GCSE

3120UE0-1

WEDNESDAY, 21 MAY 2025 – AFTERNOON

RELIGIOUS STUDIES – Unit 1

PART A – Core Beliefs, Teachings and Practices

– Christianity
– Buddhism

PART B – Religious Responses to Philosophical Themes

– Theme 1: Life and Death
– Theme 2: Good and Evil

2 hours plus your additional time allowance

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	For Examiner's use only		
	Question	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
PART A	1.	30	
	SPaG	6	
PART B	2.	30	
	3.	30	
	4.	30	
	Total	126	

Surname _____

First name(s) _____

Centre Number _____

Candidate Number 0 _____

(Turn over)

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink, black ball-point pen or your usual method.

Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the spaces provided on page 2.

Answer ALL questions.

Write your answers in the spaces provided in this booklet. If you run out of space, use the additional page(s) at the back of the booklet taking care to number the question(s) correctly.

(Turn over)

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

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

Your ability to spell, punctuate and use accurate grammar is assessed in question 1(d).

You are expected to use specialist terminology accurately and make reference to sources of religious wisdom and authority (including religious texts), where relevant.

Answer ALL questions.

PART A – CORE BELIEFS, TEACHINGS AND PRACTICES

CHRISTIANITY

1 (a) What do Christians mean by 'Messiah'? [2 marks]

1 (b) Describe Christian approaches to ethical decision making. [5 marks]

(Turn over)

1 (c) Explain Christian teachings about love. [8 marks]

(Turn over)

(Turn over)

(Turn over)

(Turn over)

1 (d) **'Helping the community is the most important role of a church or chapel.'**

Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view.
(You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.) [15 marks]

Marks for spelling, punctuation and the accurate use of grammar are allocated to this question. [6 marks]

(Turn over)

(Turn over)

(Turn over)

(Turn over)

(Turn over)

SPaG 6

30

(Turn over)

PART A – CORE BELIEFS, TEACHINGS AND PRACTICES

BUDDHISM

2 (a) What do Buddhists mean by 'Buddha'? [2 marks]

2 (b) Describe Buddha's teachings about suffering (dukkha). [5 marks]

(Turn over)

2 (c) Explain why many Buddhists celebrate Wesak. [8 marks]

(Turn over)

(Turn over)

2 (d) 'Mettabhavana is the most important type of meditation for Buddhists.'

Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view.
(You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.) [15 marks]

(Turn over)

(Turn over)

(Turn over)

(Turn over)

(Turn over)

31

30

(Turn over)

PART B – RELIGIOUS RESPONSES TO PHILOSOPHICAL THEMES

THEME 1: LIFE AND DEATH

3 (a) What is meant by 'afterlife'?

[2 marks]

3 (b) Describe Christian OR Buddhist beliefs about caring for the world.

[5 marks]

(Turn over)

(Turn over)

3 (c) Explain Christian AND Buddhist teachings about the origin of the universe. [8 marks]

(Turn over)

(Turn over)

(Turn over)

3 (d) ‘Only God has the right to choose when a person’s life ends.’

Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view.
(You must refer to religious AND non-religious beliefs, such as those held by Humanists and Atheists, in your answer.) [15 marks]

(Turn over)

(Turn over)

(Turn over)

(Turn over)

(Turn over)

30

(Turn over)

PART B – RELIGIOUS RESPONSES TO PHILOSOPHICAL THEMES

THEME 2: GOOD AND EVIL

4 (a) What is meant by 'suffering'?

[2 marks]

4 (b) Describe Christian OR Buddhist attitudes towards pacifism.

[5 marks]

(Turn over)

4 (c) Explain Christian AND Buddhist beliefs about how criminals should be treated. [8 marks]

(Turn over)

(Turn over)

(Turn over)

4 (d) 'The death penalty is a fair punishment.'

Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view.
(You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.) [15 marks]

(Turn over)

(Turn over)

(Turn over)

(Turn over)

(Turn over)

END OF PAPER

30

(Turn over)

Question number	Additional page, if required. Write the question number(s) in the left-hand margin.

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