



A-level

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

2A: Buddhism and Dialogues

Specimen 2018

Morning

Time allowed: 3 hours

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book.
- Answer:
 - **both** two-part questions from Section A, and
 - **one** question from Section B and
 - **one** question from Section C
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work that you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 100.
- In each two-part question in Section A, the first part tests your knowledge and understanding, while the second part tests your skills of reasoning and evaluation.
- The one-part questions in Sections B and C test your knowledge and understanding and your skills of reasoning and evaluation.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Section A: Study of Buddhism

Answer **both** questions in this section.
Each question has two parts.

Question 01

0 1 . 1 Examine how Buddhist teaching helps Buddhists respond to the challenge of secularisation.

[10 marks]

and

0 1 . 2 'For Buddhists, secularisation is an opportunity rather than a challenge.'

Evaluate this claim.

[15 marks]

Question 02

0 2 . 1 Examine why there are different views in Buddhism concerning the issues of:

- marriage
- **homosexuality.**

You should refer to both issues.

[10 marks]

and

0 2 . 2 'Buddhist feminism has had little impact on Buddhism.'

Evaluate this claim.

[15 marks]

Section B: The dialogue between philosophy and Buddhism

Answer **one** question from this section.

Question 03

0 3 . 1 'Buddhist beliefs about the afterlife are reasonable.'

Critically examine and evaluate this view with reference to the dialogue between Buddhism and Philosophy.

[25 marks]

OR

Question 04

0 4 . 1 'Religious experience gives Buddhists knowledge of Ultimate Reality.'

Critically examine and evaluate this view with reference to the dialogue between Buddhism and Philosophy.

[25 marks]

Turn over for Section C

Turn over ▶

Section C: The dialogue between ethics and Buddhism

Answer **one** question from this section.

Question 05

0 5 . **1** **'Buddhist ideas of moral responsibility have been undermined by understandings of the nature of free will.'**

Critically examine and evaluate this view with reference to the dialogue between Buddhism and ethical studies.

[25 marks]

OR

Question 06

0 6 . **1** **'Buddhist understandings of the status and rights of animals have been undermined by ethical studies into animal rights.'**

Critically examine and evaluate this view with reference to the dialogue between Buddhism and ethical studies.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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