



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission
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To: Management Authorities of Second Level Schools
Prescribed Titles for Religious Education Journal Work
for Junior Certificate 2011 and 2012

1. A new syllabus for Religious Education was introduced in September 2000 and was examined for the first time in the Junior Certificate examination of 2003.
2. The syllabus indicates that the assessment of Religious Education will have two elements – (1) a final written paper, and (2) journal work. The titles for journal work for the Junior Certificate examination of 2011 were issued with Circular S89/09. The titles for journal work for the Junior Certificate examination of 2012 are attached, as are the titles for 2011.
3. These titles are common to Ordinary Level and Higher Level. Candidates are required to submit journal work on **one title only**.
4. The subject will be assessed externally at Ordinary Level and at Higher Level. **At both levels, journal work will account for 20% of the marks. Please note that this mark allocation supersedes that given in the syllabus for Religious Education.**
5. In undertaking journal work candidates may work in groups or undertake a visit or investigation as a whole class. However, each candidate must complete and submit an individual journal for assessment.
6. Guidelines for undertaking journal work are included in *Religious Education - Guidelines for Teachers* which was issued in June 2001.
7. The journal work must be submitted in a standard form in a booklet which will be supplied for that purpose by the State Examinations Commission. Candidates taking the examination in 2011 will be supplied with the booklet in November 2010. Candidates taking the examination in 2012 will be supplied with the booklet in 2011.
8. Please bring this circular and the attached lists of journal work titles to the notice of the teachers concerned.
9. Please provide a copy of this circular to the appropriate representatives of parents and teachers for transmission to individual parents and teachers.

Larry Heduan
Executive Officer
December 2010

Prescribed Titles for Religious Education Journal Work for the Junior Certificate Examination 2011

Two titles are given for each section of the syllabus. Candidates are required to submit journal work on **one title only**. Candidates select any **one** from the following list of journal work titles:

Section A. Communities of Faith

- a. 1. An investigation into what inspires commitment to service in *either* **one** community of faith *or* **one** religious organisation in Ireland today.
- a. 2. Research the relevance of an incident from the life of the founder/earliest followers for members today in **one** of the following major world religions: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam or Judaism.

Section B. Foundations of Religion – Christianity

- b. 1. A case study on how the faith of the evangelist can be seen in **one** of the following Gospels:
● The Gospel of John ● The Gospel of Luke ● The Gospel of Mark ● The Gospel of Matthew
- b. 2. A study of what Jesus taught his followers about the Kingdom of God in **one** example of table-fellowship.

Section C. Foundations of Religion – Major World Religions

- c. 1. A profile of the importance of a religious ritual for members of **one** of the following major world religions: Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam or Judaism.
- c. 2. A study of the way in which religious faith is expressed in a place of worship associated with **one** of the following major world religions: Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam or Judaism.

Section D. The Question of Faith

- d. 1. An examination of different images of God that can be seen in the faith of a child.
- d. 2. An exploration of the questions young people ask about the meaning of life as they develop into adults.

Section E. The Celebration of Faith

- e. 1. A reflection on the way in which a sense of the sacred can be seen in an act of worship associated with **one** of the following major world religions: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam or Judaism.
- e. 2. An examination of the importance of meditation as a type of prayer in a religious tradition.

Section F. The Moral Challenge

- f. 1. A profile of the importance of reconciliation for members of a religious tradition.
- f. 2. An examination of the role a person's conscience plays in his/her growth to moral maturity.

Prescribed Titles for Religious Education Journal Work for the Junior Certificate Examination 2012

Two titles are given for each section of the syllabus. Candidates are required to submit journal work on **one title only**. Candidates select any **one** from the following list of journal work titles:

Section A. Communities of Faith

- a.1. A case study on how **one** community of faith today is addressing both the needs of individual people and the needs of the community.
- a.2. An analysis of the challenge that sectarianism could pose for **one** community of faith today.

Section B. Foundations of Religion – Christianity

- b.1. An investigation into the reasons why Jesus came in conflict with **two** of the following:
 - Pharisees
 - Sadducees
 - Romans
- b.2. A profile of the way in which Jesus is represented in the Gospel of John.

Section C. Foundations of Religion – Major World Religions

- c.1. A study of the historical and geographical origins of **one** of the following major world religions: Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam or Judaism.
- c.2. *All world religions have had key moments in their development.*
A reflection on the impact of a time of persecution on the development of **one** of the following major world religions: Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam or Judaism.

Section D. The Question of Faith

- d.1. A survey of the factors that influence the religious practice of teenagers today in **one** of the following world religions – Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam or Judaism.
- d.2. A profile of the way in which religious belief can be seen in the life of a person associated with the founding story of **one** of the following world religions: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam or Judaism.

Section E. The Celebration of Faith

- e.1. A case study on the way in which an important person in a spiritual tradition has contributed to the understanding of prayer in **one** of the following world religions: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam or Judaism.
- e.2. An examination of the meaning of **two** religious symbols associated with the sacrament of Baptism in a Christian denomination.

Section F. The Moral Challenge

- f.1. An examination of the way in which the consequences of an action may influence a person in deciding what is right or wrong in relation to an issue.
- f.2.
 - Family
 - Friends
 - ReligionAn analysis of the way in which **two** of the above can guide the moral behaviour of an adolescent.