

**Advanced GCE
GCE RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

Unit G587: A2 Hinduism

Specimen Paper

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet (...pages)

G587 QP

Morning/Afternoon

Time: 1 hour 30 minutes



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Answer **two** questions.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks for each question is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part of question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is **70**.

ADVICE TO CANDIDATES

- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.

SPECIMEN

This document consists of **2** printed pages.

Answer **two** questions.

- 1 Assess the importance of Gandhi for Hindus today. [35]
- 2 'Ahimsa is more important than dharma in Hindu ethics.' Discuss with reference to environmental issues. [35]
- 3 To what extent is the purpose of the Bhagavad Gita to elevate the status of the bhakti path? [35]
- 4 Assess the importance of meditation for those seeking moksha. [35]

Paper Total [70]

SPECIMEN

The maximum mark for this paper is [70].

SPECIMEN

Band	Mark / 21	AO1	Mark / 14	AO2
0	0	absent / no relevant material	0	absent / no argument
1	1-5	almost completely ignores the question <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • little relevant material • some concepts inaccurate • shows little knowledge of technical terms Communication: often unclear or disorganised	1-3	very little argument or justification of viewpoint <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • little or no successful analysis Communication: often unclear or disorganised
2	6-9	focuses on the general topic rather than directly on the question <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • knowledge limited and partially accurate • limited understanding • selection often inappropriate • limited use of technical terms Communication: some clarity and organisation	4-6	an attempt to sustain an argument and justify a viewpoint <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • some analysis, but not successful • views asserted but not successfully justified Communication: some clarity and organisation
3	10-13	satisfactory attempt to address the question <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • some accurate knowledge • appropriate understanding • some successful selection of material • some accurate use of technical terms Communication: some clarity and organisation	7-8	the argument is sustained and justified <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • some successful analysis which may be implicit Communication: some clarity and organisation
4	14-17	a good attempt to address the question <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accurate knowledge • good understanding • good selection of material • technical terms mostly accurate Communication: generally clear and organised	9-11	a good attempt at using evidence to sustain an argument <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • some successful and clear analysis • might put more than one point of view Communication: generally clear and organised
5	18-21	an excellent attempt to address the question showing understanding and engagement with the material <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • very high level of ability to select and deploy relevant information • accurate use of technical terms Communication: answer is well constructed and organised	12-14	an excellent attempt which uses a range of evidence to sustain an argument <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • comprehends the demands of the question • shows understanding and critical analysis of different viewpoints Communication: answer is well constructed and organised

Question Number	Answer	Max Mark
1	<p>Assess the importance of Gandhi for Hindus today.</p> <p>AO1 Candidates will need to explain the teachings and behaviour of Gandhi.</p> <p>Candidates might explore Gandhi's role in seeking independence from the British, though a purely political answer, without sufficient religious context, would not constitute a good response.</p> <p>Candidates should be aware of some of Gandhi's religious ideas, for example his emphasis on the concept of ahimsa, or his views on other religions.</p> <p>Candidates might explore the continuing repercussions of Gandhi's political and religious attitudes.</p> <p>AO2 Candidates might refer to the continuing political importance of Gandhi's actions at the time of Indian independence.</p> <p>Candidate might explore the continued widespread respect for Gandhi in a range of religious traditions.</p> <p>Good responses might explain religious responses to Gandhi's teachings, for example ahimsa, before reaching a conclusion.</p>	[35]
2	<p>'Ahimsa is more important than dharma in Hindu ethics.' Discuss with reference to environmental issues.</p> <p>AO1 Candidates need to explain the concepts of ahimsa and dharma in some detail.</p> <p>Candidates are likely to make reference to the teachings of Gandhi and the teachings of the Bhagavad Gita to illustrate the concepts above.</p> <p>Some candidates might explain the concept of varnashramadharma, and its influence on Hinduism.</p> <p>Good responses might explain a range of Hindu ethical considerations, showing how they relate to ahimsa and dharma.</p>	

Question Number	Answer	Max Mark
2 cont'd	<p>AO2 Candidates might argue that ahimsa is of less importance than dharma, perhaps giving the example of Arjuna's dilemma in the Bhagavad Gita as evidence.</p> <p>Candidates might assess the importance of ahimsa in the teachings and behaviour of Gandhi.</p> <p>Good responses are likely to assess whether different ethical attitudes are prevalent in different schools of Hinduism, before reaching a conclusion.</p>	[35]
3	<p>To what extent is the purpose of the Bhagavad Gita to elevate the status of the bhakti path?</p> <p>AO1 Candidates are likely to explain the account of Krishna's transfiguration, though a merely descriptive account would not be a good response.</p> <p>Candidates need to explain the importance of the transfiguration for the elevation of the bhakti path.</p> <p>Candidates might explain the importance of karma without thought of reward as explained within the Bhagavad Gita.</p> <p>Candidates are also likely to refer to Arjuna's dilemma and the implications for dharma raised by this.</p> <p>AO2 Candidates might argue that bhakti is the most important teaching within the Bhagavad Gita, evidenced by the importance of Krishna within the text.</p> <p>Candidates might assess the relative importance of other teachings in the Bhagavad Gita such as karma and dharma.</p> <p>Good responses might consider the history and importance of the Bhagavad Gita before reaching a conclusion.</p>	[35]

Question Number	Answer	Max Mark
4	<p>Assess the importance of meditation for those seeking moksha.</p> <p>AO1 Candidates might answer from the perspective of any Hindu tradition they have studied, or consider ideas from a range of traditions.</p> <p>Candidates might explain the purpose of the postures for releasing energy through the chakras in Hatha yoga.</p> <p>Candidates might also refer to the visualisations or mantras used by those meditators following the bhakti path.</p> <p>Good responses might explain alternative paths to moksha, such as jnana, bhakti and karma.</p> <p>AO2 Candidates might argue that meditation is an integral part of the path to moksha, and thus of prime importance.</p> <p>Candidates might assess the relationship between meditation and Hindu concepts such as varnashramadharmā, before offering an evaluation of its importance.</p> <p>Candidates might explore whether the importance of meditation varies within different schools.</p>	[35]
Paper Total		[70]

Assessment Objectives Grid (includes QWC)

Question	AO1	AO2	Total
1	21	14	35
2	21	14	35
3	21	14	35
4	21	14	35
Totals	42	28	70

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