.

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- ii. Identify the significant life experience(s) of the individual or group.

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1 + 2 = 3 marks

- b. i. Identify the religious tradition.

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- ii. Outline the related core religious belief(s) of the religious tradition.

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1 + 6 = 7 marks

- c. Comment on the impact of the significant life experience(s) upon the individual’s or group’s understanding of the related core religious belief(s) of the religious tradition.

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10 marks

**Question 2**

Due to copyright restriction,  
this material is not supplied.

- a. Consider the sign '**CRADLE/GRAVE**' in the cartoon. What message is portrayed in the cartoon about **human existence** between the cradle and the grave?

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8 marks





**SECTION C – Essay and report questions****Instructions for Section C**

Answer **one** of the following questions in the space provided.

**Question 1**

‘In dealing with particular contemporary social or moral issues, religious traditions confront beliefs and values that contradict the beliefs and values of the religion.’

Write a **report** which discusses the above statement under appropriate **headings**.

You should include in your response

- introduction/addressing the statement
- the issue faced
- why this issue is a challenge to the beliefs and values of the religious tradition you have studied
- the way the religious tradition has responded to the challenge
- the effectiveness of the religious tradition’s response within the religious tradition
- the contribution of the religious tradition’s response to public discussion of the issue
- conclusion/summary.

**OR**

**Question 2**

‘Whether or not they call it God, religious traditions have views about some higher reality.

Religious traditions also have a sense that there is some purpose in ourselves.

At the same time religious traditions motivate us towards purposes beyond ourselves.’

Discuss **each** of the above **three** statements from the perspective of one or more religious tradition(s) you have studied.

**OR**

**Question 3**

‘When faced with the challenge of change, religions need to be resilient\*.’

In an **essay** discuss this statement in relation to one or more religious tradition(s) you have studied.

\* resilient: able to recover easily and quickly from problems and troubles

Total 40 marks









Lined writing area for response.







### **Assessment criteria**

The examination will address all of the criteria.

All students will be examined against the following criteria.

1. Use of evidence to support arguments and conclusions.
2. Knowledge of core beliefs within one or more religious tradition/s.
3. Understanding of the interplay between religious beliefs and significant life experiences.
4. Analysis of continuity and maintenance of a core religious belief or beliefs within one or more religious traditions.
5. Analysis of the interplay between a tradition's religious beliefs and vision for society in relation to one or more specific issues.
6. Evaluation of the ways one or more religious tradition/s have responded to a significant challenge.