



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2011

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION — ORDINARY LEVEL

FRIDAY, 24 JUNE — MORNING, 9.30 to 11.30

Total Marks: 320

General Directions for Candidates

CANDIDATES MUST ANSWER THE FOLLOWING:

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

YOU SHOULD SPEND APPROXIMATELY 30 MINUTES COMPLETING THIS UNIT.

YOU MUST ANSWER TWO OF THE FOLLOWING THREE QUESTIONS.

(All questions carry 40 marks each)

SECTION A THE SEARCH FOR MEANING AND VALUES**QUESTION 1. THE SEARCH FOR MEANING**

Answer a), b) and c).

- a) Examine how an experience of suffering could influence the questions a person might ask about the meaning of life today. (10 marks)
- b) Explain **one** reason why searching for the meaning of life might be of no interest to a person today. (10 marks)
- c) Outline how **one** idea from a philosopher that you have studied could help a person searching for the meaning of life today. (20 marks)

**QUESTION 2. MYTH AND BELIEF**

Answer a) and b).

- a) Profile how the human search for the meaning of life can be seen in **one** ancient myth that you have studied. (20 marks)
- b) Describe **one** example of how polytheism can be seen in a world religion. (20 marks)

QUESTION 3. THE RESPONSE TO THE SEARCH FOR MEANING

Answer a) and b).

In ancient times people used rites to express their understanding of the meaning of life.

- RITE OF BURIAL ● RITE OF SACRIFICE

- a) Describe the way in which **one** of the rites listed above was carried out by people in ancient times. (20 marks)
- b) Outline how **one** of the rites listed above expressed an idea about the meaning of life which people held in ancient times. (20 marks)

UNIT TWO

(160 marks)

YOU SHOULD SPEND APPROXIMATELY 60 MINUTES COMPLETING THIS UNIT.

YOU MUST ANSWER TWO OF THE FOLLOWING THREE SECTIONS.

(All sections carry 80 marks each)

SECTION B CHRISTIANITY: ORIGINS AND CONTEMPORARY EXPRESSIONS

Answer a), b) and c).

- a) Explain **one** reason why the Roman rulers in Palestine saw Jesus of Nazareth as a threat. (20 marks)
- b) Compare the way in which the Zealots and the Sadducees reacted to Roman rule in Palestine at the time of Jesus. (30 marks)
- c) Describe **two** ways in which Jesus' teaching about the Kingdom of God brought him into conflict with the religious leaders in Palestine. (30 marks)

SECTION C WORLD RELIGIONS

Answer a), b) and c).

- a) Describe the world-wide distribution of members today in **one** of the following world religions:
◆ BUDDHISM ◆ CHRISTIANITY ◆ HINDUISM ◆ ISLAM ◆ JUDAISM (20 marks)
- b) Choose **one** of the world religions from *List A* and **one** of the world religions from *List B* below:
- | <i>List A</i> | <i>List B</i> |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| ◆ CHRISTIANITY (any denomination) | ◆ BUDDHISM |
| ◆ JUDAISM | ◆ HINDUISM |
| | ◆ ISLAM |

Compare the vision of salvation/liberation found in the world religions that you have chosen above from *List A* and *List B*. (30 marks)

- c) Outline how the understanding of salvation/liberation influences the behaviour of members in **one** of the following world religions:
◆ BUDDHISM ◆ CHRISTIANITY ◆ HINDUISM ◆ ISLAM ◆ JUDAISM (30 marks)

SECTION D MORAL DECISION - MAKING

Answer a), b) and c).

- a) Outline what was involved in a moral issue that people were concerned about in *either* the ancient Greek *or* the ancient Hebrew civilisations. (20 marks)
- b) ◆ BUDDHISM ◆ HINDUISM ◆ ISLAM ◆ JUDAISM
Choose **two** of the world religions listed above and describe a basic principle from the moral teaching of each of the two religions. (30 marks)
- c) Examine the role the moral teaching of a religion can play in informing a person's conscience. (30 marks)

UNIT THREE

(80 marks)

YOU SHOULD SPEND APPROXIMATELY 30 MINUTES COMPLETING THIS UNIT.

YOU MUST ANSWER ONE OF THE FOLLOWING FOUR SECTIONS.

(All sections carry 80 marks each)

SECTION E RELIGION AND GENDER

Answer a) and b).

a) *World religions regard men and women as equal.*

Examine the evidence for this statement in a sacred text associated with **one** of the following major world religions:

◆ BUDDHISM ◆ CHRISTIANITY ◆ HINDUISM ◆ ISLAM ◆ JUDAISM (40 marks)

b) Women have contributed to their religious traditions in different ways —

- FOUNDERS OF RELIGIOUS ORDERS
- RELIGIOUS WRITERS
- SOCIAL REFORMERS
- SPIRITUAL THINKERS

Outline the way in which **one** woman, in any of the above categories, helped to develop her community of faith. (40 marks)

SECTION H THE BIBLE: LITERATURE AND SACRED TEXT

Answer a) and b).



Source: www.library.arizona.edu

a) Explain **two** reasons why the Bible is described as a ‘classic’ text. (40 marks)

b) *The Psalms have been described as prayer poems.*
Examine the evidence for this statement referring to **one** Psalm from the Bible that you have studied. (40 marks)

SECTION I RELIGION: THE IRISH EXPERIENCE

Answer a) and b)

a) Profile the way in which Christian belief and practice had spread through Europe at the time Saint Patrick came to Ireland. (40 marks)

b) Outline **two** examples of how inculturation contributed to the development of Christianity in Ireland. (40 marks)

SECTION J RELIGION AND SCIENCE

Answer a) and b).

◆ BUDDHISM ◆ CHRISTIANITY ◆ HINDUISM ◆ ISLAM ◆ JUDAISM

- a) Outline the understanding of creation found in **one** of the above major world religions. (40 marks)
- b) Examine how the understanding of creation in **one** of the above major world religions could influence its members' attitude to an ecological issue today. (40 marks)

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