



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit State Examinations Commission

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2018

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – HIGHER LEVEL

FRIDAY, 22 JUNE – AFTERNOON 2:00 to 4:30

Total Marks: 320

General Directions for Candidates

CANDIDATES MUST ANSWER THE FOLLOWING:

- **ONE** QUESTION 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 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).



(Source: www.bobhaa.com)

a) *'The unexamined life is not worth living.'*

Imagine Socrates was alive today and giving a talk on this topic.

Based on your knowledge of Socrates' thinking, outline **two** points that he would make about the purpose of life for people today.

(40 marks)

b) Explain how **two** aspects of living in society today could block people from searching for the meaning of life.

(40 marks)

QUESTION 2.

Answer a) and b).

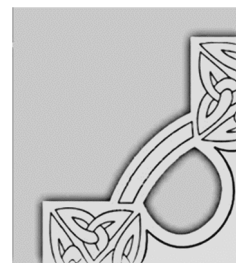
a) Describe **one** example of how the philosophical thinking in Ancient Greece can be seen as a key moment in the development of philosophy.

(40 marks)

b) *Imagine that Anselm and Aquinas are taking part in a discussion about the existence of God with people today.*

Outline the ideas that **each** could put forward to prove the existence of God for people today.

(40 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) and b).

- a) i. Outline **four** key points about the Kingdom of God that were emphasised by Jesus of Nazareth in his preaching. (20 marks)
- ii. ● ESSENES ● SADDUCEES ● ZEALOTS
Compare the reaction of **two** religious groups listed above to Roman rule in Palestine at the time of Jesus of Nazareth. (20 marks)
- b) Explain how returning to the original teaching of Jesus was central to the establishment of **two** of the following movements:
● CÉLI DÉ ● EVANGELICAL MOVEMENT OF EARLY 19TH CENTURY PROTESTANTISM
● LIBERATION THEOLOGY ● MENDICANT ORDERS ● LUTHER'S REFORMS
● SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL (40 marks)

SECTION C WORLD RELIGIONS

Answer a) and b).

- a) i. Outline the understanding of salvation/liberation found in the teaching of **one** of the following world religions:
◆ CHRISTIANITY (ANY DENOMINATION) ◆ JUDAISM (20 marks)
- ii. Compare the understanding of salvation/liberation found in *either* Christianity or Judaism with that found in **one** of the following world religions:
◆ BUDDHISM ◆ HINDUISM ◆ ISLAM (20 marks)
- b) Outline how the relationship between the sacred and profane is expressed in the way **two** objects are used in worship by members of a major world religion. (40 marks)

SECTION D MORAL DECISION - MAKING

Answer a) and b).

- a) Outline the approach to deciding what is right and wrong that is put forward in **two** of the following moral philosophies/theories:
● DEONTOLOGICAL ETHICS ● HEDONISM ● RIGHT RELATIONSHIP
● TELEOLOGICAL ETHICS ● UTILITARIANISM ● VIRTUE ETHICS (40 marks)
- b) Explain how a moral philosophy/theory, listed in *part D a)* above, could influence a person's decision about what is the right thing to do on an issue concerning **one** of the following:
● CRIME & PUNISHMENT ● POLITICS & ECONOMICS
● MEDICAL ETHICS ● RELATIONSHIPS & SEXUALITY (40 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 either b) i. or b) ii.

- a) Compare the role men and women play in **two** of the following world religions:

◆ BUDDHISM ◆ CHRISTIANITY ◆ HINDUISM ◆ ISLAM ◆ JUDAISM

(40 marks)



(Source: www.emorywheel.com)

- b) i. Explain **two** reasons why feminist theology developed within the Christian tradition.

(40 marks)

or

- ii. Outline **two** qualities that are associated with spiritualities that can be described as 'feminist' and explain why feminist spiritualities developed.

(40 marks)

SECTION H THE BIBLE: LITERATURE AND SACRED TEXT

Answer a) and b).



(Source: www.clipartsuggests.com)

- a) Outline how the influence of the Bible can be seen in **two** of the following:

● A CONSTITUTION ● A DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

● THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

(40 marks)

- b) Describe **two** examples of the way symbolic language is used in apocalyptic writing from the Bible.

(40 marks)

SECTION I RELIGION: THE IRISH EXPERIENCE

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

- a) Profile how **two** features particularly associated with 'Irish Christianity' developed in the centuries immediately after the time of Saint Patrick.

(40 marks)

- b) i. Describe how **two** examples of Pre-Christian practices show evidence of religious belief in Ireland before the time of Saint Patrick.

(40 marks)

or

- ii. Outline how **two** Irish myths/sagas show evidence of Pre-Christian religious belief.

(40 marks)

SECTION J RELIGION AND SCIENCE

Answer a) and b).

- a) i. Contrast the understanding of creation/the natural world that is found in **two** major world religions which you have studied. (20 marks)
- ii. Explain how the understanding of creation/the natural world that is found in **one** major world religion could influence its members to address the ecological crisis today. (20 marks)

b) *Religion and science can exist in harmony with each other.*

Discuss the evidence for this statement making reference to the work of *either* Galileo or Newton.

(40 marks)



(Source: www.theplanetnewspaper.com)

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