Independent Schools Examinations Board

COMMON ENTRANCE EXAMINATION AT 13+

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

SYLLABUS A

Wednesday 5 November 2014

Please read this information before the examination starts.

- You should answer **one** question from Section 1 and **one** question from Section 2.
- If you have previously submitted coursework, your examination is 40 minutes long and you should **not** do Section 3.
- If you have not previously submitted coursework, you should also answer **three** questions from Section 3. Your examination is 60 minutes long.
- Answer each section on a separate piece of paper.
- Handwriting and presentation are important.

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SECTION 1: INTERPRETING THE OLD TESTAMENT

Answer ONE question from this section.

Use a new piece of paper for this section.

God, Human Nature and Covenant

1. The Fall

(a) What was the Fall? (2)

(b) Describe the events which led to the Fall. (6)

(c) Explain why God expelled the humans from the Garden of Eden. (6)

(d) 'Humans only think of themselves.' Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer. (7)

2. The Ten Commandments

(a) What does worship mean? (2)

(b) Outline the commandments on human relationships. (6)

(c) Explain what the Ten Commandments teach about worshipping God. (6)

(d) 'We should concentrate on enjoying ourselves, not obeying rules.' Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer. (7)

Leaders and Prophets of the Old Testament

3. Nathan's Parable

(a) Who was Bathsheba? (2)

(b) Outline the conversation between David and Nathan following the telling of the parable. (6)

(c) Explain how David's sin was revealed by Nathan's parable. (6)

(d) 'Prison is the best punishment.' Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer. (7)

4. Solomon

(a) What is wisdom? (2)

(b) Outline the dispute between the two women which Solomon had to judge. (6)

(c) Explain how Solomon's response to the dispute was wise. (6)

(d) 'A just society must have rights for children.' Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer. (7)

(Total marks for this section: 21)

SECTION 2: INTERPRETING THE NEW TESTAMENT

Answer ONE question from this section.

Use a new piece of paper for this section.

Jesus' Teaching

1. The Paralysed Man

(a) What is sin? (2)

(b) Outline the story of Jesus and the paralysed man. (6)

(c) Explain why Jesus was accused of blasphemy. (6)

(d) 'Miracles do not happen today.' Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer. (7)

2. The Calming of the Storm

(a) What is faith? (2)

(b) Outline the events in the story of the Calming of the Storm. (6)

(c) Explain the reasons why the disciples were frightened. (6)

(d) 'A true disciple must have total trust in God.' Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer. (7)

Jesus' Life, Death and Resurrection

3. Peter's Declaration

(a) What does Messiah (Christ) mean? (2)

(b) Outline the conversation between Jesus and the disciples near Caesarea Philippi. (6)

(c) Explain why Peter found Jesus' teachings hard to accept. (6)

(d) 'Jesus was a good man; nothing more!' Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer. (7)

4. The Sentence and Crucifixion

(a) What does atonement mean? (2)

(b) Outline the story of Jesus' crucifixion. (6)

(c) Explain why Pilate sentenced Jesus to death. (6)

(d) 'Jesus' death was necessary.' Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer. (7)

(Total marks for this section: 21)

SECTION 3: WORLD RELIGIONS AND CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

Do NOT answer this section if you have submitted coursework.

Answer any THREE questions.

Use a new piece of paper for this section.

Contemporary Issues

1. Outline how some people argue that science and religion complement each other. (6)

2. Outline the work of one Christian environmental organisation (for example A Rocha). (6)

3. Explain the relationship between human rights and punishment. (6)

4. Outline the work of any one significant Christian who has dedicated his or her life to help the poor and marginalised. (6)

5. Outline why rules are necessary in a religious community. (6)

Christianity

6. Outline some of the main Christian beliefs. (6)

7. Outline different ways in which Christians worship God. (6)

8. Explain two symbols used at baptism. (6)

9. Describe how Christians observe Lent. (6)

10. Outline three places Christians might go to on pilgrimage. (6)

Judaism

11. What are the Tenach and Talmud? (6)

12. Describe Shabbat worship at home. (6)

13. Describe what happens when a boy is Bar Mitzvah. (6)

14. Outline what happens at a typical Jewish funeral. (6)

15. Describe **either** the festival of Rosh Hashanah **or** the festival of Purim. (6)

Islam

16. Describe Muhammad's life before his call. (6)

17. Outline how Muslims show respect for the Qur'an. (6)

18. Describe how Muslims observe Salah. (6)

19. Outline the reasons why Muslims fast. (6)

20. Describe the festival of Id-ul-Fitr. (6)

Hinduism

21. Briefly explain the importance of the Vedas and the Upanishads in Hinduism. (6)

22. Explain the Hindu teaching on caste and dharma. (6)

23. Describe the three traditional Hindu paths to Moksha. (6)

24. Outline what happens at the festival of Dassehra. (6)

25. Describe a typical Hindu temple. (6)

Buddhism

26. What is the sangha? (6)

27. How does a person become a Buddhist? (6)

28. Describe the use of Buddha images in meditation. (6)

29. Describe a typical Buddhist shrine. (6)

30. Outline what happens at the festival of Wesak. (6)

Sikhism

31. Outline Guru Gobind Rai's teachings. (6)

32. Outline the Rahit's teaching on family life. (6)

33. What is Sikh teaching on the gurus? (6)

34. Describe how Sikhs celebrate Diwali. (6)

35. Outline Sikh teaching on marriage. (6)

(Total marks for this section: 18)

(Total marks: 60, or 42 if you have submitted coursework)