



# Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit State Examinations Commission

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2017

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – ORDINARY LEVEL

FRIDAY, 23 JUNE – AFTERNOON, 2. 00 to 4.00

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. SEARCHING FOR THE MEANING OF LIFE

Answer a) and b).

a) Describe **one** example of how a symbol is used to express the meaning of life by *either* individuals *or* groups today. (20 marks)

b) Explain how the human search for the meaning of life is reflected in the main features of **one** artefact that can be traced back to people who lived in an ancient society. (20 marks)



(Source: [www.freepik.com](http://www.freepik.com))

#### QUESTION 2. CONCEPTS OF GOD

Answer a) and b).

a) Outline **one** example of how polytheism can be seen in the beliefs of a major world religion. (20 marks)

b) ◆ CHRISTIANITY ◆ ISLAM ◆ JUDAISM

Explain why polytheism is associated with the founding story of **one** of the above world religions. (20 marks)

#### QUESTION 3. MORAL VALUES

Answer a) and b).

a) ◆ BUDDHISM ◆ CHRISTIANITY ◆ HINDUISM ◆ ISLAM ◆ JUDAISM  
Explain how the understanding of God/gods/the transcendent in **one** of the above world religions has implications for the moral values by which its members live today. (20 marks)



b) Examine how the values of a major world religion relate to values promoted within secular society today. (20 marks)

(Source: Softkey Multimedia Inc.)

## 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) ● CORINTH ● PHILIPPI ● THESSALONICA

Describe what everyday life was like for people living in **one** of the above places in Pre-Christian times.

(20 marks)

- b) Outline **two** ways that Christians had to adapt their lifestyle when a Christian community was first formed in the place that you have described in part a) above.

(30 marks)

- c) ● ESSENES ● PHARISEES ● SADDUCEES ● ZEALOTS

Compare the way in which **two** of the above groups responded to Roman rule in Palestine at the time of Jesus of Nazareth.

(30 marks)

### SECTION C WORLD RELIGIONS

Answer a), b) and c).

- a) ● MANA ● TABU ● TOTEM ● SHAMAN

Outline what is involved in any **two** of the above features of primal religion.

(20 marks)

- b) Explain how the influence of primal religion can be seen in a major world religion that you have studied.

(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 how the human person is viewed in the teaching of **each** of the world religions that you have chosen above.

(30 marks)

### SECTION D MORAL DECISION-MAKING

Answer a), b) and c).

- a) Outline what Jesus taught his followers about the idea of 'right relationship' in his preaching.

(20 marks)

- b) ◆ BUDDHISM ◆ HINDUISM ◆ ISLAM ◆ JUDAISM

Choose **two** of the above world religions and outline what is taught by each as a principle of right and wrong.

(30 marks)

- c) ● CAPITAL PUNISHMENT ● CHILD LABOUR ● SLAVERY

Examine how there has been a change in thinking since the Enlightenment about what is right and wrong on **one** of the issues listed above.

(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) ● BIOLOGY ● PHILOSOPHY ● PSYCHOLOGY ● SOCIOLOGY

Outline how **one** of the above has influenced the changing roles of men and women in society today. (40 marks)

- b) ● FOUNDERS & REFORMERS OF RELIGIOUS ORDERS ● RELIGIOUS WRITERS ● SOCIAL REFORMERS ● SPIRITUAL THINKERS

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

- i. Her key insights/actions. (20 marks)  
ii. Her faith/commitment. (20 marks)

### SECTION F ISSUES OF JUSTICE AND PEACE

**Answer a) and b).**

- a) ● DISCRIMINATION IN IRELAND ● POVERTY IN IRELAND ● WORLD HUNGER

Outline how the teaching of a major world religion encourages its members to address the causes of **one** of the above issues. (40 marks)

- b) Explain how the teaching of a major world religion is reflected in **two** key principles of the 'Just War' theory. (40 marks)

### SECTION G WORSHIP, PRAYER AND RITUAL

**Answer a) and b).**

- a) *Different world religions have particular times of year or seasons that they regard as sacred.*

- ◆ BUDDHISM ◆ CHRISTIANITY ◆ HINDUISM ◆ ISLAM ◆ JUDAISM

i. Describe the way that a particular calendar time or season is marked as sacred by members in **one** of the above world religions. (20 marks)

ii. Explain how the beliefs of a world religion are reflected in the way members mark the sacred time or season that you have described in part *a)i* above. (20 marks)

- b) Examine how sacred text is used as a meditation technique in prayer by the members of **two** major world religions. (40 marks)

## SECTION H THE BIBLE: LITERATURE AND SACRED TEXT

Answer a) and b).

a) Profile how the influence of the Bible can be seen in **one** example of *either* art or music. (20 marks)

- b)
- |   |                               |  |   |
|---|-------------------------------|--|---|
| ●   | ●                             | ●  | ●                                       |
| THE LABOURERS IN<br>THE VINEYARD<br>(MATTHEW 20:1-16) | THE SOWER<br>(MATTHEW 13:1-9) | THE TEN WEDDING<br>ATTENDANTS<br>(MATTHEW 25:1-13) | THE UNJUST<br>STEWARD<br>(LUKE 16:1-13) |

i. Describe the circumstances in which **three** of the parables listed above were first told by Jesus to his disciples. (30 marks)

ii. Outline how **two** of the parables listed above had an influence on Early Christian communities. (30 marks)



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