



# **Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit State Examinations Commission**

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - HIGHER LEVEL**

THURSDAY, 21 JUNE 2007 - AFTERNOON, 2.00 to 4.30

Total Marks: 320

### ***General Directions for Candidates***

CANDIDATES MUST ATTEMPT THE FOLLOWING:

- **ONE QUESTION FROM UNIT ONE**
- **TWO QUESTIONS FROM UNIT TWO**
- **ONE QUESTION FROM UNIT THREE**

YOU SHOULD SPEND APPROXIMATELY 30 MINUTES COMPLETING THIS UNIT.

YOU MUST ATTEMPT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING TWO QUESTIONS.

(All questions carry 80 marks each)

SECTION A THE SEARCH FOR MEANING AND VALUES

Question 1.

Answer a) and b).

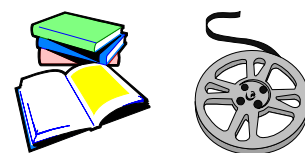
a) Imagine you are doing research for a project on the search for the meaning of life today.

i. Briefly outline **two** examples of how the search for the meaning of life can be seen in art, literature, music or youth culture today.



(20 marks)

ii. Explain **two** reasons why a person could find it difficult to search for meaning in life today.



(20 marks)

b) *From ancient times philosophy has developed over a series of key moments.*

Identify **one** key moment in the development of philosophy and outline how philosophical thought developed at this moment.

(40 marks)

Question 2.

Answer a) and b).

a) *“There is an unprecedented spiritual hunger in our times.” - John O’Donoghue Anam Chara*

Outline how a search for the spiritual is evident in society today.

(40 marks)

b) ◆ Buddhism ◆ Christianity ◆ Hinduism ◆ Islam ◆ Judaism

Choose **two** of the above major world religions and profile the understanding of the ‘transcendent’ in each.

(40 marks)

## UNIT TWO

(160 marks)

YOU SHOULD SPEND APPROXIMATELY 60 MINUTES COMPLETING THIS UNIT.

YOU MUST ATTEMPT TWO OF THE FOLLOWING THREE SECTIONS.

(All sections carry 80 marks each)

### SECTION B CHRISTIANITY: ORIGINS AND CONTEMPORARY EXPRESSIONS

Answer a) and b).

- a) Outline how the first Christians were affected by the death and resurrection of Jesus. (20 marks)
- b) i. Describe **one** image of Jesus that is expressed in modern culture. (20 marks)
- ii. Examine the understanding of Jesus expressed in the image described above and discuss its relevance for society today. (40 marks)

### SECTION C WORLD RELIGIONS

Answer a) and b).

- a) Describe the vision of salvation/liberation proposed by –
- i. Christianity (20 marks)
- ii. Judaism. (20 marks)



- b) ◆ Buddhism ◆ Hinduism ◆ Islam

Compare the vision of salvation/liberation proposed by **one** of the above world religions with the vision of salvation/liberation proposed by *either* Christianity *or* Judaism. (40 marks)

### SECTION D MORAL DECISION-MAKING

Answer a) and b).

- a) Since ancient times people have been concerned about issues of right and wrong.

● THE HEBREWS ● THE GREEKS ● THE ROMANS



Describe a moral issue that people were concerned about in **one** of the above ancient civilizations. (20 marks)

- b) People today have moral concerns about a number of issues:

● CRIME AND PUNISHMENT ● MEDICAL ETHICS ● POLITICS AND ECONOMICS ● RELATIONSHIPS AND SEXUALITY ● VIOLENCE

- i. Choose **two** of the above issues and describe a moral concern which people have today about each. (30 marks)
- ii. Outline the position of a religious tradition on each of the issues you have described in part *b)i* above. (30 marks)

## UNIT THREE

(80 marks)

YOU SHOULD SPEND APPROXIMATELY 30 MINUTES COMPLETING THIS UNIT.

YOU MUST ATTEMPT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING FOUR SECTIONS.

(All sections carry 80 marks each)

### SECTION G WORSHIP, PRAYER AND RITUAL

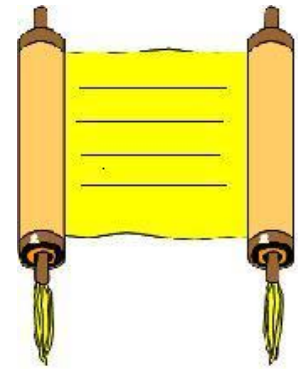
Answer a) and b).

- a) Outline the characteristics of **one** mystical tradition that you have studied. (40 marks)
- b) Profile the life and work of **one** mystic you have studied. (40 marks)

### SECTION H THE BIBLE: LITERATURE AND SACRED TEXT

*Through stories the wisdom of one generation is passed on to the next.*

Discuss the importance of stories for a community of faith, with reference to **one** story from *either* the Hebrew scriptures *or* the Christian scriptures.

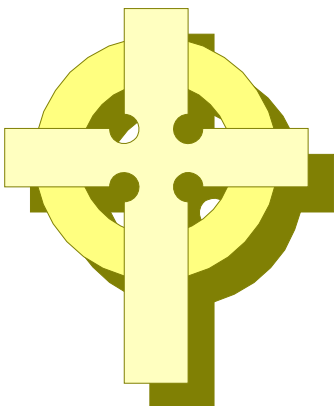


(80 marks)

### SECTION I RELIGION: THE IRISH EXPERIENCE

Religion in Ireland has developed through a series of key moments:

- RELIGION, SPIRITUALITY AND LAND
- RELIGION, SPIRITUALITY AND MONASTICISM
- RELIGION, SPIRITUALITY AND REFORMS
- RELIGION AND THE IDEAS OF THE ENLIGHTENMENT
- RELIGION IN CONTEMPORARY IRELAND



Choose **two** of the above key moments and discuss the contribution of each to the development of religion in Ireland.

(80 marks)

**SECTION J RELIGION AND SCIENCE**

**Answer a) and b).**

a) *Moments of tension in the relationship between religion and science -*

i. Describe **one** instance when there was tension in the relationship between religion and science.

(25 marks)

ii. Explain the reasons for the tension between religion and science in the instance that you have described above.

(25 marks)

b) Explain how dialogue can help overcome tensions in the relationship between religion and science.

(30 marks)

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