



# Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit State Examinations Commission

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - ORDINARY LEVEL

FRIDAY, 19 JUNE 2009 - 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. PHILOSOPHY**

**Answer a) and b).**

- a) Outline **one** of the main philosophical ideas of Aristotle. (20 marks)
- b) Explain why **one** of Aristotle's ideas was important in the development of philosophy. (20 marks)

**QUESTION 2. MYTH AND BELIEF**

**Answer a), b) and c).**

- a) Outline **one** myth that expresses a belief people held in ancient times. (10 marks)
- b) Profile the understanding of God/gods found in **one** ancient myth you have studied. (15 marks)
- c) Compare the religious beliefs involved in monotheism and polytheism. (15 marks)

**QUESTION 3. WAYS OF LOOKING AT LIFE**

**Answer a), b) and c).**

- a) People have different religious ways of looking at life -  
● Aesthetic ● Holy ● Poetic

Describe what is meant by **one** of the above religious ways of looking at life. (10 marks)

- b) Outline an example of **one** of the following religious ways of looking at life – ● Mystical ● Prophetic (10 marks)

- c) Name a key person in the humanist tradition and outline **one** main point from that person's way of looking at 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) Describe what happened when Jesus was brought for trial before *either* the Sanhedrin *or* Pontius Pilate and explain why that trial took place. (40 marks)
- b) Explain why **one** of the early Christian communities listed below experienced difficulties in following the teaching of Jesus.  
● Corinth ● Philippi ● Thessalonica (20 marks)
- c) Outline **one** way in which members of an early Christian community listed in part *b*) above put the teaching of Jesus into practice in their lives. (20 marks)

### SECTION C WORLD RELIGIONS

Answer a), b) and c).

- a) Describe the understanding of salvation/liberation found in **one** of the following world religions:  
◆ Buddhism ◆ Hinduism ◆ Islam (20 marks)
- b) Examine the understanding of salvation/liberation found in *either* Christianity *or* Judaism. (20 marks)
- c) Outline the main religious beliefs of **one** the following:  
◆ African Traditional Religion ◆ A New Religious Movement ◆ Baha'i Faith  
◆ Chinese Religion ◆ Sikh Religion (40 marks)

### SECTION D MORAL DECISION-MAKING

Answer a), b) and c).

- a) Describe **two** characteristics of moral maturity. (20 marks)
- b) Outline what is involved in **one** stage of moral development which a person might go through before reaching moral maturity. (20 marks)
- c) Examine how a morally mature person would decide what is right and wrong about **one** moral issue you have studied. (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 b).

a) Outline **two** examples which show the influence that a person's gender can have on his/her experience of religion in the world today. (40 marks)

b) *World religions have been influenced by women who were –*

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

Choose **one** woman in any of the above categories and outline her life story under each of the following headings:

- Her work. (20 marks)
- The impact of her life on her religious tradition. (20 marks)

### SECTION G WORSHIP, PRAYER AND RITUAL

Answer a) and b)

a) i. Outline the understanding of sacrament in **one** Christian denomination you have studied. (20 marks)

ii. Examine the part played by **two** symbols in a sacramental celebration you have studied. (20 marks)

b) Compare the way in which people pray in **two** of the following major world religions making reference to where and when people pray.

- ◆ Buddhism    ◆ Christianity    ◆ Hinduism    ◆ Islam    ◆ Judaism    (40 marks)

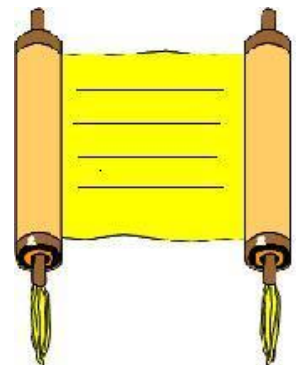
### SECTION H THE BIBLE: LITERATURE AND SACRED TEXT

Answer a) and b).

a) Discuss the influence of the Bible on **one** group you have studied. (40 marks)

b) Examine the meaning of **one** of the following texts from the Hebrew scriptures and explain why that text is important in a religious tradition.

- The Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-21)
- Hannah's Song of Thanks (1 Samuel 2:1-10)
- Israel Restored (Isaiah 52:13-53:12)



(40 marks)

## SECTION J RELIGION AND SCIENCE

**Answer a) and b).**

- a) Describe **one** of Galileo's discoveries about the universe. (40 marks)
- b) Explain why Galileo's discoveries about the universe affected the relationship between religion and science. (40 marks)

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