



GCSE BITESIZE Examinations

General Certificate of Secondary Education

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Specimen Paper

Time allowed: 2 hours

Answer one question from each of Parts A to D

Part A

Answer one question only

Philosophy

Death and the Afterlife

1. Buddhism

- (a) Describe Buddhist beliefs about what happens to evil people after death.
(8 marks)
- (b) Explain how a Buddhist funeral service might comfort someone whose close friend has died.
(7 marks)
- (c) 'It cannot be true that there is life after death, because there is no evidence for it.'
- Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Buddhism in your answer.
(5 marks)

2. Christianity

- (a) Describe Christian beliefs about what happens to evil people after death.
(8 marks)
- (b) Explain how a Christian funeral service might comfort someone whose close friend has died.
(7 marks)
- (c) 'It cannot be true that there is life after death, because there is no evidence for it.'
- Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.
(5 marks)

3. Hinduism

- (a) Describe Hindu beliefs about what happens to evil people after death.
(8 marks)
- (b) Explain how a Hindu funeral service might comfort someone whose close friend has died.
(7 marks)
- (c) 'It cannot be true that there is life after death, because there is no evidence for it.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer.

(5 marks)

4. Islam

- (a) Describe Muslim beliefs about what happens to evil people after death.
(8 marks)
- (b) Explain how a Muslim funeral service might comfort someone whose close friend has died.
(7 marks)
- (c) 'It cannot be true that there is life after death, because there is no evidence for it.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer.

(5 marks)

5. Judaism

- (a) Describe Jewish beliefs about what happens to evil people after death.
(8 marks)
- (b) Explain how a Jewish funeral service might comfort someone whose close friend has died.
(7 marks)
- (c) 'It cannot be true that there is life after death, because there is no evidence for it.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer.

(5 marks)

6. Sikhism

- (a) Describe Sikh beliefs about what happens to evil people after death.
(8 marks)
- (b) Explain how a Sikh funeral service might comfort someone whose close friend has died.
(7 marks)
- (c) 'It cannot be true that there is life after death, because there is no evidence for it.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Sikhism in your answer.

(5 marks)

Part B

Answer one question only

Philosophy

Belief and worship

7. Buddhism

(a) Describe how Buddhists worship in a temple. (8 marks)

(b) Explain how Buddhists use symbols in a place of worship. (7 marks)

(c) 'Prayer is the most important part of worship.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Buddhism in your answer. (5 marks)

8. Christianity

(a) Describe how Christians worship in a church. (8 marks)

(b) Explain how Christians use symbols in a place of worship. (7 marks)

(c) 'Prayer is the most important part of worship.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer. (5 marks)

9. Hinduism

(a) Describe how Hindus worship in a mandir. (8 marks)

(b) Explain how Hindus use symbols in a place of worship. (7 marks)

(c) 'Prayer is the most important part of worship.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer. (5 marks)

10. Islam

(a) Describe how Muslims worship in a mosque. (8 marks)

(b) Explain how the design of a mosque shows Muslim beliefs. (7 marks)

(c) 'Prayer is the most important part of worship.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer. (5 marks)

11. Judaism

(a) Describe how Jews worship in a synagogue. (8 marks)

(b) Explain how Jews use symbols in a place of worship. (7 marks)

(c) 'Prayer is the most important part of worship.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer. (5 marks)

12. Sikhism

(a) Describe how Sikhs worship in a gurdwara. (8 marks)

(b) Explain how Siikhs use symbols in a place of worship. (7 marks)

(c) 'Prayer is the most important part of worship.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Sikhism in your answer. (5 marks)

Part C

Answer one question only

Ethics

Religion and Medical Ethics

13. Buddhism

- (a) Describe Buddhist attitudes towards abortion. (8 marks)
- (b) Explain how a Buddhist might respond to someone who was thinking about committing suicide. (7 marks)
- (c) 'Only God has the right to take away life.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Buddhism in your answer. (5 marks)

14. Christianity

- (a) Describe Christian attitudes towards abortion. (8 marks)
- (b) Explain how a Christian might respond to someone who was thinking about committing suicide. (7 marks)
- (c) 'Only God has the right to take away life.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer. (5 marks)

15. Hinduism

- (a) Describe Hindu attitudes towards abortion. (8 marks)
- (b) Explain how a Hindu might respond to someone who was thinking about committing suicide. (7 marks)
- (c) 'Only God has the right to take away life.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer. (5 marks)

16. Islam

- (a) Describe Muslim attitudes towards abortion. (8 marks)
- (b) Explain how a Muslim might respond to someone who was thinking about committing suicide. (7 marks)
- (c) 'Only Allah has the right to take away life.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer. (5 marks)

17. Judaism

- (a) Describe Jewish attitudes towards abortion. (8 marks)
- (b) Explain how a Jew might respond to someone who was thinking about committing suicide. (7 marks)
- (c) 'Only G-d has the right to take away life.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer. (5 marks)

18. Sikhism

- (a) Describe Sikh attitudes towards abortion. (8 marks)
- (b) Explain how a Sikh might respond to someone who was thinking about committing suicide. (7 marks)
- (c) 'Only God has the right to take away life.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. You must refer to Sikhism in your answer. (5 marks)

Part D

Answer one question only

Ethics

War and peace

19. Buddhism

(a) Describe Buddhist attitudes towards war. (8 marks)

(b) Explain why Buddhists might work for peace. (7 marks)

(c) 'All Hindus must be pacifists.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. (5 marks)

20. Christianity

(a) Describe Christian attitudes towards war. (8 marks)

(b) Explain why Christians might work for peace. (7 marks)

(c) 'All Christians must be pacifists.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. (5 marks)

21. Hinduism

(a) Describe Buddhists attitudes towards war. (8 marks)

(b) Explain why Hindus might work for peace. (7 marks)

(c) 'All Hindus must be pacifists.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. (5 marks)

22. Islam

(a) Describe Muslim attitudes towards war. (8 marks)

(b) Explain why Muslims might work for peace. (7 marks)

(c) 'All Muslims must be pacifists.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support you answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. (5 marks)

23. Judaism

(a) Describe Jewish attitudes towards war. (8 marks)

(b) Explain why Jews might work for peace. (7 marks)

(c) 'All Jews must be pacifists.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. (5 marks)

24. Sikhism

(a) Describe Sikh attitudes towards war. (8 marks)

(b) Explain why Sikhs might work for peace. (7 marks)

(c) 'All Sikhs must be pacifists.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. (5 marks)