



NSW Education Standards Authority

--	--	--	--	--

Centre Number

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Student Number

2023 HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

Studies of Religion I

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 this page and page 5

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 7–11)

- 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 12–13)

- 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

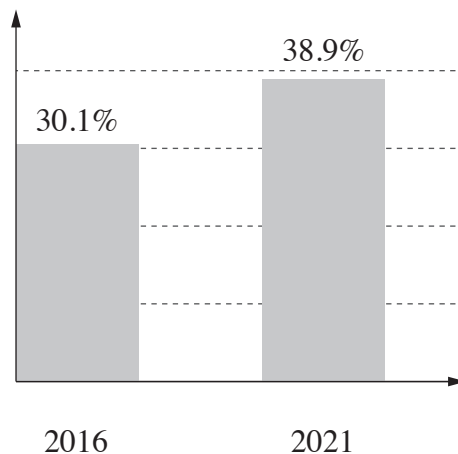
15 marks

Attempt Questions 1–11

Allow about 25 minutes for this section

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

- 1 According to the 2021 Australian Census, which of the following religious traditions is the fastest growing in Australia?
- A. Buddhism
 - B. Hinduism
 - C. Islam
 - D. Judaism
- 2 The graph shows how Australians responded to a question about religious affiliation in the 2016 and 2021 censuses.



Source: 2021 National Census of Population and Housing

Adapted from the 2021 National Census of Population and Housing,
Religious Affiliation/ABS © Commonwealth of Australia

Which response about religious affiliation is represented by the graph?

- A. No religion
- B. Christianity
- C. Other religions
- D. Aboriginal spirituality

- 3** Which of the following best describes secularism?
- A. The promotion of religion in society
 - B. The allocation of funding for all churches
 - C. The role of government reporting into religious practice
 - D. The separation between government affairs and religion
- 4** Which of the following is an example of denominational switching?
- A. Roman Catholic to Pentecostal
 - B. Uniting Church to Hinduism
 - C. Islam to a New Age religion
 - D. Judaism to Buddhism
- 5** Why is the relationship between ceremonial life and the Dreaming important?
- A. It allows for the worship of ancestral beings.
 - B. It is the most significant aspect of Aboriginal life.
 - C. It is practised in the same manner by all communities.
 - D. It provides a way for Aboriginal people to express their spirituality.
- 6** Which of the following best reflects the main purpose of interfaith dialogue?
- A. To promote the growth of new religious traditions
 - B. To establish a common belief system among all people
 - C. To foster positive attitudes and actions that celebrate religious diversity
 - D. To create networks for Christian leaders to interact and establish joint projects
- 7** A key objective of ecumenism in Australia is to increase
- A. promotion of secularism.
 - B. awareness of sectarianism.
 - C. participation in New Age religions.
 - D. commitment to sharing the values of the Gospel.

8

Due to copyright restrictions, this material cannot be displayed until permission has been obtained

Which of the following is correct?

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

- 9 In May 2022, a group of religious leaders signed a joint statement in response to the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

‘As leaders representing diverse religious communities, we declare our support of the Uluru Statement and its call for a First Nations Voice guaranteed by the Constitution.’

Courtesy of the National Council of Churches in Australia

Through this statement, religious leaders were showing support for the

- A. reconciliation process.
 - B. apology for past injustices.
 - C. ‘Closing the Gap’ campaign.
 - D. land rights claims for different communities.
- 10 Which of the following statements best explains why the Stolen Generations have struggled to connect with their Aboriginal spirituality?
- A. There is disruption to the maintenance of kinship groups.
 - B. There are no Elders to pass on essential knowledge of the Dreaming.
 - C. There are fewer sacred sites on the land to carry out initiation ceremonies.
 - D. There is limited understanding about totems to give meaning to individuals.

--	--	--	--	--

Centre Number

Studies of Religion I

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

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)

Explain the relationship between the Dreaming and the land rights movement.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

BLANK PAGE

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.

Question 12 — Buddhism (15 marks)

- (a) *Set your heart on doing good.* **5**

GAUTAMA BUDDHA

With reference to the stimulus, explain how ONE ethical teaching in Buddhism is applied in order to encourage adherents to do good.

In your answer, refer to ONE of the following:

- bioethics
- environmental ethics
- sexual ethics.

- (b) Analyse the importance of ONE significant practice to the adherents of Buddhism. In your answer, refer to ONE of the following: **5**

- Pilgrimage
- Temple Puja
- Wesak.

- (c) How is the contribution of ONE significant person or school of thought, other than the Buddha, evident in Buddhism today? **5**

Question 13 — Christianity (15 marks)

- (a) *For we are ... created in Christ Jesus to do good works.* **5**

Ephesians 2:10

Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984,
2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

With reference to the stimulus, explain how ONE ethical teaching in Christianity is applied in order to encourage adherents to do good.

In your answer, refer to ONE of the following:

- bioethics
- environmental ethics
- sexual ethics.

- (b) Analyse the importance of ONE significant practice to the adherents of Christianity. In your answer, refer to ONE of the following: **5**

- baptism
- marriage ceremony
- Saturday/Sunday worship.

- (c) How is the contribution of ONE significant person or school of thought, other than Jesus, evident in Christianity today? **5**

Question 14 – Hinduism (15 marks)

- (a) *The person who is always involved in good deeds experiences divine happiness.* **5**

RIG VEDA

With reference to the stimulus, explain how ONE ethical teaching in Hinduism is applied in order to encourage adherents to do good.

In your answer, refer to ONE of the following:

- bioethics
- environmental ethics
- sexual ethics.

- (b) Analyse the importance of ONE significant practice to the adherents of Hinduism. In your answer, refer to ONE of the following: **5**

- marriage ceremony
- pilgrimage
- temple worship.

- (c) How is the contribution of ONE significant person or school of thought, other than the Vedas, evident in Hinduism today? **5**

Please turn over

Question 15 – Islam (15 marks)

(a) *Serve Allah and do good.* **5**

Qur'an 4:36

With reference to the stimulus, explain how ONE ethical teaching in Islam is applied in order to encourage adherents to do good.

In your answer, refer to ONE of the following:

- bioethics
- environmental ethics
- sexual ethics.

(b) Analyse the importance of ONE significant practice to the adherents of Islam. **5**
In your answer, refer to ONE of the following:

- Friday prayer at the mosque
- funeral ceremony
- Hajj.

(c) How is the contribution of ONE significant person or school of thought, other than Muhammad and the Four Rightly Guided Caliphs, evident in Islam today? **5**

Question 16 – Judaism (15 marks)

- (a) *Trust in the Lord, and do good.* **5**

Psalm 37:3

Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984,
2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

With reference to the stimulus, explain how ONE ethical teaching in Judaism is applied in order to encourage adherents to do good.

In your answer, refer to ONE of the following:

- bioethics
- environmental ethics
- sexual ethics.

- (b) Analyse the importance of ONE significant practice to the adherents of Judaism. **5**
In your answer, refer to ONE of the following:

- death and mourning
- marriage
- synagogue services.

- (c) How is the contribution of ONE significant person or school of thought, other than Abraham or Moses, evident in Judaism today? **5**

Please turn over

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.

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 17 — Buddhism (20 marks)

How does Buddhism guide adherents towards living a better life? Make reference to at least TWO of the following:

- significant person or school of thought
- ethics
- significant practices.

Question 18 — Christianity (20 marks)

How does Christianity guide adherents towards living a better life? Make reference to at least TWO of the following:

- significant person or school of thought
- ethics
- significant practices.

Question 19 – Hinduism (20 marks)

How does Hinduism guide adherents towards living a better life? Make reference to at least TWO of the following:

- significant person or school of thought
- ethics
- significant practices.

Question 20 – Islam (20 marks)

How does Islam guide adherents towards living a better life? Make reference to at least TWO of the following:

- significant person or school of thought
- ethics
- significant practices.

Question 21 – Judaism (20 marks)

How does Judaism guide adherents towards living a better life? Make reference to at least TWO of the following:

- significant person or school of thought
- ethics
- significant practices.

End of paper

BLANK PAGE