



Cambridge O Level

HINDUISM

2055/02

Paper 2 Scriptures, Ethics and Hindu Life

October/November 2023

1 hour 30 minutes

You must answer on the answer booklet/paper.

You will need: Answer booklet/paper

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **three** questions in total, **one** from each section.
- If you have been given an answer booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet.
- Use a black or dark blue pen.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number on all the work you hand in.
- Do **not** use an erasable pen or correction fluid.
- At the end of the examination, fasten all your work together. Do **not** use staples, paper clips or glue.

INFORMATION

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

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Section A: Aspects of knowledge, action and devotion

Answer **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2.

EITHER

1 (a) (i) Who was Rama's brother? [1]

 (ii) Where was Rama exiled from? [1]

 (b) Outline Sita's role in the story of Ramayana. [3]

 (c) Explain why many Hindus might believe the Ramayana is their most important text. [5]

 (d) 'Hindu scriptures are so ancient that they have little relevance in the modern world for Hindus.'

To what extent do you agree with this view? You should use evidence from your study of Indian reformers to support your argument. [10]

OR

2 (a) (i) Name a yoga discussed in the Bhagavad Gita, Chapter III. [1]

 (ii) Who is Arjuna talking to in the Bhagavad Gita, Chapter III? [1]

 (b) Outline the teachings about duty in the Bhagavad Gita, Chapter III. [3]

 (c) Explain what Hindus can learn about avatars from reading Hindu scriptures. [5]

 (d) 'For Hindus seeking the divine, the way of knowledge is more important than the way of action.'

To what extent do you agree with this view? Refer to the specified texts you have studied in your answer. [10]

Section B: Hindu life and ceremonies

Answer **either** Question 3 **or** Question 4.

EITHER

3 (a) (i) What is the marriage ceremony called in Hinduism? [1]

(ii) Name **one** other samskara in Hinduism. [1]

(b) Describe the brahmacharya ashrama. [3]

(c) Explain the duties of the shudra varna. [5]

(d) 'The social structures are essential to guide Hindu lives.'

To what extent do you agree with this view? You should use evidence from your study of Hindu values to support your argument. [10]

OR

4 (a) (i) What does ashrama mean? [1]

(ii) What does samskara mean? [1]

(b) Describe the traditional role of the Brahmin varna. [3]

(c) Describe why the purusharthas are important to some Hindus. [5]

(d) 'The first two ashramas are more important for Hindus than the last two.'

To what extent do you agree with this view? You should use evidence from your study of Hindu values to support your argument. [10]

Section C: Reforms and reformers of the 18th to 20th centuries

Answer **either** Question 5 **or** Question 6.

EITHER

5 (a) (i) Name the reform movement founded by Ram Mohan Roy. [1]

(ii) Where in India did Ram Mohan Roy study Sanskrit? [1]

(b) Describe **one** reform Ram Mohan Roy aimed to achieve. [3]

(c) Explain how the work of Ram Mohan Roy affected the lives of Hindus. [5]

(d) 'Attempts made by Hindu reformers have been totally successful.'

To what extent do you agree with this view? You should use evidence from your study of Indian reformers to support your argument. [10]

OR

6 (a) (i) Name the founder of the Arya Samaj. [1]

(ii) Give **one** principle of the Arya Samaj. [1]

(b) Outline the work of the Arya Samaj. [3]

(c) Explain how the work of the Arya Samaj affected the lives of Hindus. [5]

(d) 'Religious practice should not change just because the world changes.'

To what extent do you agree with this view? You should use evidence from your study of Indian reformers to support your argument. [10]

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