



Cambridge International AS & A Level

HINDUISM

9487/02

Paper 2 Development of Hinduism

October/November 2024

1 hour 30 minutes

You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **two** questions in total:
Section A: answer **one** question.
Section B: answer **one** question.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].



This document has **4** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

Section A

Answer **EITHER** Question 1 **OR** Question 2.

EITHER

1 (a) Summarise the main themes of the Brahmanas. [5]

(b) Explain why some contemporary Hindus might believe the Upanishads are of greater importance than other Vedic writings. [10]

(c) 'The Atharva Veda is less important for Hindus than the other three Vedas.' Discuss. [15]

[Total: 30]

OR

2 (a) Outline how the Bhagavad Gita is different from the rest of the Mahabharata. [5]

(b) Explain why some Hindus might describe the Bhagavad Gita as a summary of the Vedas. [10]

(c) Assess the claim that the Bhagavad Gita is the only sacred text a Hindu needs to read. [15]

[Total: 30]

Section B

Answer **EITHER** Question 3 **OR** Question 4.

EITHER

3 (a) Summarise the difference between monism and monotheism. [5]

(b) Explain how Brahman relates to the concept of ishvara. [10]

(c) Assess the claim that liberation is achieved by realising that the atman is entirely separate from Brahman. [15]

[Total: 30]

OR

4 (a) Summarise what Vaishnavas believe about God. [5]

(b) Explain how Smartism is different from other theistic traditions in Hinduism. [10]

(c) 'Any Hindu is allowed to worship Shiva.' Discuss. [15]

[Total: 30]

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