



NSW Education Standards Authority

**2018** HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

# Studies of Religion II

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**General  
Instructions**

- Reading time – 5 minutes
- Working time – 3 hours
- Write using black pen
- Write your Centre Number and Student Number at the top of pages 5 and 11

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**Total marks:  
100**

**Section I – 30 marks** (pages 2–11)

This section has two parts, Part A and Part B

- Allow about 50 minutes for this section

Part A – 15 marks

- Attempt Questions 1–11

Part B – 15 marks

- Attempt Questions 12–22

**Section II – 30 marks** (pages 13–16)

- Attempt TWO questions from Questions 23–27
- You must NOT choose the same Religious Tradition in both Section II and Section III
- Allow about 1 hour for this section

**Section III – 20 marks** (pages 17–18)

- Attempt ONE question from Questions 28–32
- You must NOT choose the same Religious Tradition in both Section II and Section III
- Allow about 35 minutes for this section

**Section IV – 20 marks** (page 19)

- Attempt Question 33
- Allow about 35 minutes for this section

## Section I

30 marks

Allow about 50 minutes for this section

### Part A — Religion and Belief Systems in Australia post-1945

15 marks

Attempt Questions 1–11

Use the multiple-choice answer sheet for Questions 1–10.

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1 Which of the following is reflected in this Christmas card?



- A. Ecumenism
  - B. Secularisation
  - C. Reconciliation
  - D. Interfaith dialogue
- 2 Which of the following best characterises the importance of totemism in Aboriginal spirituality?
- A. It provides links to ancestral beings.
  - B. It defines the role of Elders in the wider community.
  - C. It determines the relationship between rituals and ethics.
  - D. It empowers communities to pursue activist roles in the seeking of reconciliation.

- 3 *I would like to pay my respect and acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which this meeting takes place, and also pay respect to Elders both past and present.*

Which aspect of Aboriginal spirituality is being acknowledged in the statement?

- A. The worship of traditions
  - B. The importance of meeting places
  - C. The ongoing role of custodianship
  - D. The significance of ceremonial life
- 4 Which of the following statements is true about Aboriginal dispossession?

- A. It ended the policy of assimilation.
- B. It reduced the importance of Christian missions.
- C. It limited access to land in rural areas by mining companies.
- D. It disrupted the inextricable connection between land and kinship.

- 5 According to the most recent Australian census data, which of the following is correct?

- A. Most people born overseas identify with a religion other than Christianity.
- B. The majority of the population does not identify with any particular religion.
- C. The majority of the population identifies with Christianity as their religious tradition.
- D. People aged 34 years and younger are less likely to identify as having no religion than people aged 35 years and over.

- 6 *We cultivated our land, but in a way different from the white man. We endeavour to live with the land, they seemed to live off it.*

TOM DYSTRA  
Aboriginal Elder  
Courtesy of Time Out Sydney

This quotation best expresses which of the following?

- A. Stories of the Dreaming
- B. Responsibilities to the natural world
- C. Social expectations and group norms
- D. Changing the mindset among non-Aboriginal people

- 7 Which of the following contributed most to the increase in the numbers of adherents to religious traditions other than Christianity in Australia?
- A. Growing sectarianism
  - B. Attraction to New Age religions
  - C. Initiatives promoting religious tolerance
  - D. The abolition of the White Australia Policy
- 8 Which of the following resulted from the formation of the Uniting Church?
- A. The Presbyterian and Congregational churches ceased to exist after 1977.
  - B. It caused the inclusion of the 'no religion' option in census data.
  - C. Methodists became the largest single group in the new church.
  - D. The decline in Protestant affiliation was reversed.
- 9 Which row of the table shows the denomination that represents the Church of England in Australia in 1947?

<i>Religious affiliations in Australia, 1947</i>	
	<i>% of adherents</i>
A. Denomination 1	39%
B. Denomination 2	21%
C. Denomination 3	12%
D. Denomination 4	10%

- 10 Statement 1: In the Wik decision, the High Court first recognised that the term *terra nullius* was not an appropriate description of the land.

Statement 2: The *Bringing them Home* report was the first legal recognition of Aboriginal native title.

Which of the following is correct?

- A. Both statements are true.
- B. Both statements are false.
- C. Statement 1 is false and statement 2 is true.
- D. Statement 1 is true and statement 2 is false.



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## Studies of Religion II

### Section I (continued)

#### Part B — Religion and Non-Religion

15 marks

#### Attempt Questions 12–22

Use the multiple-choice answer sheet for Questions 12–21.

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- 12** Which of the following viewpoints is most likely to be the position of an atheist?
- A. There is no life after death.
  - B. Transcendence can be proven scientifically.
  - C. Tarot card readings provide legitimate guidance for decision making.
  - D. Human beings need supernatural assistance to improve the quality of their lives.
- 13** Which of the following provides the foundation for monotheistic beliefs?
- A. The astrological world
  - B. The human experience
  - C. The natural environment
  - D. The transcendent dimension
- 14** Which of the following best characterises materialism?
- A. It associates a person's sense of self with their possessions.
  - B. It encourages individuals to explore new religious expressions.
  - C. It promotes a focus on the needs of society rather than the individual.
  - D. It prioritises the use of products and services that enhance the environment.

- 15** Sal believes that natural objects, natural phenomena and the universe itself possess souls. Elle believes that there is not enough evidence to prove that a god exists.

Which of the following describes Sal and Elle?

- A. Sal is an animist and Elle is an atheist.
  - B. Sal is an agnostic and Elle is an animist.
  - C. Sal is an animist and Elle is an agnostic.
  - D. Sal is a humanist and Elle is an agnostic.
- 16** Chris lives in a country where NONE of the five major religious traditions is practised by the majority of the population.

Where does Chris live?

- A. Brazil
  - B. China
  - C. Indonesia
  - D. Pakistan
- 17** Rational humanism is a non-religious worldview that strongly emphasises which of the following?
- A. The value of the human soul
  - B. The fixed nature of humankind
  - C. The use of human logic to resolve challenges
  - D. The power of humanity to make the world free from violence
- 18** Of the following, who would be most likely to make a moral decision based on spiritual experiences?
- A. A humanist
  - B. A polytheist
  - C. A rationalist
  - D. A secularist



- 19** Students from a school raised funds to support the Salvation Army's work with the homeless. Many homeless people now benefit from the students' generosity.

The benefit to the homeless is an example of which of the following?

- A. Social cohesion
- B. Social rationalism
- C. Social engineering
- D. Social transformation

- 20** Statement 1: Scientific humanism rejects the notion that the existence of a transcendent or divine reality can be proven.

Statement 2: Rational humanism accepts that a purposeful life can be achieved by following human reason.

Which of the following is correct?

- A. Both statements are true.
- B. Both statements are false.
- C. Statement 1 is false and statement 2 is true.
- D. Statement 1 is true and statement 2 is false.

- 21** In which pair of countries is Christianity the dominant religion?

- A. India and Ireland
- B. Canada and Poland
- C. Malaysia and the Philippines
- D. Turkey and the United States

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## Studies of Religion II

### Section II — Religious Tradition Depth Study

**30 marks**

**Attempt TWO questions from Questions 23–27**

**Choose DIFFERENT Religious Traditions in Section II from the one you choose in Section III**

**Allow about 1 hour for this section**

Answer both questions in the Sections II and III Writing Booklet. Extra writing booklets are available.

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#### Question 23 — Buddhism (15 marks)

- (a) (i) Briefly outline ONE ethical teaching in Buddhism. **2**
- (ii) How does the teaching outlined in part (a) (i) guide adherents in their daily living in ONE of the following areas? **5**
- Bioethics
  - Environmental ethics
  - Sexual ethics
- (b) *Follow the path of virtue. The virtuous rest in bliss in this world and in the next.* **8**  
Dhammapada 13:168

How are the beliefs of Buddhism expressed in the quotation reflected in ONE significant practice?

In your response, refer to ONE of the following.

- Pilgrimage
- Temple Puja
- Wesak

**Question 24 — Christianity (15 marks)**

- (a) (i) Briefly outline ONE significant practice within Christianity from the following. 2
- Baptism
  - Marriage ceremony
  - Saturday/Sunday worship
- (ii) What is the significance for the Christian community of the practice outlined in part (a) (i)? 5
- (b) *So live as people of light. For this light within you produces only what is good and right and true.* 8

Scripture quotations are taken from The Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved.

Ephesians 5:8–9

To what extent has ONE significant person or school of thought, other than Jesus, encouraged Christians to follow what is ‘right and true’?

**Question 25 — Hinduism (15 marks)**

- (a) (i) Briefly outline ONE contribution to Hinduism of ONE significant person or school of thought other than the Vedas. 2
- (ii) What impact has the significant person or school of thought outlined in part (a) (i) had on Hinduism? 5
- (b) 8

This material cannot be displayed, due to copyright issues.

How does this quotation reflect the significance of ONE of the following practices for the Hindu community?

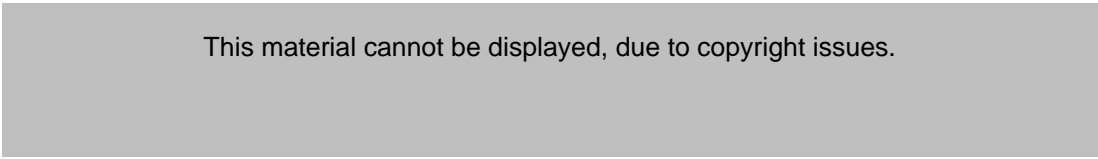
- Marriage ceremony
- Pilgrimage
- Temple worship

**Question 26 — Islam (15 marks)**

(a) (i) Briefly outline ONE significant practice within Islam from the following. **2**

- Friday prayer at the mosque
- Funeral ceremony
- Hajj

(ii) What is the significance for the Islamic community of the practice outlined in part (a) (i)? **5**

(b)  **8**

How does the above teaching give guidance to adherents in ONE of the following areas?

- Bioethics
- Environmental ethics
- Sexual ethics

**Please turn over**

**Question 27 — Judaism (15 marks)**

- (a) (i) Briefly outline ONE ethical teaching in Judaism. **2**
- (ii) How does the teaching outlined in part (a) (i) guide adherents in their daily living in ONE of the following areas? **5**
- Bioethics
  - Environmental ethics
  - Sexual ethics
- (b) *Hear: O Israel: The LORD thy God is one LORD.* **8**
- |                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Deuteronomy 6:4<br><i>Torah</i> | Scripture quotations taken from The Holy Bible, New International Version® NIV® Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc. TM Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. |
|---------------------------------|---|

How is the belief in ‘The LORD’ reflected in ONE significant practice of Judaism?

In your response, refer to ONE of the following.

- Death and mourning
- Marriage
- Synagogue services



## Section III — Religious Tradition Depth Study

20 marks

Attempt ONE question from Questions 28–32

Choose a DIFFERENT Religious Tradition in Section III from the ones you chose in Section II

Allow about 35 minutes for this section

Answer the question in the Sections II and III Writing Booklet. Extra writing booklets are available.

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Your answer will be assessed on how well you:

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding relevant to the question
  - incorporate significant aspects of religion to illustrate your answer
  - communicate using language and terminology appropriate to the study of religion
  - present ideas clearly in a cohesive response
- 

### Question 28 — Buddhism (20 marks)

*Look within, thou art the Buddha.*

THE BUDDHA

To what extent does Buddhism guide adherents to ‘look within’?

### Question 29 — Christianity (20 marks)

*You all know that God is really good. You may be just as sure that the person who leads a really good life is a true child of God.*

1 John 2:29

The New Testament in Modern English By J B Phillips copyright © 1960, 1972 J B Phillips. Administered by The Archbishops' Council of the Church of England. Used by Permission.

How does Christianity guide adherents to live a ‘good life’?

### Question 30 — Hinduism (20 marks)

*The fire of knowledge burns to ashes all Karma.*

*Bhagavad Gita 4:37*

How does the knowledge of Hindu ethical teachings guide adherents in their daily living?

**Question 31 — Islam** (20 marks)

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To what extent has ONE significant person or school of thought, other than Muhammad and the Four Rightly Guided Caliphs, assisted adherents to seek the truth?

**Question 32 — Judaism** (20 marks)

*But from there you will seek the LORD your God, and you find Him if you search for Him with all your heart and all your soul.*

Deuteronomy 4:29  
*Torah*

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To what extent has ONE significant person or school of thought, other than Abraham or Moses, assisted adherents in their ‘search for Him’?

## Section IV — Religion and Peace

20 marks

Attempt Question 33

Allow about 35 minutes for this section

Answer the question in the Section IV Writing Booklet. Extra writing booklets are available.

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Your answer will be assessed on how well you:

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding relevant to the question
  - incorporate significant aspects of religion to illustrate your answer
  - communicate using language and terminology appropriate to the study of religion
  - present ideas clearly in a cohesive response
- 

Question 33 (20 marks)

### Buddhism

*Happy is the devotion of those who are at peace.*

Dhammapada 194

### Christianity

*Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.*

Hebrews 12:14

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### Hinduism

*For one who never meditates on the Ultimate Truth there is no peace and for one destitute of peace where is happiness?*

*Bhagavad Gita* 2:66

### Islam

*O You who believe! Submit to peace, the religion of Islam, fully and unconditionally.*

*Qur'an* 2:208

### Judaism

*The effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness will be quietness and confidence forever.*

Isaiah 32:17

Scripture taken from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Explain how an understanding of peace is expressed through sacred texts in TWO religious traditions. In your answer, make specific reference to the TWO relevant quotations given.

**End of paper**

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