

Religious Studies A (World Religion(s))

General Certificate of Secondary Education

Unit **B575**: Hinduism 1 (Beliefs, Special Days, Divisions and Interpretations)

Mark Scheme for June 2011

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

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AO1 part (d) question

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

AO2 part (e) question

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

	Mark Scheme	Mark	Rationale/Additional Guidance
Answer any two questions, you must answer all parts (a-e) of the questions you choose.			
1	<p>(a) What is the atman?</p> <p>Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The self</i> • <i>The soul</i> • <i>The part of the person which survives death or is reincarnated</i> • <i>The essence of the person</i> <p>1 mark for response.</p>	1	
1	<p>(b) State <u>two</u> things that Hindus might believe about the atman.</p> <p>Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That it is eternal and cannot be destroyed • That it is reincarnated • That it is eventually reunited with Brahman through moksha • That it may be reborn in an animal as well as a human <p>1 mark for each response.</p>	2	
1	<p>(c) Name <u>three</u> Hindu deities.</p> <p>Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brahma • Vishnu • Shiva • Parvati • Lakshmi • Saraswati 	3	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Durga • Ganesha • Hanuman • Rama • Krishna <p>1 mark for each response.</p>		
1	(d)	<p>Explain what Hindus might believe about karma.</p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO1 descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates may consider some of the following:</p> <p>A description of karma as the amassing of merit according to 'good' and 'bad' action; or dharmic or adharmic actions.</p> <p>The importance of karma in deciding how someone will be reincarnated within samsara.</p> <p>The idea that karma must be transcended in order to achieve moksha.</p> <p>A description of the ways in which Hindus believe that karma can be gained or lost.</p>	6	
1	(e)	<p>'Being happy in this life is the only thing that matters.'</p> <p>Discuss this statement. You should include different supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to <u>Hinduism</u> in your answer.</p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO2 descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates may consider some of the following:</p> <p>The idea that since we cannot know anything about life after</p>	12	

	<p>death it is more sensible to be happy now.</p> <p>The idea that following the laws of dharma is actually the best way to be happy.</p> <p>The idea that unhappiness now may be working off bad karma from a previous life.</p> <p>The idea that good behaviour now can lead to increased happiness in a future life.</p> <p>The idea that moksha transcends human ideas of happiness and no happiness in life can compare to it.</p> <p>Candidates might discuss things which they believe to be more important than personal happiness, and may discuss the nature of happiness.</p>		
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2	(a)	<p>Name <u>one</u> Hindu festival.</p> <p>Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Durgapuja (Navaratri)• Divali• Dassehra• Holi <p>1 mark for response.</p>	1	
2	(b)	<p>Give <u>two</u> things Hindus might do during a festival.</p> <p>Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Performing puja• Preparing special food.• Listening to or re-enacting stories of deities connected to the festival• Reading the scriptures• Praying• Giving charity• Watching firework displays• Throwing coloured powders or waters• Giving and receiving cards and gifts• Settling accounts• Drawing rangoli patterns• Dancing• Decorate homes <p>1 mark for each response.</p>	2	

2	(c)	<p>State <u>three</u> things Hindus might do on a pilgrimage.</p> <p>Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performing puja, particularly to the deity with whom the site is associated • Performing penance or austerities in the hope of gaining karma or favours from the deities. • Performing specific actions associated with that site (for example bathing in the Ganges) • Listening to stories associated with that place • Seeking teaching or blessing from teachers or holy men who might be present • Donating money to holy places. <p>1 mark for each response.</p>	3	
2	(d)	<p>Explain why Varanasi is important to some Hindus.</p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO1 descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates may consider some of the following:</p> <p>Because it is a holy site and bathing in the Ganges there can wash away any bad karma accumulated up to this point in their lives</p> <p>Because many believe that those who die and are cremated on the ghats at Varanasi will achieve moksha straight away.</p> <p>Because visiting a holy site makes it easier to receive darshan and receive karma. At places like this it is easier to experience the divine.</p> <p>Because the city is associated with Shiva and the end of his penance and so is of particular importance to Shaivites.</p>	6	

2	(e)	<p>‘Festivals are only for children’.</p> <p>Discuss this statement. You should include different supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to <u>Hinduism</u> in your answer.</p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO2 descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates may consider some of the following:</p> <p>The fact that festivals involve food, presents and colourful dramas might be seen as being particularly attractive to children.</p> <p>The fact that festivals provide a good opportunity to pass on the stories and teachings of Hinduism to children in an attractive and fun way.</p> <p>The fact that there are many religious benefits from festivals that may be more understandable or beneficial to adults such as more complex moral teachings.</p> <p>The idea that festivals are enjoyable for everyone, not just children.</p> <p>Candidates are likely to refer to festivals in general, but are free to develop their arguments with reference to one or more specified festivals if they wish.</p>	12	
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3	(a)	<p>Name one of the major divisions of Hinduism.</p> <p>Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shaivism/Shaivites • Vaisnavism/Vaisnavas • Worshipers of Shiva • Worshipers of Vishnu • Worshipers of Shakti/Devi/ Mahadevi/ the Goddess <p>1 mark for response.</p>	1	
3	(b)	<p>Give <u>two</u> things that Hindus might believe about Shiva.</p> <p>Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part of the Trimurti • God of destruction • Seen by some (Shaivites) as the supreme God • The various forms of Shiva (Nataraja, Mahayogi, Bhairava, Lingum) • Stories associated with Shiva or aspects from them • Father of Ganesha <p>1 mark for each response.</p>	2	
3	(c)	<p>Describe how Hindus might worship differently in Britain than in India.</p> <p>Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The fact that Mandirs in the UK might cater for a larger number of deities than in India so the role of the temple and the deities worshipped by a Hindu might be greatly increased • The fact that festivals might be celebrated differently, either for practical reasons, because they do not involve the majority of the population as they do in India or because they involve Hindus whose origins are in different parts of India 	3	

		<p>and who usually celebrate the festivals in different ways.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The greater emphasis on home worship due to the distances between Mandirs and the fact that the nearest Mandir may not cater to the religious needs of a particular Hindu family. <p>A statement 1 mark, with development 2 marks, and Exemplification/amplification 3 marks.</p>		
3	(d)	<p>Explain why some Hindus might be devoted only to Shiva.</p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO1 descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates may consider some of the following:</p> <p>The idea that Hindus might belong to different traditions which see different deities as the Supreme Being and that for some Hindus (Shaivites) Shiva is the supreme God or whom all other deities are aspects.</p> <p>The idea that different deities might be worshipped at different points in a Hindu's life, for example Shiva might be important when someone is bereaved or facing death or is undergoing a major change of lifestyle.</p> <p>The idea that certain deities are associated with particular festivals or holy sites so that at certain times or in certain places it may be auspicious to worship Shiva.</p> <p>The idea of family or personal gods (Ishvara), some might feel a very personal and emotional connection to Shiva.</p> <p>The idea that Shiva is Mahayogi so that worship of him may be particularly appropriate for those developing meditative or ascetic skills or seeking renunciation or moksha.</p> <p>The idea that as Shiva is a god of contradictions he might be particularly appropriate for those who consider themselves as outcasts.</p>	6	

3	(e)	<p>‘All Hindus should believe the same things.’</p> <p>Discuss this statement. You should include different supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to <u>Hinduism</u> in your answer.</p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO2 descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates may consider some of the following:</p> <p>Examiners should mark according to AO2 level descriptors. Candidates might consider some of the following:</p> <p>Whether it is accurate to refer to Hinduism as a single religion given the wide variety of beliefs and practices within it.</p> <p>Whether there are things that all Hindus believe; such as karma, samsara, varnashramadharma, the primacy of the Vedas.</p> <p>A discussion of the huge amount of variety that exists within Hinduism and whether this is a strength of the religion as it caters for such a wide variety of people.</p> <p>The possibility that variations in the outward appearances are ultimately unimportant as all worship is of Brahman.</p>	12	
		Total	[48]	

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