



GCSE



C120U30-1

WEDNESDAY, 4 JUNE 2025 – AFTERNOON

RELIGIOUS STUDIES Route A – Component 3

Option 1

Buddhism

1 hour plus your additional time allowance

Please note the question paper and mark scheme were amended in August 2025.

Question 1b is different from that which appeared on the Summer 2025 paper.

Surname _____

First name(s) _____

Centre Number _____

Candidate Number 0 _____

For Examiner's use only		
Question	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
1.	30	
2.	30	
Total	60	

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 the front cover.

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.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

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

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

(Turn over)

Answer ALL questions.

1. BELIEFS AND TEACHINGS

(a) What do Buddhists mean by ‘(s)kandhas’?

[2 marks]

(Turn over)

1 (b) Describe what some Buddhists believe about Amida Buddha. [5 marks]

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

(Turn over)

[illegible]

(Turn over)

1 (c) Explain how following the Eightfold Path (maggā) could help a Buddhist reach nirvana. [8 marks]

[illegible]

(Turn over)

[illegible]

(Turn over)

[illegible]

(Turn over)

1 (d) 'Seeing the Four Sights was the most important part of the Buddha's life.'

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]

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins or other markings on the paper.

(Turn over)

2. PRACTICES

(a) What do Buddhists mean by 'pratitya'?

[2 marks]

(Turn over)

2 (b) Describe how some Buddhists might use malas.

[5 marks]

[illegible]

(Turn over)

2 (c) Explain why Buddhists make offerings. [8 marks]

[illegible]

(Turn over)

2 (d) 'Buddhists should not waste their time with ceremonies for the dead.'

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)

	30

(Turn over)

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

(Turn over)

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

(Turn over)

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

(Turn over)

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

(Turn over)

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

(Turn over)

[illegible]