



Cambridge International Examinations
Cambridge International General Certificate of Secondary Education

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

0490/23

Paper 2

October/November 2015

1 hour 45 minutes

No Additional Materials are required.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

An answer booklet is provided inside this question paper. You should follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

Choose **two** of Sections A, B and C and answer **two** of the questions in each of your chosen sections.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

This document consists of **4** printed pages and **1** Insert.

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Choose **two** of Sections A, B and C and answer **two** of the questions in each of your chosen sections.

Section A – Christianity

If you have chosen this section answer **all** of the parts in **two** of the questions.

- 1** **(a)** Give an account of a Christian ceremony of infant baptism. [7]
- (b)** Explain why the visit of the Magi (wise men) is one of the events celebrated by Christians at Epiphany. [7]
- (c)** ‘Only religious people should be chosen as a child’s godparents.’
 Discuss this statement. Give your own opinion and show that you have thought about other points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer. [6]
- 2** **(a)** Outline the biblical events that are remembered by Christians at Pentecost. [7]
- (b)** Explain why a visit to Jerusalem might strengthen the faith of a Christian. [7]
- (c)** ‘Christians need to be concerned with today’s world, not the past.’
 Discuss this statement. Give your own opinion and show that you have thought about other points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer. [6]
- 3** **(a)** Give an account of the Christian beliefs contained in the Apostles’ Creed. [7]
- (b)** Explain why there is disagreement about the traditional views of the role of women in Christianity. [7]
- (c)** ‘All religious believers are equal.’
 Discuss this statement. Give your own opinion and show that you have thought about other points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer. [6]

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Section B – Islam

If you have chosen this section answer **all** of the parts in **two** of the questions.

- 4** (a) State the Muslim beliefs about
- (i) Akirah (life after death)
 - (ii) Angels. [7]
- (b) Explain how belief in Akirah (life after death) might influence the life of a Muslim. [7]
- (c) 'A belief in life after death is difficult to accept today.'
Discuss this statement. Give your own opinion and show that you have thought about other points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer. [6]
- 5** (a) Describe Muslim beliefs about the nature of God. [7]
- (b) Explain the importance of the Qur'an as a guide for life. [7]
- (c) 'It is important that the Qur'an is always read and recited in Arabic.'
Discuss this statement. Give your own opinion and show that you have thought about other points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer. [6]
- 6** (a) Describe the Five Pillars. [7]
- (b) Explain why Makkah is a place of historical and religious significance to Muslims. [7]
- (c) Which of the Five Pillars most unites Muslims?
Discuss this question. Give your own opinion and show that you have thought about other points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer. [6]

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Section C – Judaism

If you have chosen this section answer **all** of the parts in **two** of the questions.

- 7 (a) Describe the customs carried out on Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) at home and in the synagogue. [7]
- (b) Explain the importance of Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) as a special day for Jews. [7]
- (c) 'To live according to God's law is more important than observing special days.'
Discuss this statement. Give your own opinion and show that you have thought about other points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer. [6]
- 8 (a) Give an account of the customs at a Jewish funeral. [7]
- (b) Explain how Shiva might be of help to Jews mourning a death. [7]
- (c) 'The death rituals are more concerned with the living than with the dead.'
Discuss this statement. Give your own opinion and show that you have thought about other points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer. [6]
- 9 (a) Describe how **three** religious features of a synagogue are used in worship. [7]
- (b) Explain why most Jews think it is important to have a synagogue for the community. [7]
- (c) 'All Jews should worship together.'
Discuss this statement. Give your own opinion and show that you have thought about other points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer. [6]

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