

# **Religious Studies A: World Religion(s)**

General Certificate of Secondary Education **B576**

Hinduism 2 (Worship, Community and Family, Sacred Writings)

## **Mark Scheme for June 2010**

---

OCR (Oxford Cambridge and RSA) is a leading UK awarding body, providing a wide range of qualifications to meet the needs of pupils of all ages and abilities. OCR qualifications include AS/A Levels, Diplomas, GCSEs, OCR Nationals, Functional Skills, Key Skills, Entry Level qualifications, NVQs and vocational qualifications in areas such as IT, business, languages, teaching/training, administration and secretarial skills.

It is also responsible for developing new specifications to meet national requirements and the needs of students and teachers. OCR is a not-for-profit organisation; any surplus made is invested back into the establishment to help towards the development of qualifications and support which keep pace with the changing needs of today's society.

This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and students, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which marks were awarded by Examiners. It does not indicate the details of the discussions which took place at an Examiners' meeting before marking commenced.

All Examiners are instructed that alternative correct answers and unexpected approaches in candidates' scripts must be given marks that fairly reflect the relevant knowledge and skills demonstrated.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the published question papers and the Report on the Examination.

OCR will not enter into any discussion or correspondence in connection with this mark scheme.

© OCR 2010

Any enquiries about publications should be addressed to:

OCR Publications  
PO Box 5050  
Annesley  
NOTTINGHAM  
NG15 0DL

Telephone: 0870 770 6622  
Facsimile: 01223 552610  
E-mail: [publications@ocr.org.uk](mailto:publications@ocr.org.uk)

## AO1 part (d) question

Level 0 0	<b>No evidence submitted or response does not address the question.</b>
Level 1 1-2	<p>A <b>weak</b> attempt to answer the question. Candidates will demonstrate little understanding of the question.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A small amount of relevant information may be included</li> <li>• Answers may be in the form of a list with little or no description/explanation/analysis</li> <li>• There will be little or no use of specialist terms</li> <li>• Answers may be ambiguous or disorganised</li> <li>• Errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling may be intrusive</li> </ul>
Level 2 3-4	<p>A <b>satisfactory</b> answer to the question. Candidates will demonstrate some understanding of the question.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information will be relevant but may lack specific detail</li> <li>• There will be some description/explanation/analysis although this may not be fully developed</li> <li>• The information will be presented for the most part in a structured format</li> <li>• Some use of specialist terms, although these may not always be used appropriately</li> <li>• There may be errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation</li> </ul>
Level 3 5-6	<p>A <b>good</b> answer to the question. Candidates will demonstrate a clear understanding of the question.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A fairly complete and full description/explanation/analysis</li> <li>• A comprehensive account of the range and depth of relevant material.</li> <li>• The information will be presented in a structured format</li> <li>• There will be significant, appropriate and correct use of specialist terms.</li> <li>• There will be few if any errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation</li> </ul>

## AO2 part (e) question

Level 0 0	<b>No evidence submitted or response does not address the question.</b>
Level 1 1-3	<p>A <b>weak</b> attempt to answer the question. Candidates will demonstrate little understanding of the question.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answers may be simplistic with little or no relevant information</li> <li>• Viewpoints may not be supported or appropriate</li> <li>• Answers may be ambiguous or disorganised</li> <li>• There will be little or no use of specialist terms</li> <li>• Errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling may be intrusive</li> </ul>
Level 2 4-6	<p>A <b>limited</b> answer to the question. Candidates will demonstrate some understanding of the question.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some information will be relevant, although may lack specific detail.</li> <li>• Only one view might be offered and developed</li> <li>• Viewpoints might be stated and supported with limited argument/discussion</li> <li>• The information will show some organisation</li> <li>• Reference to the religion studied may be vague</li> <li>• Some use of specialist terms, although these may not always be used appropriately</li> <li>• There may be errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation</li> </ul>
Level 3 7-9	<p>A <b>competent</b> answer to the question. Candidates will demonstrate a sound understanding of the question.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Selection of relevant material with appropriate development</li> <li>• Evidence of appropriate personal response</li> <li>• Justified arguments/different points of view supported by some discussion</li> <li>• The information will be presented in a structured format</li> <li>• Some appropriate reference to the religion studied</li> <li>• Specialist terms will be used appropriately and for the most part correctly</li> <li>• There may be occasional errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation</li> </ul>
Level 4 10-12	<p>A <b>good</b> answer to the question. Candidates will demonstrate a clear understanding of the question.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answers will reflect the significance of the issue(s) raised</li> <li>• Clear evidence of an appropriate personal response, fully supported</li> <li>• A range of points of view supported by justified arguments/discussion</li> <li>• The information will be presented in a clear and organised way</li> <li>• Clear reference to the religion studied</li> <li>• Specialist terms will be used appropriately and correctly</li> <li>• Few, if any errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation</li> </ul>

		Mark Scheme	Mark	Rationale/Additional Guidance
Answer any <b>two</b> questions, you must answer <b>all</b> parts (a-e) of the questions you choose.				
1	a	<p><b>What is puja?</b></p> <p>Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worship</li> </ul> <p>1 mark for response.</p>	1	Candidates will not be credited for “prayer” as this is not accurate. Whilst the word “worship” is not specifically required it must be clear that the candidate is aware of the ritualistic element of puja.
1	b	<p><b>Give two things that a Hindu might do during puja.</b></p> <p>Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offerings to the gods</li> <li>• Singing bhajans</li> <li>• Ringing a bell to symbolise the beginning of sacred time</li> <li>• Arti</li> <li>• Namaste to the deities</li> <li>• Circumambulating the shrine</li> </ul> <p>1 mark for each response.</p>	2	“Praying” will be credited as this is an activity which occurs during puja, although it is not synonymous with puja.
1	c	<p><b>Give three reasons why puja is important to some Hindus?</b></p> <p>Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It shows love and devotion to the gods</li> <li>• It is part of the dharma of the family</li> <li>• It is a way of gaining karma</li> <li>• It may be seen as a way to attain moksha in the bhakti tradition</li> <li>• It makes them feel close to the gods</li> <li>• It is a way of asking the gods for help</li> </ul>	3	

		1 mark for each response.		
1	d	<p><b>Explain how puja reflects Hindu beliefs.</b></p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO1 descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates may consider some of the following:</p> <p>The idea of devotion to God in the bhakti tradition including the teachings of Krishna in the Bhagavad Gita about devotion and moksha.</p> <p>The idea of God becoming present in the murti either permanently or for certain periods of time and the way that the murti is treated as a result of this.</p> <p>The idea of the transference of the god's blessing through prashad.</p> <p>The varna system which is represented by the fact that only brahmins can preside over certain ceremonies.</p> <p>The importance of puja during certain festivals and samskaras.</p>	6	
1	e	<p><b>'Hindus do not need to perform puja.'</b></p> <p><b>Discuss this statement. You should include different supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer.</b></p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO2 descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates may consider some of the following:</p> <p>The fact that many Hindus believe that the gods have no absolute</p>	12	

	<p>existence and so worshiping them achieves nothing.</p> <p>The requirement to perform puja in certain scriptures and through tradition. This could be contrasted with the path of knowledge (the jnana marga) and the idea that spiritual practices such as meditation and yoga are a better path to moksha.</p> <p>The fact that puja can be seen as a way to gain good karma and as a possible path to moksha.</p> <p>The fact that worship, at least in the home, is fundamental and integral to Hinduism and that Hinduism cannot be followed without it.</p> <p>The idea that the self is, on an ultimate level, identical to Brahman so that worship is pointless.</p> <p>The fact that God is everywhere so that worship in a particular place or manner is not needed.</p> <p>The idea current in certain Hindu groups that puja is superstitious and outdated.</p>		
--	---	--	--

2	a	<p><b>What is Upanayana?</b> Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sacred Thread ceremony</li> <li>• Samskara which marks the beginning of the brahmacharya ashrama</li> </ul> <p>1 mark for response.</p>	1	
2	b	<p><b>Give two examples of things that might happen during Upanayana.</b> Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boy's head shaved</li> <li>• Mother and son share a symbolic meal</li> <li>• Piece of cloth held between father and son who stand facing each other east to west</li> <li>• Offerings made to a sacred fire</li> <li>• The giving of the sacred thread itself</li> <li>• The teaching of the Gayatri hymn</li> <li>• Vows taken by the boy</li> <li>• Boy pretends to leave home but is persuaded to stay and share a meal with the family</li> </ul> <p>1 mark for each response.</p>	2	Prayers, and ritual cleansing in preparation for the ceremony will be credited, as will the singing of hymns/bhajans.
2	c	<p><b>Explain how a Hindu might try to follow their dharma</b> Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through the observance of varnashramadharma; fulfilling the duties appropriate to ones varna (which may include studying the scriptures, training for war and governance, etc) or ashrama (which may include celibacy and study or the pursuit of material prosperity)</li> </ul>	3	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Observance of laws such as the law of Manu</li> <li>• By studying scriptures such as the Ramayana and attempting to learn and apply correct dharma through the teachings and examples found in them</li> </ul> <p>A statement 1 mark, with development 2 marks, and exemplification/amplification 3 marks.</p>		
2	d	<p><b>Explain why following their dharma is important to some Hindus.</b></p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO1 descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates may consider some of the following:</p> <p>An explanation of the importance of dharma for the acquisition of karma and so a good reincarnation or progress towards moksha.</p> <p>Others may explain that dharma is essential to maintain the natural God given order of the universe.</p> <p>Different types of dharma and their significance might be mentioned, for example varnashramadharma.</p> <p>Some might suggest that following dharma is essential for a stable society.</p>	6	
2	e	<p><b>'The law of karma is not fair.'</b></p> <p><b>Discuss this statement. You should include different supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer.</b></p>	12	

	<p>Examiners should mark according to the AO2 descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates may consider some of the following:</p> <p>The idea that karma is supremely fair as one suffers the natural consequences of their own actions so that what you get is exactly what you prepare for yourself.</p> <p>Candidates may extend this beyond this lifetime explaining the idea of reincarnation according to karma and suggesting that you get exactly what you deserve in your next birth.</p> <p>The idea that karma exists not as an external judgement but in order to teach you what you need to know in order to reach moksha; or that it is a fundamental feature of the way the universe is put together.</p> <p>The idea that karma can not be described as fair, as you do not have an enduring memory from one life to another. How can you learn from, or suffer the consequences of actions that you cannot remember?</p>		
--	--	--	--

3	a	<p><b>What are the Vedas?</b></p> <p>Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The main sacred writings of Hinduism</li> <li>• Scriptures believed to be given directly by the gods</li> <li>• Sruti scriptures</li> <li>• “That which is heard”, divinely revealed scriptures</li> <li>• A collection of four holy scriptures</li> </ul> <p>1 mark for response.</p>	1	
3	b	<p><b>Give two examples of Hindu sruti sacred writings.</b></p> <p>Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Vedas (or individual named Vedas)</li> <li>• The Upanishads (again, these may be individually named)</li> <li>• The Brahamanas</li> </ul> <p>1 mark for each response.</p>	2	
3	c	<p><b>Explain why sruti sacred writings are important to Hindus?</b></p> <p>Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They are believed to come directly from God and are not of human origin so they contain information that is beyond human capacity to know except through revelation</li> <li>• They contain speculation about the ultimate nature of reality, including Brahman, samsara, the atman and the way to find liberation from samsara through</li> </ul>	3	

		<p>moksha</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They are from God so that hearing them or reciting them of itself can lead to the acquisition of karma that can help towards moksha or an auspicious reincarnation</li> </ul> <p>A statement 1 mark, with development 2 marks, and exemplification/amplification 3 marks.</p>		
3	d	<p><b>Explain how studying the sacred writings might affect the life of a Hindu.</b></p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO1 descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates may consider some of the following:</p> <p>The bhakti traditions of the Bhagavad Gita which may lead to a life of love and devotion towards a deity through puja and personal worship.</p> <p>The jnana traditions of the Upanishads and how these could lead to a lifestyle of meditation, renunciation and asceticism in order to overcome attachment to the world and to lead towards moksha.</p> <p>The idea that by studying scriptures such as the Ramayana Hindus might attempt to work out what their dharma is and how best to live by following the teachings and example of the deities.</p> <p>The fact that for some Hindus study of the scriptures becomes an aim in itself leading to a life of study and contemplation.</p>	6	

3	e	<p><b>'The Hindu sacred writings are no longer important.'</b></p> <p><b>Discuss this statement. You should include different supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer.</b></p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO2 descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates may consider some of the following:</p> <p>The status of the Vedas as 'that which is heard' (sruti) and its status as the authoritative word of God and the indicator of orthodoxy within Hinduism.</p> <p>Reading, reciting or hearing the Vedas as a way of gaining karma.</p> <p>The liturgical use of the Vedas in puja and in certain samskaras such as the marriage service.</p> <p>The fact that study of the Vedas is only open to certain varnas meaning that access to the Vedas is seriously limited which obviously has an effect on their significance.</p> <p>The fact that although the theoretical authority of the Vedas is almost universally acknowledged in practicality the vast majority of Hindus are largely ignorant of its content which must mean that it is of very limited significance.</p>	12	
		<b>Total</b>	<b>[48]</b>	

**OCR (Oxford Cambridge and RSA Examinations)**  
**1 Hills Road**  
**Cambridge**  
**CB1 2EU**

**OCR Customer Contact Centre**

**14 – 19 Qualifications (General)**

Telephone: 01223 553998

Facsimile: 01223 552627

Email: [general.qualifications@ocr.org.uk](mailto:general.qualifications@ocr.org.uk)

**[www.ocr.org.uk](http://www.ocr.org.uk)**

For staff training purposes and as part of our quality assurance programme your call may be recorded or monitored

**Oxford Cambridge and RSA Examinations**  
**is a Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Registered in England**  
**Registered Office; 1 Hills Road, Cambridge, CB1 2EU**  
**Registered Company Number: 3484466**  
**OCR is an exempt Charity**

**OCR (Oxford Cambridge and RSA Examinations)**  
**Head office**  
**Telephone: 01223 552552**  
**Facsimile: 01223 552553**

© OCR 2010

