



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2014

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION — ORDINARY LEVEL

FRIDAY, 20 JUNE — 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

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

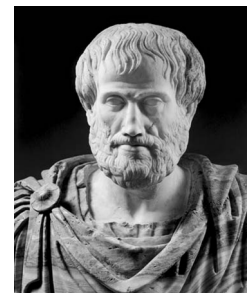
QUESTION 1. PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGIOUS BELIEF

Answer a) and b).

- a) *Imagine Aristotle is being put forward for an award honouring people who have played a part in the development of philosophy.*

Explain **one** reason why Aristotle could be honoured as a person who played a part in the development of philosophy.

(20 marks)



(Source: www.britannica.com)

- b) Outline an example of how people who lived in an ancient society expressed religious belief through *either* a work of art *or* an artefact.

(20 marks)

QUESTION 2. CONCEPTS OF GOD

Answer a) and b).

- a) *In ancient times some people believed that God created the universe.*

Describe **two** other beliefs about God/gods/the divine that people held in ancient times.

(20 marks)

- b) Examine the understanding of God that can be seen in a moral code associated with **one** of the following major world religions:

◆ CHRISTIANITY ◆ ISLAM ◆ JUDAISM

(20 marks)

QUESTION 3. THE MEANING OF LIFE

Answer a) and b).

- a) Describe **one** example of how people asking questions in their search for the meaning of life can be seen today in *either* literature, music *or* youth culture.

(20 marks)

- b) Explain **two** reasons why people today can find it difficult to search for the meaning of life.

(20 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) *The Gospels describe how Jesus was put on trial before the Sanhedrin.*
 Explain why Jesus was put on trial before the Sanhedrin, making reference to incidents from the life of Jesus described in the Gospels. (20 marks)
- b) Explain **two** reasons why Pontius Pilate may have felt threatened by the teaching of Jesus. (20 marks)
- c) ● AN EVANGELIST – MATTHEW OR MARK OR LUKE OR JOHN ● JOSEPHUS ● SAINT PAUL
 Evaluate the evidence for the existence of Jesus of Nazareth that can be found in **one** of the above using the following headings: i. AUTHORITATIVE SOURCE ii. PRIMARY or SECONDARY SOURCE (40 marks)

SECTION C WORLD RELIGIONS

Answer a), b) and c).


- a) ◆ BUDDHISM ◆ CHRISTIANITY ◆ HINDUISM ◆ ISLAM ◆ JUDAISM
 Describe a religious ceremony that marks a key moment in the life of a member of **one** of the above major world religions. (20 marks)
- b) Explain how the religious ceremony that you have described above expresses the religious beliefs of the members of the major world religion with which it is associated. (30 marks)
- c) Choose **one** world religion from List A and **one** world religion from List B below:
 LIST A: ◆ CHRISTIANITY ◆ JUDAISM
 LIST B: ◆ BUDDHISM ◆ HINDUISM ◆ ISLAM
 Compare the way in which the community of believers in Ireland today is structured in **each** of the world religions that you have chosen above. (30 marks)

SECTION D MORAL DECISION - MAKING

Answer a), b) and c).

- a) Profile how religion could be involved in the development of a person's conscience. (20 marks)
- b) Explain why it is necessary for a person to have an informed conscience before making a moral decision. (20 marks)

- c)
- “Actors should not have a moral responsibility to be role models.”*



(Star of Love/Hate TV programme)

(Source: www.Independent.ie & Softkey Multimedia Inc.)
- Discuss this statement making reference to the factors that can influence a person's moral decision-making. (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) ◆ BUDDHISM ◆ CHRISTIANITY ◆ HINDUISM ◆ ISLAM ◆ JUDAISM
Compare the roles women today have in **two** of the above world religions. (40 marks)
- b) Examine how the ideas or actions of **one** woman, in any of the categories below, played a part in the development of the religious tradition with which she is associated.
- FOUNDERS & REFORMERS ● RELIGIOUS ● SOCIAL ● SPIRITUAL
OF RELIGIOUS ORDERS WRITERS REFORMERS THINKERS (40 marks)

SECTION F ISSUES OF JUSTICE AND PEACE

Answer a) and b).

- a) Explain how the 'Just War' theory can give guidance in deciding if violence is justified. (40 marks)
- b) Examine the effectiveness of using non-violence as a way of bringing about justice in a situation. (40 marks)

SECTION G WORSHIP, PRAYER AND RITUAL

Answer a) and b).

- a) Describe an example of how *either* a mantra *or* a sacred text is used in meditation as a form of prayer by the members of a major world religion that you have studied. (40 marks)
- b) Outline the origins of a meditation technique that is used as a form of prayer in **one** major world religion. (40 marks)

Answer a) and b).

- a) Outline the way in which an archaeological discovery has contributed to the current understanding of how the Bible came to be written. (40 marks)
- b) Profile **one** way in which people today could be inspired by the story of Job in the Bible. (40 marks)



(Source: Softkey Multimedia Inc.)

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