

Religious Studies B

General Certificate of Secondary Education **B601**

Philosophy of Religion 1

Mark Scheme for June 2010

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INSTRUCTIONS TO EXAMINERS

General points

It is important to remember that we are rewarding candidates' attempts at grappling with challenging concepts and skills. Reward candidates for what they know, understand and can do. Be positive. Concentrate on what candidates can do, not on what they cannot do.

For all parts of each response your first task is to match the response to the appropriate level of response according to the generic levels of response given below. Only when you have done this should you start to think about the mark to be awarded.

There are different ways of reaching a high level. Some candidates will go straight to the higher levels. Other candidates will gradually climb their way there by working their way through lower levels first.

The mark scheme for each paper will list responses which a candidate might offer. The list will not be exhaustive and where a candidate offers a response which is not listed, examiners will be expected to use their knowledge and discretion as to whether the response is valid. Examiners who are in any doubt should contact their Team Leader immediately.

Specific points

Half marks must never be used.

Do not transfer marks from one part of a question to another. All questions, and sub-questions, are marked separately.

Mark what the candidate has written, do not assume that the candidate knows something unless they have written it.

Depending on the objective being assessed the levels of response start with one from the following list of flag words:

AO1 Weak, Satisfactory, Good

AO2 Weak, Limited, Competent, Good

During the standardisation process, examples of work at each level will be used to define the meaning of these flag words for the examination. In particular the word good must not be interpreted as the best possible response. It will be what is judged to be although better responses could be offered.

Remember that we are trying to achieve two things in the marking of the scripts:

- (i) to place all the candidates in the correct rank order
- (ii) to use the full range of marks available – right up to the top of the range; 'Good' means a good response *from a GCSE candidate* and can therefore be awarded the highest marks.

This means that it is imperative you mark to the agreed standard.

Written communication

Written communication covers: clarity of expression, structure of arguments, presentation of ideas, grammar, vocabulary, punctuation and spelling.

In the marking of these questions the quality of the candidate's written communication will be one factor (other factors include the relevance and amount of supporting detail) that influences whether an answer is placed at the bottom, the middle, or the top, of a level.

The following points should be remembered:

- answers are placed in the appropriate level according to the RS assessment objectives, ie no reference is made at this stage to the quality of the written communication
- when answers have been placed into the appropriate level, examiners should then consider quality of written communication in the placing of the answer towards the top or bottom of the level
- the quality of written communication must **never** be used to move an answer from the mark band of one level to another.

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.

Section A: Belief about Deity

If you choose one question from this section you must answer all parts (a) – (e) of the question.

1 Buddhism**(a) What is a miracle? [1]**

Responses might include:

- a supernatural event
- anything wonderful eg the miracle of birth or nature
- some happening beyond the laws of nature.

1 mark for answer

(b) State two Buddhist beliefs about the nature of God or the gods. [2]

Responses might include:

- one cannot know if there is a god(s) or if there is a personal god so therefore one cannot write about the nature of god(s)
- candidates may write about the tolerance that Buddhism has to all faiths and their god(s)
- candidates may state that according to the Buddha discussions about the nature of God are unhelpful
- deities trapped within the cycle of samsara in a godly realm
- the limited status of the gods as they have not reached nibbana, nor understand dukka.

Each statement = 1 mark

(c) What do Buddhists believe about the Buddha? [3]

Responses might include:

- the Buddha is a superhuman figure
- the most recent in a succession of buddhas and only a man
- founder of the religion
- a teacher who provided teachings that were attainable by all if people looked at their actions, words and behaviours
- demonstrated a way of life that would lead to happiness and a fulfilled life.

Each statement = 1 mark

A statement with development = 2 marks and exemplification 3 marks

(d) Explain Buddhist beliefs about miracles. [6]

Examiners should mark according to AO1 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Most would agree with the definition of a miracle being something that happens or is observed that is beyond the realms of nature and that miracles can happen. Most do not believe in divine intervention. In Theravada Buddhism, those Buddhists who have reached the stage of nibbana are believed to perform miracles but are discouraged from demonstrating their powers unless to help another to progress along the path to enlightenment.

In Mahayana tradition Buddhas and bodhisattvas are said to perform miracles to help people on the path to enlightenment.

The Buddhist scriptures speak of many miracles associated with the Buddha's life, eg he can read minds, he can float in the air, he can pass through solid objects but the Buddha actively discouraged people using such powers to convince people of their power. They believe that the greatest miracle is the Miracle of the Dharma, the Teaching that destroys all sufferings.

(e) "There is a lot of evidence to prove there are gods".

Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of views and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Buddhism in your answer.

[12]

Examiners should mark according to AO2 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

There is no belief in a God in Buddhism because there is no way of knowing if God exists and candidates may discuss philosophical arguments about the irrelevancy to Buddhists of such statements.

Buddhism is about a way of life leading to Nibbana not through belief in God but through the Dhamma of the Buddha. Spiritual experiences that people go through convince them they are in control of their own destiny, not God.

Candidates may disagree, arguing that with so many different religions in the world how does one know which is right?

Secular views, such as Stephen Hawking, science disproving religion, too much suffering in the world and arguments from another religious perspective, may be used to argue against the statement.

Some may discuss semantic views on the words 'truth, legend, myth, fact, fiction' etc and how we decide what is evidence.

It depends on which tradition Buddhists come from as to whether they believe in a God or gods but it is a question of belief and faith not proof as to whether one believes in gods.

Some Buddhists believe that through teachings and worship God or the gods can be known and believed to exist.

Some may argue about the importance of the lives of buddhas in the past, deities and bodhisattvas and other miraculous events influencing their beliefs.

2 Christianity**(a) What is a miracle? [1]**

Responses might include:

- a supernatural event
- anything wonderful eg the miracle of birth or nature
- some happening beyond the laws of nature
- divine intervention.

1 mark for answer

(b) State two Christian beliefs about the nature of God. [2]

Responses might include:

- creator
- Trinitarian God
- infinite
- eternal
- omnipresent, omnipotent, omniscient
- immanent, transcendent
- personal
- one God only.

Each statement = 1 mark

(c) What do Christians believe about Jesus? [3]

Responses might include:

- Jesus is God incarnate
- the second person of the Trinity showing people how to live
- the redeemer of people's sins
- a miracle worker
- a sacrifice for the sins of the whole world
- resurrected to show there is life after death for all who believe in him
- a great teacher
- a role model as to how to live.

Each statement = 1 mark

A statement with development = 2 marks and exemplification 3 marks

(d) Explain Christian beliefs about miracles. [6]

Examiners should mark according to AO1 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Christians believe that God came to earth in the form of Jesus Christ and that Jesus' life, death and resurrection is the greatest miracle. Candidates may explain in more detail why this is regarded as the most important miracle.

Many believe that God still intervenes today through miraculous works eg at Lourdes or through healing services. Christians believe that God can heal, have power over nature, raise people from the dead now as well as in the past through the power of the Holy Spirit.

There are differences of opinion and belief about the significance of miracles both in Jesus' ministry and in society in modern times. Miracles by Jesus were signs to portray the power of God, but they were not the most significant aspect of Jesus' ministry. Some Christians find some of the biblical miracles a hindrance to their belief.

- (e) **“There is a lot of evidence to prove there is a God.”**

Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of views and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

[12]

Examiners should mark according to AO2 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Christian use of philosophical arguments for the existence of God and how others have argued against them. Candidates may refer to evidence in the form of sacred writings, lives of special people, eg Jesus Christ and the saints, miraculous events, continuing numbers of Christians in the world, spiritual experiences that convert people to Christianity. They may refer to the different emphases that Christians place upon the above evidence.

Generations of family beliefs and traditions may be discussed as evidence.

Different points may include secular views such as Stephen Hawking, science disproving religion, arguments from another religious perspective or too much suffering in the world.

Some may discuss semantic views on the words 'truth, legend, myth, fact, fiction' etc and how we decide what is evidence.

3 Hinduism**(a) What is a miracle? [1]**

Responses might include:

- A supernatural event
- anything wonderful eg the miracle of birth or nature
- some happening beyond the laws of nature
- a divine intervention

1 mark for answer

(b) State two Hindu beliefs about the nature of God or the gods. [2]

Responses might include:

- the characteristics of Brahman, one supreme soul or spirit called Brahman that has no shape or form
- the characteristics of any Hindu deities
- the characteristics of the Trimurti, Krishna and Ganesh
- different Hindu beliefs about the nature of God as personal or not

Each statement = 1 mark

(c) What do Hindus believe about Krishna? [3]

Responses might include:

- one of the most famous and popular Hindu gods
- the eighth avatar or incarnation of Vishnu
- a scholar who encouraged a more personal approach to religion
- source of many legends
- one of the most worshipped figures in Hinduism
- Bhagavad Gita.

Each statement = 1 mark

A statement with development = 2 marks and exemplification 3 marks

(d) Explain Hindu beliefs about miracles. [6]

Examiners should mark according to AO1 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Hindus believe that miracles are the divine intervention of the deities. Miracles can be performed by saints and yogis but they are discouraged from demonstrating their powers unless to help another to progress along the path to enlightenment. Miracles have happened in ancient times and to the present day which shows God is all around.

Some candidates may describe examples from the scriptures.

Miracles are regarded as blessings to devotees to this day. Some believe that we are living in the age of darkness and that mankind is blind to miracles and obsessed with the material. Others believe miracles are all around us but we need to notice them eg every birth.

- (e) “There is a lot of evidence to prove there are gods.”

Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of views and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer.

[12]

Examiners should mark according to AO2 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

How Hindus use philosophical arguments for the existence of the gods/God and how others have argued against them. Candidates may refer to evidence in the form of sacred writings, lives of special people, miraculous events, continuing numbers of Hindus in the world, spiritual experiences that convince people. They may refer to the different emphases that Hindus place upon the above evidence.

Generations of family beliefs and traditions may be discussed as evidence.

Different points may include secular views such as Stephen Hawking, science disproving religion, arguments from another religious perspective or too much suffering in the world.

Some may discuss semantic views on the words ‘truth, legend myth, fact, fiction’ etc and how we decide what is evidence.

4 Islam

(a) What is a miracle? [1]

Responses might include:

- a supernatural event
- anything wonderful eg the miracle of birth or nature
- some happening beyond the laws of nature
- divine intervention.

1 mark for answer

(b) State two Muslim beliefs about the nature of Allah. [2]

Responses might include:

- one unique God
- omnipotent, omnipresent and omniscient
- creator of everything
- merciful
- judge
- cannot be defined.

Each statement = 1 mark

(c) What do Muslims believe about Muhammad ﷺ? [3]

Responses might include:

- founder of the religion
- his revelations from Allah are written in the Qu'ran
- the final messenger to the world telling people to surrender to the will of Allah
- a teacher
- role model how to live
- human not divine.

Each statement = 1 mark

A statement with development = 2 marks and exemplification 3 marks

(d) Explain Muslim beliefs about miracles. [6]

Examiners should mark according to AO1 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Muslims believe that the most astounding of all miracles is the revelation of the Qu'ran to Muhammad ﷺ. Candidates may explain in more detail why this is regarded as the most important miracle.

beliefs and traditions. It is believed that all miracles are done by the will of Allah.

Miracles are not described as "miracles" in the modern definition, but uncommon events performed by the will of Allah.

Some examples of miracles include events that happened in the life of the prophets of Islam such as Ibrahim when he was about to sacrifice his son Ishmael

- (e) “There is a lot of evidence to prove there is a God”.

Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of views and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Islam in your answer. [12]

Examiners should mark according to AO2 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Muslim use of philosophical arguments for the existence of God and how others have argued against them. Candidates may refer to evidence in the form of sacred writings, lives of special people, eg Muhammad ﷺ, miraculous events, growing numbers of Muslims in the world, spiritual experiences that convince people. They may refer to the different emphases that Muslims place upon the above evidence.

Generations of family beliefs and traditions may be discussed as evidence.

Different points may include secular views such as Stephen Hawking, science disproving religion, arguments from another religious perspective or too much suffering in the world.

Some may discuss semantic views on the words ‘truth, legend, myth, fact, fiction’ etc and how we decide what is evidence.

5 Judaism**(a) What is a miracle? [1]**

Responses might include:

- a supernatural event
- anything wonderful eg the miracle of birth or nature
- some happening beyond the laws of nature
- divine intervention.

1 mark for answer

(b) State two Jewish beliefs about the nature of G-d. [2]

Responses might include:

- there is only one G-d
- creator and ruler of the world
- transcendent
- eternal
- omniscient, omnipotent and omnipresent
- judge.

Each statement = 1 mark

(c) What do Jews believe about Moses? [3]

Responses might include:

- he is one of the Patriarchs of Judaism
- he led the tribes of Israel out of slavery and moulded them into a single nation
- the receiving of the Torah on Mount Sinai is believed by some Jews to be the start of the Jewish religion
- Jews look to the liberation of the Jews by Moses as a significant event in their history, celebrated in the annual festival of Passover
- he demonstrated the covenant relationship
- he was a prophet of G-d to the Hebrews
- the five books of Moses make up the Torah
- a role model – how to live.

Each statement = 1 mark

A statement with development = 2 marks and exemplification 3 marks

(d) Explain Jewish beliefs about miracles. [6]

Examiners should mark according to AO1 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Jews believe that G-d intervenes in history and causes natural events to happen at significant moments, eg the walls of Jericho or the parting of the Red Sea. An omnipotent G-d works in history.

Jews believe that everyday events like the birth of a child are miraculous events because they reflect the awesome power of nature.

Some Jews question why G-d does not perform miracles to help everyone eg where was G-d during the Holocaust? Some argue that G-d created a world with complex physical laws so why would He break those laws?

- (e) **“There is a lot of evidence to prove there is a G-d.”**

Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of views and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Judaism in your answer.

[12]

Examiners should mark according to AO2 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

How Jews use philosophical arguments for the existence of G-d and how others have argued against them. Candidates may refer to evidence in the form of sacred writings, lives of special people, eg Patriarchs and Moses, miraculous events, continuing numbers of Jews in the world despite anti-Semitism, historical factors, spiritual experiences that convince people. They may refer to the different emphases that Jews place upon the above evidence.

Generations of family beliefs and traditions may be discussed as evidence.

Different points may include secular views such as Stephen Hawking, science disproving religion, arguments from another religious perspective or too much suffering in the world.

Some may discuss semantic views on the words ‘truth, legend, myth, fact, fiction’ etc and how we decide what is evidence.

6 Sikhism**(a) What is a miracle? [1]**

Responses might include:

- a supernatural event
- anything wonderful eg the miracle of birth or nature
- some happening beyond the laws of nature
- divine intervention.

1 mark for answer

(b) State two Sikh beliefs about the nature of Waheguru. [2]

Responses might include:

- there is only one God and that he is without form
- omnipresent
- creator of everything
- has no fear or hatred
- eternal
- father figure.

Each statement = 1 mark

(c) What do Sikhs believe about Guru Nanak? [3]

Responses might include:

- Nanak was a spiritual teacher or holy man
- founder of the religion
- delivered a new message from God that God was not concerned with the outward signs or religions but what was in the heart
- he taught that God made no difference between an Hindu and a Muslim but what mattered was the difference between right and wrong
- regarded with great respect by Sikhs today
- role model – how to live.

Each statement = 1 mark

A statement with development = 2 marks and exemplification 3 marks

(d) Explain Sikh beliefs about miracles. [6]

Examiners should mark according to AO1 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

There are widely differing attitudes towards miracles. Sikhs believe miracles exist but the saints and prophets are discouraged to use them. They do believe that God will intervene in the lives of devotees in times of need and response to prayer. However, some Sikhs may believe miracles to be a hindrance to the spiritual path.

Others believe that the greatest miracle by Waheguru is the creation of the universe. The Sikh derives his or her faith not from miracles, but from the fact that the Creator's laws are unchanging and impartial.

In Guru Granth Sahib there is no mention of any miracles carried out by the Gurus. The Gurus continually remind the Sikh that everything operates according to the Creator's laws. The Gurus never presented themselves as creating any miracles.

(e) “There is a lot of evidence to prove there is a God.”

Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of views and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Sikhism in your answer. [12]

Examiners should mark according to AO2 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Sikh use of philosophical arguments for the existence of God and how others have argued against them. Candidates may refer to evidence in the form of sacred writings, lives of special people, eg Gurus, miraculous events, continuing numbers of religions in the world, spiritual experiences that convince people. They may refer to the different emphases that Sikhs place upon the above evidence.

Generations of family beliefs and traditions may be discussed as evidence.

Different points may include secular views such as Stephen Hawking, science disproving religion, arguments from another religious perspective or too much suffering in the world.

Some may discuss semantic views on the words ‘truth, legend, myth, fact, fiction’ etc and how we decide what is evidence.

Section B: Religious and Spiritual Experience

If you choose one question from this section you must answer all parts (a) – (e) of the question.

7 Buddhism**(a) What is fasting? [1]**

Responses might include:

- to go without food for a period of time.

1 mark for answer

(b) List two symbols used in worship by Buddhists. [2]

Responses might include:

- images of the Buddha
- mandalas
- candles
- flowers
- incense
- offerings.

1 mark for each symbol

(c) State three ways Buddhists might worship in the home. [3]

Responses might include:

- posture positions and practice meditation
- puja offerings to a statue of the Buddha in a shrine room
- decorate the image of Buddha with flowers
- observing the eightfold path in home life
- burn incense or joss sticks
- sit in silence and listen and meditate
- prayers may be said to the Buddha or a bodhisattva
- observe festivals.

1 mark for each statement

(d) Explain how meditation deepens the faith of a believer. [6]

Examiners should mark according to AO1 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Meditation gives a person control over their mind and body and is a strict spiritual discipline; it provides a time to think or contemplate about the meaning of life and to focus on the tenets of the faith. It opens the mind to a higher form of consciousness.

Through meditation Buddhists aspire to become like the Buddha ie more kind, loving, compassionate, joyous etc. The use of prayer beads during meditation reminds the worshipper of the three refuges.

It provides a time to imitate the Buddha and so move towards enlightenment.

(e) **“Using symbols helps people to worship.”**

Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of views and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Buddhism in your answer.

[12]

Examiners should mark according to AO2 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Buddhism is rich in symbols and images eg the Buddha, mandalas, the Wheel of Life; animals symbolizing greed, hatred, confusion and chaos remind them of the evils that stand in the way of a person's enlightenment.

Using symbols can aid contemplation and prayer. They can symbolize beliefs that are difficult to express and they can draw people into the faith. Deepest feelings can be expressed in symbols rather than words.

The varied images/symbols allow for different interpretations or focus the mind on spiritual matters or allow a deeper sense of the Dharma.

However, attitudes vary to the use of symbols in worship. Compared to other religions devotion takes the form of silences and meditation and some may find more modern forms distract from worship.

Some may argue that quiet meditation and being away from the crowds can aid worship more.

Other ways to worship such as music in the form of chants or mantras recited many times to 'stir' up the person from within and helps focus the mind on a deeper consciousness;

music/art provides a way of allowing the followers to express their devotion to the Buddha's rules at festivals.

8 Christianity**(a) What is fasting? [1]**

Responses might include:

- to go without food for a period of time.

1 mark for answer

(b) List two symbols used in worship by Christians. [2]

Responses might include:

- the cross
- candles
- Chi-Rho
- Alpha and Omega
- Ichthus
- dove
- Trinity
- rosary beads
- incense.

1 mark for each symbol

(c) State three ways that Christians might worship in the home. [3]

Responses might include:

- daily praying
- saying grace before meals
- reading the scriptures
- using a rosary in praying
- small house groups for Bible study or prayer
- sing songs
- observe festivals
- home shrines.

1 mark for each statement

(d) Explain how prayer deepens the faith of a believer. [6]

Examiners should mark according to AO1 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Prayer is the main way to communicate with God. Christians follow the example and teaching of Christ and pray to become more Christ-like. It is expected that Christians would pray regularly to develop their relationship with God.

It is very common way to worship and is encouraged to build up the body of Christ. Christians are said to experience God through prayer.

It provides a time to focus on the tenets of the faith.

There are different types of prayer that show their belief that God answers prayers.

(e) “Art helps people to worship.”

Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of views and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.
[12]

Examiners should mark according to AO2 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Art can bring worshippers together; it provides a way of allowing the congregation to express their beliefs as one body.

It can aid contemplation and prayer and can communicate feelings and beliefs about God that other forms of communication cannot. It can arouse the spirit within people.

Art forms, in the way of pictures, stained glass windows, banners, icons, sculptures, carvings etc, can affect the mood of worshippers. They can symbolize beliefs that are difficult to express eg wind, fire and water for the power of the Holy Spirit.

The use of art in worship can somehow ‘speak’ to people and draw people into the faith.

It allows for different interpretations and can focus the mind on spiritual matters. It allows a deeper sense of the knowledge of God; it could teach people about the faith.

However, attitudes vary to the use of art in worship.

Some like very traditional forms of art and find more modern forms distract from worship. For others art can be a distraction to worship.

Some denominations like very plain, simple surroundings to worship, eg Free Churches. Some get concerned that it leads to worshipping of ‘idols’ or putting too much emphasis on the object rather than on God.

Candidates might use biblical references about idolatry from the Ten Commandments to argue against having someone else’s art forms in front of them during worship.

Some may argue that bible study, quiet meditation and being away from the crowds relaxing can aid worship more.

9 Hinduism**(a) What is fasting? [1]**

Responses might include:

- to go without food for a period of time.

1 mark for answer

(b) List two symbols used in worship by Hindus. [2]

Responses might include:

- the sacred syllable (OM)
- mandalas
- arti
- puja
- murtis
- bells
- incense
- offerings.

1 mark for each symbol

(c) State three ways Hindus might worship in the home. [3]

Responses might include some of the following:

- Hindu worship takes place in the home by the extended family
- have a shrine to a particular deity
- pujas offered daily
- chanting special mantras
- the role of women in home puja
- special coloured powers put on the deity
- meditate in silence
- observing the major festivals in the home
- stories and legends and culture are passed down each generation.

1 mark for each statement

(d) Explain how prayer deepens the faith of a believer. [6]

Examiners should mark according to AO1 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Prayer can happen either at home or in the temple. Hindus may pray or recite a sacred teaching to reinforce their beliefs. For some Hindus, the daily sacred prayer, Gayatri Mantra, is recited to remind them of the importance of the creator.

Prayers offered to the deities reinforce the importance of them in their lives and to future generations.

It provides a time to focus on the tenets of the faith.

Some Hindus don't pray because they don't believe in a separate personal God.

Some prayers take the form of mantras which when repeated empty the mind of unnecessary concerns so that Hindus can focus on liberation from the maya or illusion.

(e) “Art helps people to worship.”

Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of views and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer.

[12]

Examiners should mark according to AO2 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Art can bring worshippers together; it provides a way of allowing the congregation to express their beliefs as one body.

Art can aid contemplation and prayer and could teach people about the faith.

Art can communicate feelings and beliefs about the deities that other forms of communication cannot; it can arouse the spirit within people who create such works to the gods showing how honoured a guest the deity is to them.

The varied art forms in the way of pictures, statues of the deities, festival statues, carvings, mandalas and devotional art helps them to celebrate key times and the importance of the deity to them in their families.

The artistic symbolism of the statues conveys stories about the deities to the devotees and helps pass on beliefs and traditions to the next generation.

However, attitudes vary to the use of art in worship.

Some like different forms of art and find more traditional forms distant to them.

There are no set rules as to how Hindus worship so some may like simple silent devotion; art can be a distraction.

10 Islam

(a) What is fasting? [1]

Responses might include:

- to go without food for a period of time.

1 mark for answer

(b) List two symbols used in worship by Muslims. [2]

Responses might include:

- prayer beads for the 99 names of Allah
- the crescent and the star
- ihram
- forbidden to use pictures or images of living things and the prophets
- calligraphy
- dome.

1 mark for each symbol

(c) State three ways Muslims might worship in the home. [3]

Responses might include:

- praying du'ah
- practising salat facing Makkah
- wudu
- reciting from the Qur'an
- reading the Qur'an
- observe festivals
- observing the shariah laws in their homes
- fasting during Ramadan
- observing food laws.

1 mark for each statement

(d) Explain how prayer deepens the faith of a believer. [6]

Examiners should mark according to AO1 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Prayer (Salat) is one of the Five Pillars of Islam and must be observed to be a follower of Islam. The daily call to prayer reminds them of the greatness and oneness of Allah and deepens the commitment and obedience to Allah and to one another.

It provides a time to focus on the tenets of the faith.

Individual or communal praying develops a sense of worldwide community all following the same belief to submit to the will of Allah.

There are different types of prayer. Muslims will pray for mercy and forgiveness from Allah and this deepens their faith in Allah.

(e) **“You should not use symbols in worship.”**

Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of views and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Islam in your answer. [12]

Examiners should mark according to AO2 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

In Islam images are forbidden and are considered shirk but art forms such as calligraphy and mosaic, geometrical patterns are used to decorate the mosque, with Qur’anic texts to remind the worshippers of the importance of Allah’s words to them.

Some may use Qur’anic references about idolatry.

However, rich coloured glass is also used to decorate the mosque; the beauty of the buildings can help focus the mind and be an aspect of worship as well as providing calm in which worship can take place.

The lack of symbols means that the community is united in its worship of Allah and helps bring worshippers together; it focuses the mind on contemplation and prayer.

Muslims can use other ways to express beliefs and worship such as music. The form of men chanting in Arabic the profession of their faith shows their determination and conviction to the faith.

The words of chants communicate feelings and beliefs about God that other forms of symbolism cannot.

However, attitudes vary to the use of chanting in worship. There are also differences between Muslims about using pictures or images of living things in everyday life.

11 Judaism

(a) What is fasting? [1]

Responses might include:

- to go without food for a period of time.

1 mark for answer

(b) List two symbols used in worship by Jews. [2]

Responses might include:

- the Star of David
- menorah
- mezuzah
- clothing worn during worship
- ner tamid.

1 mark for each symbol

(c) State three ways Jews worship in the home. [3]

Responses might include:

- men pray three times a day with heads covered
- use of the mezuzah in the home
- mother's role especially on Shabbat
- blessings on the family by the father
- keeping a kosher home
- observing the festivals
- songs, meals and prayers together
- reading sacred writings.

1 mark for each statement

(d) Explain how prayer deepens the faith of a believer. [6]

Examiners should mark according to AO1 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

The statutory daily prayers are a sign of obedience to G-d. It shows how important G-d is in their lives and that they regard all life as a gift from G-d.

Regularly asking G-d for a blessing on daily living when washing, travelling, meeting friends, etc remind Jews of the significance of the covenant relationship.

Praying provides a time to focus on the tenets of the faith.

Both private and public prayer is encouraged and is a way of life. It deepens their relationship with G-d.

(e) **“Using symbols helps people to worship.”**

Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of views and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Judaism in your answer.

[12]

Examiners should mark according to AO2 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Art forms in the way of pictures of human figures of G-d or any idol of G-d have been forbidden but there is ambiguity about the interpretation of the second commandment according to some Jews.

Some art forms have been acceptable as long as there is a small imperfection because only G-d can create perfection.

Symbols used in stained glass windows, banners, sculptures, carvings etc can affect the mood of worshippers. They can represent beliefs that are difficult to express eg wind, fire and water for the power of G-d.

The use of symbols may ‘speak’ to them and draw people deeper into the faith. It can bring Jews together and connect them to their past and their future. It can aid contemplation and prayer.

Symbolic actions such as the mother welcoming in the Sabbath emphasize the importance of the family and of the Sabbath to all Jews. Symbolic clothing in communal worship helps bring worshippers together, eg in the synagogue. It reinforces the covenant relationship and the importance of keeping the mitzvot. It provides a way of allowing the congregation to express their faith to G-d as one body.

However, some like very traditional forms of symbols and find more modern ways distract from worship.

For others symbols can be a distraction to worship.

There are differences amongst the Jewish groups and some candidates may refer to these.

Some may argue that study of the scriptures, quiet meditation and being away from the crowds relaxing can aid worship more.

12 Sikhism

(a) What is fasting? [1]

Responses might include:

- to go without food for a period of time.

1 mark for answer

(b) List two symbols used in worship by Sikhs. [2]

Responses might include:

- Ik Onkar
- the Khanda
- karah parshad
- artworks of the ten human Gurus
- 5Ks.

1 mark for each symbol

(c) State three ways Sikhs might worship in the home. [3]

Responses might include:

- wearing the Five Ks if initiated
- have a room set apart for worship
- family worship together
- meditate on God's name at certain times in the day especially in the morning
- pray daily
- recite Japji Sahib before eating and drinking
- hymns recited
- observing festivals.

1 mark for each statement

(d) Explain how prayer deepens the faith of a believer. [6]

Examiners should mark according to AO1 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Prayer reminds them that they must set a time aside every day to think about God, putting into perspective the importance of material and spiritual things in everyday life.

Some recite the whole of the Japji (the morning prayer) to show how important the teachings of the Guru Granth Sahib are.

Others simply recite 'Waheguru' meaning 'Wonderful Lord' to remind themselves that there is only one all-powerful God who should be worshipped.

Prayers at the end of the day thank God for the successes of the day and remind the worshipper how all true success comes from God.

It provides a time to focus on the tenets of the faith.

(e) “Art helps people to worship.”

Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of views and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Sikhism in your answer.

[12]

Examiners should mark according to AO2 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Art can help bring worshippers together; it provides a way of allowing the congregation to express their faith to God as one body.

Art can aid contemplation and prayer. It can communicate feelings and beliefs about God that other forms of communication cannot; it can arouse the spirit within people that look at the art forms. Many gurdwaras and Sikh homes have pictures of the Gurus.

However, during the first two hundred years of Sikh history there is no sign of portraits or paintings that can be distinctly called Sikh art. The Gurus focused on the task of converting the society into a community of free and inspiring spiritual thinkers. Sikh worship does not require the use of art forms as it is a spiritual and inward experience that is highly individualistic.

Unlike members of many other religions, Sikhs worship God in abstract form, and don't use images or statues to help them; nor are there candles, incense, or bells, or any other ritualistic devices. Attitudes vary to the use of art in worship.

Some like very traditional forms of art and find more modern forms distract from worship.

For others art can be a distraction to worship.

Section C: End of Life

If you choose one question from this section you must answer all parts (a) – (e) of the question.

13 Buddhism

- (a) What is meant by rebirth? [1]**

Responses might include:

- being reborn into another body.

1 mark for answer

- (b) Describe what Buddhists believe about samsara. [2]**

This refers to the endless cycle of a person being born, living, dying, born again, over and over again. It is an endless round of existence.

A statement = 1 mark

A statement with development = 2 marks

- (c) Describe the relationship between the body and the soul for a Buddhist. [3]**

Responses might include:

- Buddhists believe in anatta ie that there is no permanent, unchanging soul in any person or any thing. There is no 'soul' that sits outside the body
- skandhas (the five components of a person) which fall apart when a person dies and are reassembled into another body
- people have more than one life – when they die they are reborn again into another life until they are released from the cycle of samsara.

Each statement = 1 mark

A statement with development = 2 marks and exemplification 3 marks

- (d) Explain how beliefs about life after death could affect a Buddhist's moral behaviour. [6]**

Examiners should mark according to AO1 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Buddhists believe that a person has more than one life and after death rebirth into another body is determined by the kind of behaviour from their previous life. In order to secure a higher status in the next life people will try to live a good and spiritual life.

They believe everything one thinks, speaks or does leaves a moral mark which can't be rubbed out.

The link with kamma and reaching nibbana could be explained and that the only way to stop being reborn is to reach nibbana through enlightenment, hence conducting oneself according to the eightfold path.

(e) **“We only have one life and it is on earth.”**

Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of views and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Buddhism in your answer.

[12]

Examiners should mark according to AO2 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Candidates might write about their own humanist and secular views about life after death or those of others. They could argue that religion instils fear and guilt into people about a future life and there is no evidence for life after death.

Some may argue that there is no evidence to prove either way but that if there is another life after death it is irrelevant.

However, near death experiences, stories of past lives, ghosts, apparitions may be used as evidence to support the idea that there is life after death; enlightened beings such as yogis and yoginis and bodhisattvas are believed to be people who have lived in the past and are enlightened but come back to help others on their journey.

The Buddhist religion is built upon the central belief of working towards letting go of the ‘ego’ or ‘self’ to become enlightened. This is a process through various rebirths.

Other religious beliefs may be cited as evidence of other lives eg resurrection but candidates may argue that all religious views are a matter of faith and belief not fact.

14 Christianity**(a) What is the meaning of 'rites'?** [1]

Responses might include:

- formal religious practices/ceremonies that may mark a significant point in time.

1 mark for answer

(b) Give two examples of Christian funeral rites. [2]

Responses might include:

- body is washed and dressed in a shroud and placed in a coffin
- a service may be held in the home or at church including prayers and hymns and a eulogy
- at the graveside soil is put over the coffin by the mourners
- requiem mass is said or sung
- committal
- wearing black or white
- laying of wreaths
- sending sympathy cards.

1 mark for each example.

(c) Describe the relationship between the body and the soul for a Christian. [3]

Responses might include:

- the soul is immortal and distinct from the physical body
- the body is visible but the soul is invisible
- it is the soul that makes a person unique and sets humanity apart from all other creatures
- the body is sacred and to be treated properly
- references to the body being a temple for God could be expressed
- at death the imperfect body dies and the spiritual body will be resurrected
- some Christians believe the body and soul are in conflict with one another
- soul being the "breath of life" as described in Genesis
- no distinction between body and soul in the resurrection.

Each statement = 1 mark

A statement with development = 2 and exemplification 3 marks

(d) Explain how beliefs about life after death could affect a Christian's moral behaviour. [6]

Examiners should mark according to AO1 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Because of Christian beliefs connected to God the judge, heaven, hell or purgatory, forgiveness and resurrection, many believe that the way a person lives their life may affect what happens to them after death. To be a Christian means choosing to follow Christ in order to receive forgiveness and redemption.

Christians believe in the Day of Judgement at the end of time and will be accountable for their actions whilst living on earth.

Book of Revelation and references to 'two books' and reward for those who have responded to Jesus show how important it is to live morally.

Parable of the sheep and goats and its link to punishment; reinforces the message from Christ about how Christians should live.

(e) "We only have one life and it is on earth."

Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of views and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

[12]

Examiners should mark according to AO2 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Candidates might write about their own humanist and secular views about life after death or those of others. They could argue that religion instils fear and guilt into people about a future life and there is no evidence for life after death.

Some may argue that there is no evidence to prove either way but that if there is another life after death it is irrelevant.

However, near death experiences, ghosts, apparitions may be used as evidence to support the idea that there is life after death.

The Christian faith is built upon the central belief of the resurrection of Christ and that God wants people to believe in him to achieve eternal life. All four gospels record the story of the empty tomb but the appearances of Christ following his crucifixion convinced people of his resurrection. In the book of Acts there are references to Jesus being raised up to be at the right hand of God Almighty, to be the victor over death and sin. The gift of new life after physical death was promised to all who profess the name of Christ. Subsequently, other people became convinced of the truth of the resurrection by the power of the Holy Spirit or faith in the New Testament as the truth.

Other religious beliefs may be cited as evidence of other lives eg reincarnation but candidates may argue that all religious views are a matter of faith and belief not fact.

15 Hinduism

(a) What is the meaning of 'rites'? [1]

Responses might include:

- formal religious practices/ceremonies that may mark a significant point in time.

1 mark for answer

(b) Give two examples of Hindu funeral rites. [2]

Responses might include:

- Hindus cremate bodies, except holy men and babies
- Hindus cremate bodies as soon as possible
- body is washed and dressed by the relatives
- eldest son walks around the body three times, pours water over the body and puts a flame to the wood
- ashes of the body put into water or river as soon as possible
- diva lamp lit and put into river.

1 mark for each example.

(c) Describe the relationship between the body and the soul for a Hindu. [3]

Responses might include some of the following:

- in every body there is a part of God called the 'atman' or soul
- the body does not control the atman
- some Hindus believe that the atman is a part of God
- the atman is not affected by the evil actions of the body and it does not die when the body dies
- eventually the atman is reunited with Brahman
- the atman is subject to the laws of Karma until liberation (moksha) is achieved.

Each statement = 1 mark

A statement with development = 2 marks and exemplification 3 marks

(d) Explain how beliefs about life after death could affect a Hindu's moral behaviour. [6]

Examiners should mark according to AO1 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Hindus believe in reincarnation; that everyone is born into a state of transmigration (samsara) and enters the cycle or wheel of existence. Everyone is subject to the laws of karma which determines a person's destiny. So each good and evil action impacts upon their rebirth. Every action produces an effect either in the present or future existence. People strive to achieve good karma in order to progress towards liberation from the cycle (moksha). It is a sacred duty (dharma) to do what is right. The ultimate goal for Hindus is to enter into eternal peace. Therefore their conduct and moral behaviour will have a significant effect upon their cycle of samsara.

Candidates could write about ahimsa and how that affects their behaviour towards all life forms, especially animals, as some believe that a person could be reborn as an animal.

(e) **“We only have one life and it is on earth.”**

Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of views and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Hinduism in your answer.

[12]

Examiners should mark according to AO2 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Candidates might write about their own humanist and secular views about life after death or those of others. They could argue that religion instils fear and guilt into people about a future life and there is no evidence for life after death.

Some may argue that there is no evidence to prove either way but that if there is another life after death it is irrelevant.

However, near death experiences, stories of past lives, ghosts, apparitions may be used as evidence to support the idea that there is life after death.

The Hindu religion is built upon the central belief of karma and reincarnation until the soul is finally freed from the cycle of birth, death and rebirth.

Other religious beliefs may be cited as evidence of other lives, eg resurrection but candidates may argue that all religious views are a matter of faith and belief not fact.

16 Islam

(a) What is the meaning of 'rites'? [1]

Responses might include:

- formal religious practices/ceremonies that may mark a significant point in time.

1 mark for answer

(b) Give two examples of Muslim funeral rites. [2]

Responses might include:

- body is washed in scented water
- body is dressed in a white robe
- body taken to the mosque or an open place for mourners to pray
- body is buried within 24 hours where possible
- prayers led by family members or imam
- body is taken in procession to be buried in a cemetery
- body is buried but not in a coffin, in a hole facing Makkah and the ka'aba
- prayers are said for the family of the deceased.

1 mark for each example.

(c) Describe the relationship between the body and the soul for a Muslim. [3]

Responses might include:

- Islam teaches that there is resurrection and life after death
- the soul enters into eternal life with departed friends
- the body is treated with respect
- life will continue after death
- at the Last Day when all life on earth will end, Muslims believe that those who have died will be brought to life again, ready to be judged by Allah to determine whether they go to heaven or hell for eternity.

Each statement = 1 mark

A statement with development = 2 marks and exemplification 3 marks

(d) Explain how beliefs about life after death could affect a Muslim's moral behaviour. [6]

Examiners should mark according to AO1 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Muslims believe that their purpose for life is to please Allah and that the final fate of all individuals depends upon their behaviour in submitting to the will of Allah and following the Shariah Law; because of this belief, their lives are guided by laws and codes of conduct as set out in the Qu'ran, which they must follow to be a good Muslim.

Beliefs about paradise, hell, the nature of paradise, the Day of Judgement could be explained but they must connect these to how one behaves whilst alive.

Candidates may refer to difference of interpretation of the Qu'ran by some Muslims which result in different actions that could be construed as moral or immoral.

(e) **“We only have one life and it is on earth.”**

Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of views and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Islam in your answer.

[12]

Examiners should mark according to AO2 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Candidates might write about their own humanist and secular views about life after death or those of others. They could argue that religion instils fear and guilt into people about a future life and there is no evidence for life after death.

Some may argue that there is no evidence to prove either way but that if there is another life after death it is irrelevant.

However, near death experiences, ghosts, apparitions may be used as evidence to support the idea that there is life after death.

The Islamic faith is built upon the central belief of a life to follow this life in worship and adoration of Allah, the creator and to be judged according to one's actions to be placed in heaven or hell. Death is to be faced without fear and in the spirit of hope. They believe the soul enters into eternal life and is reunited with the departed. Islam teaches very clear views about resurrection and life after death.

Other religious beliefs may be cited as evidence of other lives, eg reincarnation and resurrection but candidates may argue that all religious views are a matter of faith and belief not fact.

17 Judaism

(a) What is the meaning of 'rites'? [1]

Responses might include:

- formal religious practices/ceremonies that may mark a significant point in time.

1 mark for answer

(b) Give two examples of Jewish funeral rites. [2]

Responses might include:

- there is no set form of burial or compulsory rituals as there used to be
- burial society supporting the family in grief
- traditional rites observed such as sitting on low chairs or making a small tear in garment
- funeral service that may include a eulogy, psalms and the Kaddish
- some Jews making a tear in the dead person's garment
- women attend to the dressing of a female body and men to a male body
- observing a week's mourning (shivah), no work done and sexual relations are forbidden
- body cremated or buried though Orthodox Jews prohibit cremation.

1 mark for each example

(c) Describe the relationship between the body and the soul for a Jew. [3]

Responses might include:

- Jews believe that human life is a unity of body and spirit
- the spirit pervades all life
- candidates may refer to Genesis when G-d "breathed his spirit into man and he became a living soul. Humans are special
- in earlier times Jews believed that the soul entered sheol and survived as a shadow
- later beliefs show that the soul leaves the body and goes either to heaven or hell
- some say a body is necessary to house the soul but the soul is eternal whilst others say it is impossible to say what happens so do not speculate.

Each statement = 1 mark

A statement with development = 2 marks and exemplification 3 marks

(d) Explain how beliefs about life after death could affect a Jew's moral behaviour. [6]

Examiners should mark according to AO1 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Jews have various beliefs about heaven, sheol, the issue of judgement. There is a vagueness of teachings about life after death. Unclear scriptures about life after death result in varying codes of conduct depending upon how strongly these beliefs are held.

What matters more to Jews is how they should behave whilst alive on earth. Following the commandments in the Torah and the Ethics of the Fathers guides their moral behaviour more than the beliefs about life after death.

Candidates may explain the significance of the covenant relationship to Jews. It is essential for Jews to follow what G-d requires of them as spelt out in the Torah. Living by the Law is their way of keeping the covenant. If they obey G-d's rules G-d has promised he would be with them and given them a land of their own.

(e) “We only have one life and it is on earth.”

Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of views and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Judaism in your answer.

[12]

Examiners should mark according to AO2 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Candidates might write about their own humanist and secular views about life after death or those of others. They could argue that religion instils fear and guilt into people about a future life and there is no evidence for life after death.

Some may argue that there is no evidence to prove either way but that if there is another life after death it is irrelevant.

However, near death experiences, ghosts, apparitions may be used as evidence to support the idea that there is life after death.

The Jewish faith considers a relationship between this life and the world of the spirit to be like a stage, in which people come and go but that there is another 'home' after this life but it cannot be known. They do believe that the life on earth is very important and Jews should focus on that more than speculating about the after life. However, they do believe in the resurrection of the souls.

Other religious beliefs may be cited as evidence of other lives, eg reincarnation but candidates may argue that all religious views are a matter of faith and belief not fact.

18 Sikhism

(a) What is the meaning of 'rites'? [1]

Responses might include:

- formal religious practices/ceremonies that may mark a significant point in time.

1 mark for answer

(b) Give two examples of Sikh funeral rites. [2]

Responses might include two of the following:

- relatives wash the body of the dead and then dress it in the five Ks or in clean clothes
- body taken in a procession
- bodies are cremated and often the eldest son is responsible for lighting the pyre
- the hymn, the Sohilla, is sung which expresses what Sikhs feel and believe about life after death
- 48 hours after death there is the continual reading (Akhand path) of the whole of the Guru Granth Sahib with all adult relatives taking part
- close relatives say prayers for the dead person for ten days in the gurdwara or at home.

1 mark for each example

(c) Describe the relationship between the body and the soul for a Sikh. [3]

Responses might include:

- the soul is a minute part of the Eternal Soul or God
- the soul has existed since the time of creation but it has separate existences through a succession of births, deaths and rebirths until it achieves reunion with God
- the soul is immortal
- living for ever as part of God is the soul's reward for good deeds done in this life, through God's grace
- the body is like a snake's skin to be discarded at death and the soul moves on to another body.

Each statement = 1 mark

A statement with development = 2 marks and exemplification 3 marks

(d) Explain how beliefs about life after death could affect a Sikh's moral behaviour. [6]

Examiners should mark according to AO1 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Because of Sikh beliefs about reincarnation, achieving freedom from the cycle of life and rebirth and that there is a spark of God in every person moving ever nearer to merge in the supreme light of God, these affect a Sikh's moral conduct, eg take care of the earth and all life forms, not exploit people with our selfish desires but to love all and provide for all.

There are five virtues that all Sikhs should cultivate and vices should be avoided but freedom from reincarnation can only be achieved by the grace of God who assists followers to better themselves.

It is through good deeds upon earth that the soul enters eternal life and lives for ever as a part of God.

(e) **“We only have one life and it is on earth.”**

Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of views and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Sikhism in your answer.

[12]

Examiners should mark according to AO2 level descriptors.

Candidates might consider some of the following:

Candidates might write about their own humanist and secular views about life after death or those of others. They could argue that religion instils fear and guilt into people about a future life and there is no evidence for life after death.

Some may argue that there is no evidence to prove either way but that if there is another life after death it is irrelevant.

However, near death experiences, stories of past lives, regression, ghosts, apparitions may be used as evidence to support the idea that there is life after death.

The Sikh faith is built upon the central belief of achieving oneness with God but through birth they become separated from him and at death they return to God. The purpose of life is to reach an eternal relationship with God. To win God's grace a person must model his or her life on God himself. Then the grace of God releases the individual from the cycle of birth and death so that they can be reunited with God in perfect harmony. It is this that Sikhs strive for.

Other religious beliefs may be cited as evidence of other lives eg reincarnation and resurrection of the body but candidates may argue that all religious views are a matter of faith and belief not fact.

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