



NSW Education Standards Authority

**2020** HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

# Studies of Religion I

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**General  
Instructions**

- Reading time – 5 minutes
- Working time – 1 hour and 30 minutes
- Write using black pen
- Write your Centre Number and Student Number at the top of page 5

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**Total marks:  
50**

**Section I – 15 marks** (pages 2–5)

- Attempt Questions 1–11
- Allow about 25 minutes for this section

**Section II – 15 marks** (pages 7–9)

- Attempt ONE question from Questions 12–16
- You must NOT choose the same Religious Tradition in both Section II and Section III
- Allow about 30 minutes for this section

**Section III – 20 marks** (pages 10–11)

- Attempt ONE question from Questions 17–21
- You must NOT choose the same Religious Tradition in both Section II and Section III
- Allow about 35 minutes for this section

## Section I — Religion and Belief Systems in Australia post-1945

**15 marks**

**Attempt Questions 1–11**

**Allow about 25 minutes for this section**

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

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- 1** What do most New Age religions have in common with Australia’s major religious traditions?

  - A. They use sacred texts.
  - B. They prioritise music in worship.
  - C. They have a spiritual dimension.
  - D. They rely on a formal set of spiritual beliefs.
  
- 2** Communication between which of the following is an example of ecumenical dialogue?

  - A. Buddhists and Hindus
  - B. Baptists and Presbyterians
  - C. Catholics and Orthodox Jews
  - D. Muslims and the Salvation Army
  
- 3** Which of the following is a reflection of secularism?

  - A. Increasing participation in social activism
  - B. Growing tensions between religious traditions
  - C. The number of people switching denominations
  - D. The number of marriages being conducted by civil celebrants

- 4 Which Australian state has the highest percentage of people with a religious affiliation?
- A. New South Wales
  - B. South Australia
  - C. Tasmania
  - D. Victoria

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Use the following to answer Questions 5 and 6.



The Uluru Climb closed permanently on 26 October 2019

Visitors are advised that climbing Uluru is a breach of the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act*, and penalties will be issued to visitors attempting to do so.

Courtesy of Uluru-Kata Tjuta  
National Park/Parks Australia

- 5 Why was closing Uluru to climbers important for the Anangu traditional owners?
- A. It recognised the power of ceremonial life.
  - B. It acknowledged obligations of land and people.
  - C. It educated younger generations about sacred sites.
  - D. It demonstrated the authority of Australian federal law.
- 6 How was the closure of Uluru to climbers significant for the land rights movement?
- A. It demonstrated the power of the environmental movement.
  - B. It demonstrated that traditional law cannot accommodate tourism.
  - C. It provided an example of traditional and Australian law working together.
  - D. It provided an example of traditional law being privileged over Australian law.

- 7 Which of the following is correct?
- A. Between 1996 and 2016, over 50% of Australian Pentecostal adherents migrated from the USA.
  - B. Pentecostal churches are socially conservative and experience little denominational switching in or out.
  - C. Between 1996 and 2006, almost 20% of Catholic adherents switched into a Pentecostal denomination.
  - D. Adherents switching into a Pentecostal denomination are more likely to have switched from another Pentecostal denomination.

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- 8 What was established by the 1998 *Native Title (Amendment) Act*?
- A. *Terra nullius* was deemed to be invalid.
  - B. The rights of leaseholders could override native title.
  - C. The rights of freehold property owners were recognised.
  - D. Native title could coexist with the rights of leaseholders.

- 9 Which decade saw the Catholic Church become the largest Christian denomination in Australia?
- A. 1950s
  - B. 1960s
  - C. 1970s
  - D. 1980s

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- 10 We seek constitutional reforms to empower our people and take *a rightful place* in our own country. When we have power over our destiny our children will flourish. They will walk in two worlds and their culture will be a gift to their country.

*Uluru Statement from the Heart*, 2017  
National Constitutional Convention

According to the source, how would constitutional reform contribute to the progress of reconciliation in Australia?

- A. It would assist in promoting national unity in Australia.
- B. It would improve Australians' knowledge about Aboriginal traditions.
- C. It would support Aboriginal communities in making land rights claims.
- D. It would enable Aboriginal people to gain control of the reconciliation process.

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Centre Number

## Studies of Religion I

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Student Number

### Section I (continued)

#### Attempt Question 11

Answer the question in the space provided. This space provides guidance for the expected length of response.

#### Question 11 (5 marks)

*Without mass migration the Australian religious landscape would look very different today.*

How accurate is this statement in relation to Australia's religious landscape since 1945?

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## Studies of Religion I

### Section II — Religious Tradition Depth Study

15 marks

Attempt ONE question from Questions 12–16

Choose a DIFFERENT Religious Tradition in Section II from the one you choose in Section III

Allow about 30 minutes for this section

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

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#### Question 12 — Buddhism (15 marks)

- (a) (i) Outline how ONE Buddhist belief is expressed through ONE of the following significant practices. 3
- Pilgrimage
  - Temple Puja
  - Wesak
- (ii) What is the significance for the individual of the practice outlined in part (a) (i)? 4
- (b) *Generosity and kind words, conduct for others' welfare, impartiality in all things; these are suitable everywhere.* 8

The Buddha's advice to Sigalaka

*Sigalovada Sutta*

*Sigalovada Sutta: The Buddha's Advice to Sigalaka* (DN 31)

Translated from the Pali by John Kelly, Sue Sawyer, and Victoria Yareham

Access to Insight (BCBS Edition), 30 November 2013

<http://www.accesstoinsight.org/tipitaka/dn/dn.31.0.ksw0.html>

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To what extent does the above advice give guidance to adherents in ONE of the following areas?

- Bioethics
- Environmental ethics
- Sexual ethics

**Question 13 — Christianity** (15 marks)

- (a) (i) Outline ONE significant practice within Christianity from the following. **3**
- Baptism
  - Marriage ceremony
  - Saturday/Sunday worship
- (ii) What is the significance for the Christian community of the practice outlined in part (a) (i)? **4**

- (b) **8**
- This material cannot be displayed,  
due to copyright issues.

To what extent has ONE significant person or school of thought, other than Jesus, encouraged adherents to be *faithful* to Christian teachings?

**Question 14 — Hinduism** (15 marks)

- (a) (i) Outline the contribution to Hinduism of ONE person or school of thought, other than the Vedas. **3**
- (ii) What impact has the person or school of thought identified in part (a) (i) had on Hinduism? **4**

- (b) **8**
- This material cannot be displayed,  
due to copyright issues.

How do the ethical teachings of Hinduism guide adherents towards *the path of righteousness*? In your response, refer to ONE of the following ethical areas.

- Bioethics
- Environmental ethics
- Sexual ethics



**Question 15 — Islam (15 marks)**

- (a) (i) Outline ONE significant practice within Islam from the following. **3**
- 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)? **4**

- (b) **8**
- This material cannot be displayed,  
due to copyright issues.

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

- Bioethics
- Environmental ethics
- Sexual ethics

**Question 16 — Judaism (15 marks)**

- (a) (i) Outline ONE ethical teaching in Judaism. **3**
- (ii) How does the teaching outlined in part (a) (i) guide adherents in their daily living in ONE of the following areas? **4**
- Bioethics
  - Environmental ethics
  - Sexual ethics

- (b) **8**
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How does observance of the *laws and rules* express the beliefs of Judaism within ONE of the following significant practices?

- Death and mourning
- Marriage
- Synagogue services

## Section III — Religious Tradition Depth Study

**20 marks**

**Attempt ONE question from Questions 17–21**

**Choose a DIFFERENT Religious Tradition in Section III from the one 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
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### Question 17 — Buddhism (20 marks)

*The mentor\* can be identified by four things: by restraining you from wrongdoing, guiding you towards good actions, telling you what you ought to know, and showing you the path ...*

Translated from the Pali  
by JOHN KELLY, SUE SAWYER and VICTORIA YAREHAM  
*Sigalovada Sutta*

\* mentor *tutor or teacher*

To what extent has one significant person or school of thought, other than the Buddha, assisted adherents by showing them *the path*?

### Question 18 — Christianity (20 marks)

*Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mould, but let God re-make you so that your whole attitude of mind is changed.*

Romans 12:2

How does this teaching guide Christians in their ethical behaviour?

**Question 19 — Hinduism (20 marks)**

Question posed to H H Swami Vivekananda: *‘What do you gain by prayer?’*

Response by Swami Vivekananda: *‘I gained NOTHING. In fact, I LOST anger, depression, jealousy, irritation and insecurity.’*

Sri Venkateswara Temple

svtsydney.org

Courtesy of Sri Venkateswara Temple

How does the response by Swami Vivekananda reflect the essence of Hinduism as a living religious tradition?

**Question 20 — 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, provided *knowledge that is meaningful* to adherents?

**Question 21 — Judaism (20 marks)**

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How does this affirmation guide adherents to live a meaningful life?

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