



**Victorian Certificate of Education  
2013**

SUPERVISOR TO ATTACH PROCESSING LABEL HERE

**STUDENT NUMBER**

Figures  
Words


Letter

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**RELIGION AND SOCIETY**  
**Written examination**

**Monday 18 November 2013**

**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	5	5	20
B	2	2	40
C	3	1	20
			Total 80

- 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 20 pages.
  - 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**

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

**Question 1** (3 marks)

What does it mean for a religious tradition to have a vision for society?

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**Question 2** (3 marks)

What are the characteristics that make a life experience significant in relation to people’s religious beliefs?

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**Question 3 (4 marks)**

Identify **four** methods that religious traditions have historically used to respond to challenges to the tradition.

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**Question 4 (5 marks)**

How do religious traditions contribute to the societies in which they exist?

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**Question 5** (5 marks)

How do religious traditions develop a framework through which they can give expression to their beliefs?

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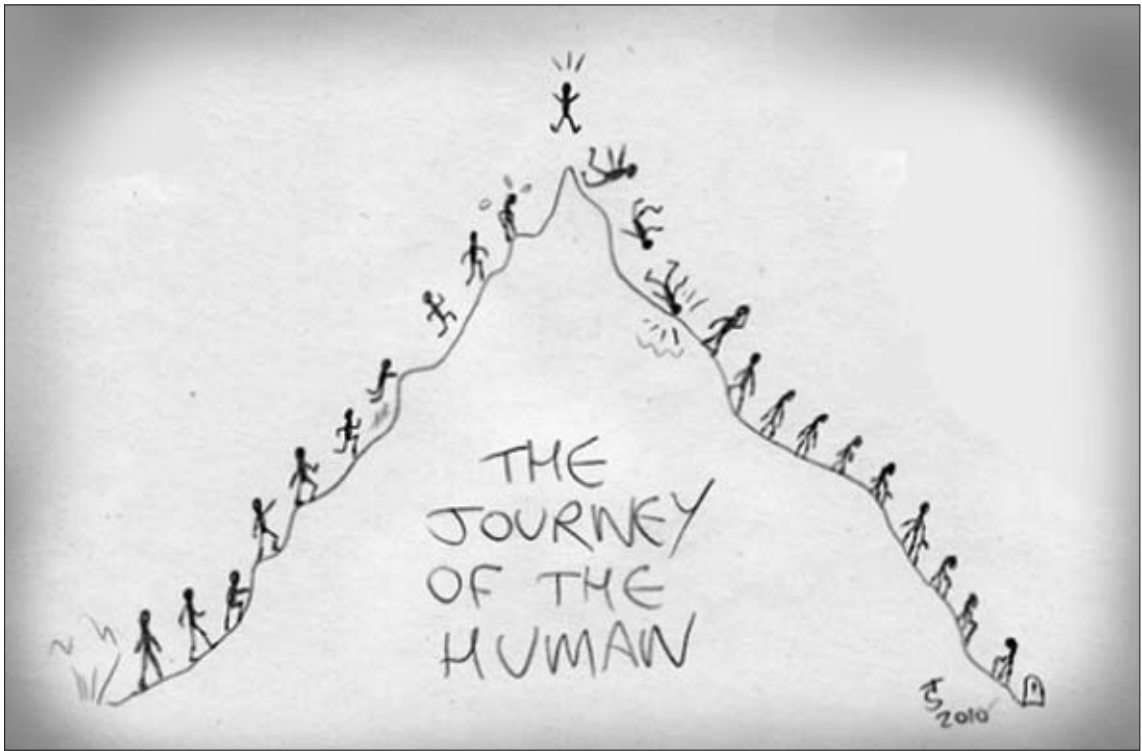
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### SECTION B

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



Source: Tom Schoon (illustrator); <http://insidemymfred.files.wordpress.com/2010/02/the-journey-of-the-human-wp.jpg>  
© 2010 Tom Schoon (<http://insidemymfred.wordpress.com/>)

**Question 1** (20 marks)

- a. In the cartoon shown above, what is the cartoonist’s view regarding the human encounter with significant experiences in the course of life’s journey? 5 marks

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- b.** How is the attitude depicted in this cartoon similar to and/or different from the attitudes of a person or group from a religious tradition that you have studied? 5 marks

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- c.** Describe the religious beliefs of the tradition that were challenged by the significant life experience of the person or group identified in **part b.** 4 marks

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- d.** Explain how the person's or group's understanding of those religious beliefs was changed as a result of the significant life experience.

6 marks

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**Question 2** (20 marks)

Answer the following questions relating to **one** historical challenge experienced by a religious tradition that you have studied.

- a. Name the challenge and explain why it was confronting for the religious tradition. 4 marks

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- b. Outline how particular aspects of the religious tradition were influenced by the challenge and by the religious tradition’s responses to the challenge. 8 marks

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c. What was the impact of the response within the religious tradition?

5 marks

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d. Evaluate the impact of the response of the religious tradition on the wider society. If there was no such impact, explain why.

3 marks

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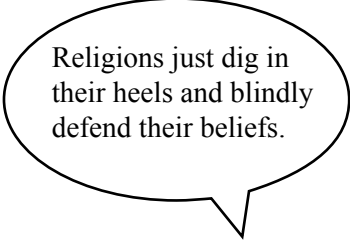
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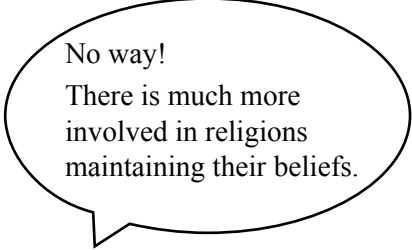
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**SECTION C – Essay****Instructions for Section C**

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

**Question 1 (20 marks)**

Religions just dig in their heels and blindly defend their beliefs.



No way!  
There is much more involved in religions maintaining their beliefs.

Taking into account the statements above, discuss how and why a religious tradition that you have studied has maintained its religious beliefs in the face of various pressures.

**OR**

**Question 2 (20 marks)**

‘Is there an ultimate reality? Or more to the point, does it matter whether there is or not?’

Discuss the viewpoint above from the perspective of **at least one** religious tradition that you have studied and with regard to individual members of the tradition.

**OR**

**Question 3 (20 marks)**

‘Contemporary challenges pose major obstacles for religious traditions as they attempt to fulfil their vision for society.’

Discuss this statement in relation to a contemporary challenge in its current context that involves **at least one** religious tradition that you have studied.





















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A script book is available from the supervisor if you need extra paper to complete your answer. Please ensure you write your **student number** in the space provided on the front cover of the script book. **At the end of the examination, place the script book inside the front cover of this question and answer book.**