



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, 2013

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION — HIGHER LEVEL

FRIDAY, 21 JUNE — MORNING, 9.30 to 12.00

Total Marks: 320

General Directions for Candidates

CANDIDATES MUST ANSWER THE FOLLOWING:

- **ONE QUESTION 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 **ONE** OF THE FOLLOWING TWO QUESTIONS.

(All questions carry 80 marks each)

SECTION A THE SEARCH FOR MEANING AND VALUES

Question 1.

Answer a) and b).

- a) Examine the influence any **two** of Socrates' ideas had on the development of philosophy.

(40 marks)



(Source: thephilosophyhub.com)

- b) *In society today an interest in spirituality can be seen in different ways.*

Assess the evidence for this statement making reference to **two** ways that an interest in spirituality can be seen in the lives of people today.

(40 marks)

Question 2.

Answer a) and b).

- a) Name **one** philosopher associated with humanism and outline his/her contribution to the development of humanism.

(40 marks)

- b) ● AGNOSTICISM ● REDUCTIONISM

Describe how **each** of the views listed above could influence a person's search for the meaning of life today.

(40 marks)

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) and *either* b) or c).

- a) ● CORINTH ● PHILIPPI ● THESSALONICA

Trace how the writings of Saint Paul show the way that **one** of the Early Christian communities listed above addressed a challenge it faced in putting the teaching of Jesus into practice.

(40 marks)

- b) Describe **two** rites of Christian worship and outline the way in which Jesus is remembered in each rite.

(40 marks)

or

- c) i. Profile **one** example of the work that has been done by Christian Churches to promote unity between them.

(20 marks)

- ii. Describe **one** difficulty that still exists for Christian Churches in their search for unity today.

(20 marks)

SECTION C WORLD RELIGIONS

Answer a) and b).

- a) Choose **one** of the world religions from List A and **one** of the world religions from List B below:

List A

- ◆ CHRISTIANITY (ANY DENOMINATION)
- ◆ JUDAISM

List B

- ◆ BUDDHISM
- ◆ HINDUISM
- ◆ ISLAM

Examine the similarities and differences in the way in which the transcendent/God is understood in the world religions that you have chosen from List A and List B above.

(40 marks)

- b) Explain how a connection between the sacred and the profane may be found in **two** of the following features of primal religion:

- MANA ● SHAMAN ● TABU ● TOTEM

(40 marks)

SECTION D MORAL DECISION - MAKING

Answer a) and b).

- a) Name **one** moral theorist that you have studied and outline what is involved in the stages of moral development that are put forward in his/her theory.

(40 marks)

- b) ● DEONTOLOGICAL ETHICS ● HEDONISM ● NATURAL LAW ● TELEOLOGICAL ETHICS ● UTILITARIANISM

Apply the approach suggested by **one** of the moral theories/philosophies listed above to deciding what is the right thing to do about a moral issue that you have studied.

(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 F ISSUES OF JUSTICE AND PEACE

Answer a) and b).

- a) ◆ BUDDHISM ◆ CHRISTIANITY ◆ HINDUISM ◆ ISLAM ◆ JUDAISM

Examine how respect for the environment is encouraged in the teaching of **one** world religion listed above. (40 marks)

- b) Describe how an environmental issue is being addressed by the work of **one** religious group/organisation today. (40 marks)

SECTION G WORSHIP, PRAYER AND RITUAL

Answer a) and b).

- a) ◆ BUDDHISM ◆ CHRISTIANITY ◆ HINDUISM ◆ ISLAM ◆ JUDAISM

Examine how religious belief is reflected in the features of a place that is sacred to the members of **one** of the world religions listed above. (40 marks)

- b) ◆ BUDDHISM ◆ CHRISTIANITY

Describe what is involved in a meditation technique that is practised in **one** of the above world religions and explain why this technique is used as a form of prayer. (40 marks)

SECTION I RELIGION: THE IRISH EXPERIENCE

Answer a) and *either* b) i or ii.

- a) Compare the pattern of religious practice among young people in Ireland today with the pattern of religious practice in the population as a whole. (40 marks)

- b) i. Outline **two** examples of how Pre-Christian religious beliefs can be seen in Irish myths/sagas. (40 marks)

or

- ii. Examine how **two** religious practices found in Ireland today can be traced back to Pre-Christian times. (40 marks)

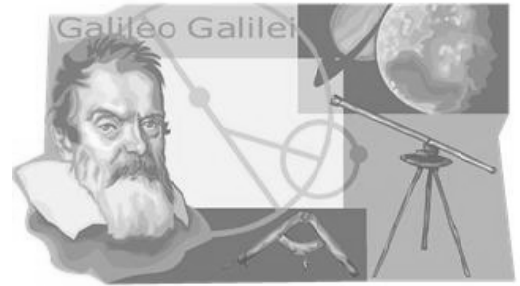


SECTION J RELIGION AND SCIENCE

Answer a) and b).

- a) Examine the influence that the work of Galileo had on the religious and scientific thinking of his time.

(40 marks)



(Source: office.microsoft.com)

- b) ● THE DEBATE ABOUT ORIGINS ● QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BEGINNING OF LIFE

Outline the insights that religion and science could bring to concerns that people may have about **one** of the topics listed above.

(40 marks)

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