

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

General Certificate of Secondary Education

Unit **B576**: Hinduism 2 (Worship, Community and Family, Sacred Writings)

## **Mark Scheme for June 2011**

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	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	<p><b>(a) What is a murti?</b></p> <p>Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An image or statue of a deity</li> <li>• A picture of a god/goddess</li> <li>• A statue of a god/goddess</li> <li>• An image which a Hindu might use in worship</li> </ul> <p>1 mark for response.</p>	1	
1	<p><b>(b) Give <u>two</u> artefacts that Hindus might use during puja.</b></p> <p>Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offerings to the gods (eg food, flowers, money, milk, coconuts)</li> <li>• Incense/joss sticks</li> <li>• Arti lamp</li> <li>• Puja tray</li> <li>• Bell</li> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Kum-kum powder</li> <li>• Murti</li> <li>• Photographs of personal gurus</li> </ul> <p>1 mark for each response.</p>	2	

		Mark Scheme	Mark	Rationale/Additional Guidance
1	(c)	<p><b>State three things that a Hindu priest might do in a mandir.</b></p> <p>Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Waking' and dressing the deities in the morning</li> <li>• Conducting puja</li> <li>• Carrying out ceremonies (such as weddings) for members of the community</li> <li>• Preparing for and officiating at festivals</li> <li>• Tending the havan kund (sacred fire)</li> <li>• Leading in the singing of bhajans</li> <li>• Distributing charity on behalf of the community</li> <li>• Organising education of the young</li> <li>• Conducting educational visits</li> <li>• Organising community events</li> </ul> <p>1 mark for each response.</p>	3	
1	(d)	<p><b>Explain why Hindus might perform puja in the home.</b></p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO1 descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates may consider some of the following: Because puja in the home creates a direct personal relationship between the family and its deities.</p> <p>It is a way of following dharma and gaining karma.</p> <p>So that all religious duties can be fulfilled, particularly in the UK where it may be difficult to get to a mandir.</p> <p>The family may feel that God is directly involved in their life and can help them. So that family bonds are strengthened by worshipping together.</p> <p>So that the deity can be treated as an honoured guest by the family.</p> <p>Teaching the children about the gods and religion and modelling good behaviour.</p>	6	

		Mark Scheme	Mark	Rationale/Additional Guidance
1	(e)	<p><b>'Going to the mandir is a waste of time.'</b></p> <p><b>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.</b></p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO2 descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates might consider some of the following:</p> <p>The benefits of worship in a mandir, and the reasons why Hindus, particularly in their third ashrama might consider it their duty to attend the mandir.</p> <p>The role of the mandir in Hindu communities both in India and in the diaspora. The difficulties that some Hindus might experience in attending a mandir – especially in the UK.</p> <p>The idea that puja in the home is all that is required and that attendance in the mandir is not obligatory in Hinduism.</p> <p>The idea that Brahman is everywhere and in everything so life itself is an act of worship.</p> <p>The idea that some Hindus regard puja as superstitious or at least as only a spiritual 'first step'.</p> <p>The idea that time spent in worship can never be wasted.</p>	12	

		Mark Scheme	Mark	Rationale/Additional Guidance
2	(a)	<p><b>What is dharma.</b></p> <p>Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Duty</li> <li>• Religious duty</li> <li>• What you should do at various stages of life</li> <li>• The way in which people ought to behave in order to gain karma</li> </ul> <p>1 mark for response.</p>	1	
2	(b)	<p><b>Give <u>two</u> examples of samskaras.</b></p> <p>Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upanaya (Sacred Thread)</li> <li>• Namakarana (Birth/Naming)</li> <li>• Mundan (First haircut)</li> <li>• Vivaha (Marriage )</li> <li>• Antyeshti (Funeral)</li> </ul> <p>1 mark for each response.</p>	2	Candidates may use either English or Sanskrit terms and are not expected to use both to achieve the mark.
2	(c)	<p><b>State <u>three</u> things that might happen at a Hindu funeral.</b></p> <p>Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparation of the body</li> <li>• Placing of the body on the funeral pyre using sandalwood, saffron and camphor</li> <li>• Prayers and quotations from the Vedas</li> <li>• Chief mourner, usually the eldest son, lights the pyre, starting at the north</li> <li>• Offerings, including ghee, added to the flame</li> <li>• Collection of ashes and scattering, ideally in the Ganges</li> <li>• Shraddha rites after ten days</li> <li>• Candidates may mention variations on these rites that happen outside India such as the use of crematoria</li> </ul> <p>1 mark for each response.</p>	3	

		Mark Scheme	Mark	Rationale/Additional Guidance
2	(d)	<p><b>Explain what Hindus mean by varnashramadharma.</b></p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO1 descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates may consider some of the following:</p> <p>The religious duties required of a Hindu man according to his ashrama (stage in life) and varna (caste).</p> <p>Candidates are likely to give a variety of specific examples of these, such as celibacy for a brahmacharya and conducting puja and studying the scriptures for a brahmin.</p> <p>The ashramas may be explained, as may the varnas.</p> <p>Ashramas may be explained as the four stages of life through which a Hindu theoretically passes during their life. Dharma changes throughout these, for example all except grihastha (householder) are characterised by celibacy. Religious duty also changes over time with ritual puja important for the grihastha while the sanyasin is more concerned with renunciation and asceticism.</p> <p>A description of the four main varnas may be given with the main points of duty for each. The ideas described in the Gita that one should follow one's dharma without regard for karma may be discussed, for example that ksatriyas should fight regardless of conscience or family ties.</p>	6	

		Mark Scheme	Mark	Rationale/Additional Guidance
2	(e)	<p><b>‘Children should always obey their parents.’</b></p> <p><b>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.</b></p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO2 descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates may consider some of the following:  The fact that Hindu tradition as well as scriptures (such as the Laws of Manu and the Ramayana) teach absolute obedience to parents.</p> <p>The fact that varnashramadharma requires obedience to parents in the brahmacharya ashrama since obedience to parents is part of the religious duty at this stage.</p> <p>The suggestion that the demands of parents may at times be immoral or adharmic and that disobeying under these circumstances could be regarded as the right thing to do.</p> <p>The fact that there is scriptural precedent for disobedience to parents in the story of Prahlad.</p> <p>Candidates may consider the degree to which modern society does or does not encourage obedience to parents.</p>	12	

		Mark Scheme	Mark	Rationale/Additional Guidance
3	(a)	<p><b>What is the Bhagavad Gita?</b></p> <p>Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One of the best known Hindu scriptures</li> <li>• One of the Hindu scriptures</li> <li>• The teachings of Krishna</li> <li>• A scripture containing teachings on reincarnation</li> <li>• Part of the Mahabharata</li> <li>• An example of smriti scripture</li> </ul> <p>1 mark for response.</p>	1	
3	(b)	<p><b>Give <u>two</u> ways in which Hindus might use the Bhagavad Gita.</b></p> <p>Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learning parts of it as an act of devotion</li> <li>• Reciting it to gain karma or the blessings of Krishna</li> <li>• To study the teachings of Krishna</li> <li>• To express love for Krishna</li> <li>• As a way of learning Hindu teachings on reincarnation</li> </ul> <p>1 mark for each response.</p>	2	

		Mark Scheme	Mark	Rationale/Additional Guidance
3	(c)	<p><b>Suggest <u>three</u> ways in which Hindu children might learn about the Bhagavad Gita.</b></p> <p>Responses might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lessons at school or in religious classes</li> <li>• Dramatic re-enactments</li> <li>• TV dramas</li> <li>• Songs</li> <li>• Comic books, graphic novels and cartoons</li> <li>• Dances</li> <li>• Kathakali dancers</li> <li>• Reading/reciting the stories</li> </ul> <p>1 mark for each response</p>	3	
3	(d)	<p><b>Explain why the Ramayana 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>Because it is a sacred writing, which contains important teachings about following dharma.</p> <p>Many characters in the Ramayana are considered to be important role models for Hindus, for example Rama as king, husband son and friend; and Sita as wife.</p> <p>The story is the basis of Divali, one of the most important festivals in Hinduism.</p> <p>The lead character, Rama, is considered by many Hindus to be the god Vishnu, making his words and deeds very important.</p>	6	

		Mark Scheme	Mark	Rationale/Additional Guidance
3	(e)	<p><b>'Hinduism would not exist without the sacred writings'</b></p> <p><b>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.</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 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> <p>The fact that the Epics and Puranas, by contrast, are widely known and through them stories about, and knowledge of the gods is disseminated.</p> <p>The fact that different scriptures are used throughout Hinduism, there is no "standard".</p> <p><i>Answers should be in prose and not a bulleted list</i></p>	12	
		<b>Total</b>	<b>[48]</b>	

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