



Cambridge O Level

HINDUISM

2055/02

Paper 2 Scriptures, Ethics and Hindu Life

October/November 2024

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 [].

This document has **4** pages.

Section A: Aspects of knowledge, action and devotion

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

- 1 (a) (i) Name the Upanishad which describes **two** birds in a tree. [1]
- (ii) State what **one** of the birds is doing. [1]
- (b) Outline **one** example used to explain the nature of the self in the Chandogya Upanishad. [3]
- (c) Explain what the description of **two** birds in a tree teaches Hindus about karma. [5]
- (d) 'The path of devotion does **not** require reading scripture.'

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

- 2 (a) (i) Name the monkey god who met Rama on behalf of his king. [1]
- (ii) Name the king who sent him. [1]
- (b) Outline the reasons the king and Rama needed each other's help. [3]
- (c) Explain what the Bhagavad Gita Chapter III teaches about why people do wrong actions. [5]
- (d) 'All Hindus need to interpret the meaning of scripture for themselves.'

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.

- 3** (a) (i) What is the grihastha stage of life? [1]
- (ii) What is the vanaprastha stage of life? [1]
- (b) Outline the ceremony that marks the start of the brahmacharya ashrama. [3]
- (c) Explain the purpose of the rituals involved in the antyeshti samskara. [5]
- (d) 'The namakarana samskara is **not** important to Hindus in the modern world.'
- To what extent do you agree with this view? You should use evidence from your study of Hindu values to support your argument. [10]

- 4** (a) Give **two** duties of the brahmacharya ashrama. [2]
- (b) Outline **one** way the sannyasa ashrama might help a Hindu achieve moksha. [3]
- (c) Explain why the varnas might be considered the foundation of an ideal society. [5]
- (d) 'Dharma is **not** the only purushartha that matters.'
- 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.

- 5** (a) (i) Name the form of God Ramakrishna Paramahansa devoted himself to. [1]
- (ii) Name Ramakrishna Paramahansa's best known student. [1]
- (b) Outline **one** religious experience Ramakrishna Paramahansa had as a child. [3]
- (c) Explain the work of **one** of the 19th- and 20th-century reformers to achieve the abolition of sati. [5]
- (d) 'The Arya Samaj was a more effective movement for change than the Brahmo Samaj.'
- To what extent do you agree? You should use evidence from your study of Indian reformers to support your argument. [10]

- 6** (a) (i) Where did Ram Mohan Roy die? [1]
- (ii) Give **one** religious practice that was rejected by Swami Dayananda Saraswati. [1]
- (b) Outline what Swami Dayananda Saraswati did during his years as a sannyasi. [3]
- (c) Explain the significance of the work of Ram Mohan Roy for Hinduism in the modern world. [5]
- (d) 'It is **not** important that women receive the same education as men.'
- To what extent do you agree? Refer in your answer to your study of Indian reformers. [10]

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