



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

Leaving Certificate Examination 2020

Religious Education

Higher Level

2 hours 30 minutes

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.

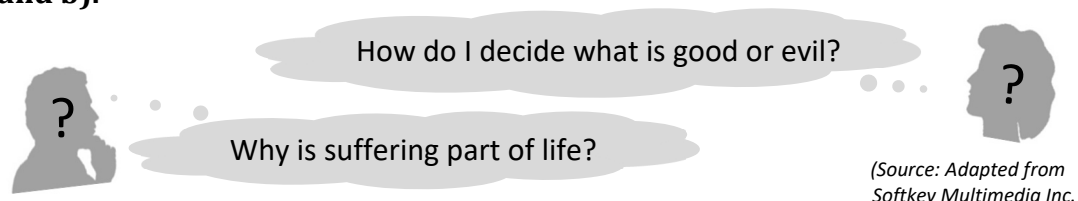
(All questions carry 80 marks each)

SECTION A THE SEARCH FOR MEANING AND VALUES

QUESTION 1.

Answer a) and b).

a) i.



Describe how people searching for answers to **one** of the above questions can be seen today in any of the following: art, literature, music or youth culture. (20 marks)

ii. Outline the thinking of Socrates, in Ancient Greece, on *either* the moral good *or* the purpose of life. (20 marks)

b) Examine how polytheism featured in the establishment of **one** of the following monotheistic religions: ◆ CHRISTIANITY ◆ ISLAM ◆ JUDAISM (40 marks)

QUESTION 2.

Answer a) and b).

a)

Match halted because players are insulted by spectators using racist symbols and language.



Describe **another** example of how people use a form of symbolic language and explain why it features in secular or religious life today. (20 marks)

b) ◆ BUDDHISM ◆ CHRISTIANITY ◆ HINDUISM ◆ ISLAM ◆ JUDAISM

i. Outline how the understanding of God/gods/the transcendent found in **one** of the above religions is reflected in their moral code. (20 marks)

ii. Examine how the values held by members of **two** of the above religions relate to what is seen as important from a non-religious point of view in society 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. Profile how re-discovering the message of Jesus of Nazareth played a role in the establishment of **one** of the movements listed below:
● CÉLI DÉ ● LIBERATION THEOLOGY ● LUTHER'S REFORMS ● THE MENDICANT ORDERS ● THE SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL (20 marks)
- ii. Investigate how **one** Christian denomination today sees itself as carrying on the mission of Jesus through its teaching and work. (30 marks)
- b) Describe **two** examples of how during his life Jesus showed an awareness of what the Jewish people expected of the Messiah. (30 marks)

SECTION C WORLD RELIGIONS

Answer a) and b).

- a) *The 2016 Irish Census shows an increase in the members of different religions in Ireland.*
- i. Outline **another** trend that has emerged among the major world religions within Ireland in recent years. (20 marks)
- ii. Choose **one** religion from List A and **one** religion from List B below:
List A: ◆ CHRISTIANITY ◆ JUDAISM List B: ◆ BUDDHISM ◆ HINDUISM ◆ ISLAM
Compare a challenge faced by members of the religions you have chosen above as they look to the future development of their traditions. (30 marks)
- b) Examine how a key belief of **one** of the following is reflected in the lifestyle of its members:
● AN AFRICAN TRADITIONAL RELIGION ● BAHA'I FAITH ● A CHINESE RELIGION
● A NEW RELIGIOUS MOVEMENT ● SIKH RELIGION (30 marks)

SECTION D MORAL DECISION - MAKING

Answer a) and b).

- a) i. Compare how deciding what is right and wrong about an issue would be approached from **each** of the following points of view: ● FUNDAMENTALISM ● RELATIVISM (20 marks)
- ii. Outline a difference between the understanding of moral failure in a Christian denomination and how it is understood within **one** of the following religions:
◆ BUDDHISM ◆ HINDUISM ◆ ISLAM ◆ JUDAISM (30 marks)
- b) Describe what is involved in **two** stages of the development of a person's conscience making reference to the role that religion can play in this process. (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) Explain how the roles of men and women in worship are linked to the understanding of God/gods/the transcendent in **two** of the following religions:

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

- b) *Women of faith have contributed in different ways to each of the following:*

● RELIGIOUS ORDERS ● RELIGIOUS WRITING ● SOCIAL REFORM ● SPIRITUAL THINKING

Discuss the questions raised for people today by the work of **two** women

from different categories listed above.

(40 marks)

SECTION F ISSUES OF JUSTICE AND PEACE

Answer a) and b).

- a) Describe how the teaching of a major world religion encourages its members to address the causes of **two** of the following issues:

● DISCRIMINATION ● HUNGER ● POVERTY (40 marks)

- b) Explain how **two** of the following teachings could influence a religious response to an environmental crisis:

● THE CREATION TEXTS IN GENESIS ● THE FIVE PRECEPTS OF THE BUDDHA ● VICEREGENT OF THE EARTH IN ISLAM (40 marks)

SECTION G WORSHIP, PRAYER AND RITUAL

Answer a) and b).

- a) Discuss the importance placed on both private and communal prayer by members of **one** of the following religions in their relationship with God/gods/the divine:

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

- b) Outline **two** similarities and **two** differences in the understanding of meditation as a form of prayer within the Buddhist and Christian traditions.

(40 marks)

SECTION H THE BIBLE: LITERATURE AND SACRED TEXT

Answer a) and b).

- a) ● THE GOSPEL OF JOHN ● THE GOSPEL OF LUKE ● THE GOSPEL OF MARK ● THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Compare what was involved in how **two** of the above Gospels came to be written using each of the following headings:



- i. The Evangelists and their communities. (20 marks)
ii. The variety of Gospel material. (20 marks)

(Source:Clipart.com)

- b) ● HANNAH'S SONG OF THANKS (1 Sam 2:1-10) ● ISRAEL RESTORED (Is 52:13 - 53:12) ● THE TEN COMMANDMENTS (Ex 20:1-21)

Compare **two** of the above texts, from the Hebrew Scriptures, using each of the following headings:

- i. The original background/context of the texts. (20 marks)
ii. The meaning and significance of the texts within the Christian and Jewish traditions. (20 marks)

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