



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit State Examinations Commission

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - ORDINARY LEVEL

THURSDAY, 22 JUNE 2006 - AFTERNOON, 2.00 to 4.00

Total Marks: 320

General Directions for Candidates

CANDIDATES MUST ATTEMPT 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 ATTEMPT TWO OF THE FOLLOWING THREE QUESTIONS.

(All questions carry 40 marks each)

SECTION A THE SEARCH FOR MEANING AND VALUES

QUESTION 1. PHILOSOPHERS OF ANCIENT GREECE

- a. Outline **one** key philosophical idea of *either* Socrates *or* Plato. (20 marks)
- b. Explain how an idea of *either* Socrates *or* Plato was important in the development of philosophy. (20 marks)

QUESTION 2. HUMANISM

- a. Briefly outline what humanism means. (10 marks)
- b. Name **one** key person in the humanist tradition. (10 marks)
- c. Describe the contribution he/she made to humanism. (20 marks)

QUESTION 3. IMAGES OF GOD

- a. Describe *either* **one** contemporary *or* **one** traditional image of God / the transcendent and give an account of the understanding of God / the transcendent suggested by it. (20 marks)
- b. Explain how a particular understanding of God / the transcendent may influence the idea of right or wrong held by a person with religious belief. (20 marks)



UNIT TWO

(160 marks)

YOU SHOULD SPEND APPROXIMATELY 60 MINUTES COMPLETING THIS UNIT.

YOU MUST ATTEMPT TWO OF THE FOLLOWING THREE SECTIONS.

(All sections carry 80 marks each)

SECTION B CHRISTIANITY - PALESTINE AT THE TIME OF JESUS



- a. Outline the main features of *either* the Roman political system *or* the Jewish religious system in Palestine at the time of Jesus. (25 marks)
- b. Describe **one** example of a situation where Jesus was in conflict with *either* the political *or* the religious leaders in Palestine at his time. (25 marks)
- c. Explain why Jesus was seen as a threat to *either* the political *or* the religious leaders in Palestine at his time. (30 marks)

SECTION C WORLD RELIGIONS - CELEBRATING LIFE

- a. Outline a religious ceremony in which birth / initiation is celebrated in *either* Christianity *or* Judaism. (20 marks)
- b. Outline a religious ceremony in which birth / initiation is celebrated in **one** of the following world religions:
◆ Buddhism ◆ Hinduism ◆ Islam (20 marks)
- c.
 - i. Select **one** symbol from each of the ceremonies you have outlined in part a) and part b) above and explain the meaning of each symbol. (20 marks)
 - ii. Describe the way in which **one** other symbol is used in a religious ceremony you have studied. (20 marks)

SECTION D MORAL DECISION-MAKING - MORALITY AND RELIGION

- a. Briefly describe the religious, social and cultural circumstances that the followers of Moses lived in, at the time the Decalogue (Ten Commandments) came into being. (20 marks)
- b. Briefly outline what is meant by the Covenant and explain how the Decalogue can help people to live the Covenant. (30 marks)
- c. Compare the Decalogue with what Jesus taught about right or wrong behaviour. (30 marks)

UNIT THREE

(80 marks)

YOU SHOULD SPEND APPROXIMATELY 30 MINUTES COMPLETING THIS UNIT.

YOU MUST ATTEMPT **ONE** OF THE FOLLOWING FOUR SECTIONS.

(All sections carry 80 marks each)

SECTION E RELIGION AND GENDER

◆ Buddhism ◆ Christianity ◆ Hinduism ◆ Islam ◆ Judaism

Compare the role of women in **two** of the above world religions.

(80 marks)

SECTION F ISSUES OF JUSTICE AND PEACE

• Discrimination in Ireland • Poverty in Ireland • World Hunger

a. Briefly analyse the underlying causes of **one** of the issues listed above. (25 marks)

b. Outline the understanding of justice and peace in **one** of the following world religions:

◆ Buddhism ◆ Christianity ◆ Hinduism ◆ Islam ◆ Judaism

(25 marks)

c. Explain how the understanding of justice and peace in **one** of the world religions listed above could help in finding a solution to an issue you have studied. (30 marks)

SECTION G WORSHIP, PRAYER AND RITUAL

• Diwali • Easter Sunday • Passover • Ramadan • Wesak

a. Different religious traditions have special times, such as those listed above, which are regarded as sacred.

Choose **one** such time and explain how –

i. A symbol associated with the time you have chosen marks this time as sacred. (20 marks)

ii. A ritual associated with the time you have chosen marks this time as sacred. (20 marks)

b. Explain why the time you have described above is important to the members of the world religion with which it is most associated. (40 marks)

SECTION I RELIGION: THE IRISH EXPERIENCE - CHRISTIANITY IN IRELAND

a. Describe *either one* religious belief *or one* religious practice found in pre-Christian Ireland.

(40 marks)

b.



Explain how early Christian missionaries, such as St. Patrick, adapted pre-Christian Irish religious practices to bring Christianity to the people of Ireland.

(40 marks)

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