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World religions
Standard level
Paper 1

15 May 2024

Zone A afternoon | **Zone B** afternoon | **Zone C** afternoon

Candidate session number

1 hour 15 minutes

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Instructions to candidates

- Write your session number in the boxes above.
- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer a total of five questions selecting at least one question from:
Section A
and
Section B
and
Section C.
- Answers must be written within the answer boxes provided.
- Each question is worth **[9 marks]**.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[45 marks]**.



Answer a total of **five** questions, selecting **at least one** from **each** section. Answers must be written within the answer boxes provided.

Section A

Answer **at least one** question. Answers must be written within the answer boxes provided.

Hinduism

Study the passage below and answer the questions which follow.

1. Becoming Brahman, calm in the Self, one neither grieves nor desires. One becomes the same to all beings, one attains supreme devotion unto Me. By devotion the one knows Me in truth, what and who I am; and knowing Me in truth, one forthwith enters into the Supreme.

Bhagavad Gita 18:54–55 (adapted)

- (a) Identify **three** teachings in this passage.

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- (b) Explain why Hindus want to liberate themselves from samsara to reach moksha (liberation).

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Buddhism

Study the passage below and answer the questions which follow.

2. It is important to understand the First Noble Truth [dukkha] clearly because, as the Buddha says, “he who sees dukkha sees also the arising of dukkha, sees also the cessation of dukkha, and sees also the path leading to the cessation of dukkha.” This does not make the life of a Buddhist sorrowful, as some people wrongly imagine. On the contrary, a true Buddhist is happy. He has no fears or anxieties. He is always calm and cannot be upset by changes because he sees things as they are.

What the Buddha Taught, p. 27 (adapted)

- (a) Identify **three** teachings in this passage.

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- (b) Explain ways in which tanha/trishna (craving) can lead to dukkha/dukha (suffering or unsatisfactoriness).

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Sikhism

Study the passage below and answer the questions which follow.

3.

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(a) Identify **three** teachings in this passage.

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(b) Explain Sikh teachings about favourable and unfavourable rebirth after death.

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Section B

Answer **at least one** question. Answers must be written within the answer boxes provided.

Judaism

Study the passage below and answer the questions which follow.

4. And this is the Instruction that the Lord your God has commanded... Hear, O Israel! The Lord is your God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

Deuteronomy 6:1–5 (adapted)

- (a) Identify **three** teachings in this passage. [3]

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- (b) Explain how Jews might observe the Shema in their daily lives. [6]

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Christianity

Study the passage below and answer the questions which follow.

5. Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words.”

John 14:23–24

- (a) Identify **three** teachings in this passage.

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- (b) Explain the ways in which a person might achieve salvation according to Christianity.

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Islam

Study the passage below and answer the questions which follow.

6. Do not come near to the orphan's property, except to improve it, until he reaches the age of full strength. Give measure and weight with justice. We do not place a burden on any soul, except that which it can bear. Whenever you speak, speak justly, even if a near relative is concerned.

Qur'an 6:152 (adapted)

- (a) Identify **three** teachings in this passage.

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- (b) Explain why Muslims follow the path of prescribed actions.

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Section C

Answer **at least one** question. Answers must be written within the answer boxes provided.

Taoism

Study the passage below and answer the questions which follow.

7. Empty yourself of everything.
Let the mind rest at peace.
The ten thousand things [all things in nature] rise and fall while the Self watches their return.
They grow and flourish and then return to the source.

Lao-Tzu, Tao Te Ching 16 (adapted)

- (a) Identify **three** teachings in this passage. [3]

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- (b) Explain what Taoists believe about the fu (invariable law of nature that ensures everything returns to a balanced state). [6]

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Jainism

Study the passage below and answer the questions which follow.

8. Reflecting upon wearing off karma enables us to purge the soul of its impurities. The wearing off may occur without conscious effort or through virtuous practices. The first is illustrated by births in hell or heaven due to the fruition of past karma, which subsequently wears off. The second refers to the practice of austerities and endurance of hardships for the elimination of past karma.

Tattvartha Sutra 9 (adapted)

- (a) Identify **three** teachings in this passage.

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- (b) Explain how following the Five Great Vows help Jains achieve liberation.

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Bahá'í Faith

Study the passage below and answer the questions which follow.

9. The reality of man [humanity] is his thought, not his material body. The thought force and the animal force are partners. Although man is part of the animal creation, he possesses a power of thought superior to all other created beings.

‘Abdu’l-Bahá, Paris Talks. Part One, Chapter 2 (adapted)

- (a) Identify **three** teachings in this passage.

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- (b) Explain Bahá'í beliefs about the human condition.

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Answers written on this page
will not be marked.



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