



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2016

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION — ORDINARY LEVEL

FRIDAY, 24 JUNE — AFTERNOON, 2.00 to 4.00

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

UNIT ONE

(80 marks)

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 TRADITION OF SEARCH

Answer a) and b).

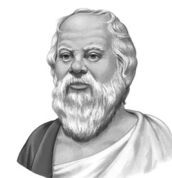
- a) *Imagine that you are taking part in a debate about the value of studying philosophy for young people today.*

Outline the points that you would make about the nature and purpose of philosophy and its value for society today.

(20 marks)

- b) Describe how any **one** of Socrates' ideas played a part in the development of philosophy.

(20 marks)



(Source: www.singularityweblog.com)

QUESTION 2. CONCEPTS OF GOD

Answer a) and b).

- a) *Different images of God reflect different understandings of God.*

Examine **one** traditional and **one** modern image of God, explaining the understanding of God suggested by each image.

(20 marks)

- b) Compare the understanding of God found in **two** of the following world religions:

◆ CHRISTIANITY ◆ ISLAM ◆ JUDAISM

(20 marks)

QUESTION 3. THE TRADITION OF RESPONSE

Answer a) and b).

- a) Name **two** key people in the humanist tradition and describe how each contributed to the development of humanism.

(20 marks)

- b) *The origins of secular humanism can be traced back to ideas that emerged during the Renaissance of the 15th and 16th Centuries.*

Outline **another** example, from a different point in time, of how non-religious answers emerged to questions about the meaning of life.

(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 the reasons why Jesus was brought for trial before both the Sanhedrin and Pontius Pilate. (20 marks)
- b) Describe **two** ways in which the resurrection of Jesus influenced the first disciples' sense of mission. (20 marks)
- c) Explain how returning to the teaching of Jesus played a key role in the establishment of **two** of the movements listed below:

● ● ● ● ● ● ●

CÉLI LIBERATION LUTHER'S THE EVANGELICAL MOVEMENT THE THE SECOND
DÉ THEOLOGY REFORMS OF EARLY 19TH CENTURY MENDICANT VATICAN
PROTESTANTISM ORDERS COUNCIL

(40 marks)

SECTION C WORLD RELIGIONS

Answer a), b) and c).

- a) Choose **one** of the world religions from *List A* and **one** of the world religions from *List B* below:

List A: ◆ CHRISTIANITY ◆ JUDAISM

List B: ◆ BUDDHISM ◆ HINDUISM ◆ ISLAM

Describe **one** rite from each of the world religions that you have chosen above which marks a stage in the life of a believer. (20 marks)

- b) Explain the meaning of the rites that you have described above for the members of the world religions with which each is associated. (20 marks)

- c) ❖ AN AFRICAN TRADITIONAL RELIGION ❖ A CHINESE RELIGION
❖ A NEW RELIGIOUS MOVEMENT ❖ BAHA'I FAITH ❖ SIKH RELIGION

Choose **one** of the above and describe an example of how its religious beliefs impact on the lifestyle of believers. (40 marks)

SECTION D MORAL DECISION - MAKING

Answer a), b) and c).

- a) Describe **two** examples from modern culture which show that thinking about morality is part of the natural human condition. (20 marks)



(Source Adapted from <http://paulgerhards.com>)

- b) Examine how a balance between personal and community values is expressed in *either* a moral code *or* charter that you have studied. (20 marks)

- c) ● FUNDAMENTALISM ● RELATIVISM

Using examples describe how each of the above would guide a person in deciding what is right and wrong on an issue that you have studied. (40 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 F ISSUES OF JUSTICE AND PEACE

Answer a) and b).

a)



World Religions: BUDDHISM —

Teachings: THE FIVE PRECEPTS



ISLAM —

VICEREGENT OF THE EARTH



JUDAISM —

SABBATH, SCHMITTAH & JUBILEE

- i. Choose **one** of the above world religions and explain how care for the environment can be seen in its religious teachings listed above. (20 marks)
- ii. Examine how the teachings of the world religion that you have chosen in *part F a)i* above could impact on the lifestyle of believers today. (20 marks)

b)



(Source:www.philly.com)

◆ JUSTICE AS FAIR PLAY ◆ JUSTICE AS RETRIBUTION

◆ JUSTICE AS THE PROMOTION OF EQUALITY

Outline the main strengths and weaknesses of **two** of the above understandings of justice in promoting good relationships between people.

(40 marks)

SECTION G WORSHIP, PRAYER AND RITUAL

Answer a) and b).

- a) i. Explain **two** reasons why reflection is important in the life of young people today. (20 marks)
- ii. Describe the characteristics of religious experience, referring to the role reflection plays in it. (20 marks)
- b) Outline the meaning of sacrament and its relationship to ritual and symbol, for the members of **two** Christian denominations that you have studied. (40 marks)

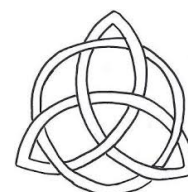
SECTION I RELIGION: THE IRISH EXPERIENCE

Answer *either a)i or a)ii and b).*

- a) i. Examine how Pre-Christian beliefs and/or practices are expressed in **one** Irish myth or saga. (40 marks)

or

- ii. Explain how **one** act of Christian worship practised in Ireland today can be traced back to Pre-Christian times. (40 marks)



(Source www.gaelicmatters.com)

- b) Describe the pattern of Christian belief found in **another** part of Europe at the time that Saint Patrick came to Ireland. (40 marks)

SECTION J RELIGION AND SCIENCE

Answer a) and b).

- a) *‘Science, like theology, needs to be seen as an activity of a community of motivated believers...’*

(Source: *God Humanity and the Cosmos* by C. Southgate et al)

Discuss the accuracy of this statement referring to the role being part of a community plays in both religion and science.

(40 marks)

- b) Explain how any **one** of Descartes’ ideas influenced the relationship between religion and science.

(40 marks)



(Source www.rebeccamancy.net)

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