

**Paper 2: Structured Questions
Marking Scheme****Sample Paper****2 hours****Marking Criteria**

Examiners must apply positive marking only. Do not deduct any marks for incorrect responses. Provide marks in line with this scheme only.

Response(s) must be in line with prescribed marking indicators shown below. Variation is permissible only with prior acknowledgment from Chief Examiner.

Text shown below, in the majority of instances, is a text perfect response. Learners do not have to provide a text perfect response in order to qualify for a mark; their response must be in line with the text shown within the response, but the wording can vary.

For single mark questions, learner response must meet the stated characteristics as indicated in this mark scheme. Where more than one option is shown, learners can deviate from the prescribed responses, as long as they meet the general theme of the response.

For multiple mark questions, learner responses must meet the stated characteristics as indicated in this mark scheme. However, where the examiner feels a learner has demonstrated more than a basic response, and which meets the minimum stated characteristics, additional marks may be awarded. Where this occurs, the examiner must flag this response for enhanced moderation by the Chief Examiner.

Whilst indicative responses are shown below, and particularly for multiple mark responses, where 2 or more marks are permissible (as shown for each question), where learner responses do not align with the suggested response, examiners can use best judgement. Where this occurs, the examiner must flag this response for enhanced moderation by the Chief Examiner.

Section A

Answer all the questions from this section

- 1) The spread of Buddhism across Asia was influenced by various cultural and historical factors, including the support of rulers and the establishment of monastic communities. State the key factors that contributed to the spread of Buddhism.

Suggested Answer

- **Royal Patronage:** Leaders like Emperor Ashoka promoted Buddhism through support for monastic communities and missionary work.
- **Trade Routes:** The Silk Road facilitated the spread of Buddhism as monks traveled with merchants across Asia.
- **Monastic Communities:** Monasteries served as centers for teaching and converting local populations.
- **Translation of Texts:** Translating scriptures into local languages helped spread Buddhist teachings.
- **Cultural Adaptation:** Buddhism's ability to adapt to local customs made it more accessible and widely accepted.

- 2) Christianity underwent significant transformations during the Reformation, leading to changes in religious practices and beliefs. Summarise the key outcomes of the Reformation with respect to this transformation.

Suggested Answer

The Reformation led to significant religious division, resulting in the formation of Protestant denominations that separated from Catholicism. Protestantism emphasized simplified worship and direct access to the Bible, which made religious practices more accessible to the general population. This movement had a profound political impact, as rulers across Europe chose sides, leading to widespread religious and political conflicts. In response, the Catholic Church initiated the Counter-Reformation, implementing reforms to address internal corruption and reaffirming its doctrines. Also, the Reformation spurred advancements in education, particularly in literacy and theological studies, as there was a renewed focus on biblical understanding.

- 3) The early Islamic community faced numerous challenges, including internal conflicts and external threats. Examine the impact of the Rashidun Caliphate's expansion on the political and religious consolidation of the Muslim world.

Suggested Answer

- Territorial Expansion: The Rashidun Caliphate rapidly expanded, uniting diverse regions under Islamic rule.
- Spread of Islam: The expansion facilitated the spread of Islam and the establishment of Muslim communities.
- Political Unity: Centralized governance under the Caliphate helped consolidate the Muslim world.
- Institutional Development: Key Islamic institutions and legal systems were established during this period.
- Religious Influence: The expansion solidified Islamic beliefs and practices across the Muslim world.

- 4) The concept of dharma in Hinduism is central to understanding the ethical responsibilities of individuals in society. Discuss how dharma influences social roles and duties in the context of contemporary Indian society.

Suggested Answer

- Moral Duty: Dharma guides individuals in fulfilling their ethical responsibilities based on social roles.
- Social Order: It helps maintain social order by assigning specific duties within families and society.
- Karma: Following dharma positively influences karma, affecting future lives.
- Religious Practices: Dharma informs religious rituals and observances, reinforcing social roles.
- Modern Context: In contemporary society, dharma is increasingly interpreted to include social justice and equality.

- 5) The Catholic Church has a rich tradition of rituals and practices that play a vital role in the lives of its followers. Describe the significance of the Eucharist in Catholic worship.

Suggested Answer

- **Central Sacrament:** The Eucharist is the most important sacrament, commemorating Jesus' Last Supper.
- **Real Presence:** Catholics believe in the transformation of bread and wine into Christ's body and blood.
- **Spiritual Nourishment:** It provides spiritual strength and unity with Christ.
- **Community:** The Eucharist fosters a sense of community among believers during Mass.
- **Ritual Importance:** The ritual reflects Catholic devotion and the promise of eternal life.

Section B

Answer all the questions from this section

- 1) Sikhism's response to social justice issues has been shaped by its emphasis on equality and community service. Explain the role of Sikh teachings in addressing contemporary social issues.

Suggested Answer

Sikh teachings emphasize equality, social justice, and service to humanity, which directly influence their response to contemporary social issues. Key concepts include:

- Equality (Ik Onkar): Sikhism teaches the inherent equality of all humans, challenging social hierarchies and caste discrimination. This principle drives Sikhs to work against inequality and promote equal rights.
- Langar (Community Kitchen): The practice of Langar involves serving free meals to all, regardless of background, symbolizing the commitment to social justice and reducing poverty.
- Seva (Selfless Service): Seva encourages Sikhs to engage in community service and charitable activities, addressing issues like homelessness and social welfare.
- Opposition to Social Injustice: Sikh teachings advocate for standing up against oppression and injustice, influencing Sikhs to be active in social reform and human rights campaigns.

- 2) Religious pluralism presents both challenges and opportunities in a multicultural society. Discuss how interfaith dialogue contributes to promoting ethical coexistence in a diverse society.

Suggested Answer

- Building Understanding: It helps individuals understand and appreciate diverse religious beliefs, reducing prejudices and stereotypes.
- Promoting Respect: Dialogue encourages respect for different faiths, acknowledging the value in diverse perspectives and practices.

- **Conflict Resolution:** By addressing misunderstandings and disagreements constructively, interfaith dialogue helps resolve conflicts and build peaceful relationships.
- **Collaborative Efforts:** It often leads to collaborative efforts in social and humanitarian projects, demonstrating shared values and common goals across different religions.
- **Strengthening Community Bonds:** Engaging in dialogue fosters a sense of community and solidarity among people of different faiths, contributing to a more cohesive society.

3) Hindu festivals are deeply embedded in the religious and cultural fabric of Indian society. Explore the impact of Diwali on Hindu communities.

Suggested Answer

- **Religious Significance:** It celebrates the return of Lord Rama to Ayodhya and the victory of light over darkness, reinforcing Hindu religious beliefs and traditions.
- **Cultural Celebration:** Diwali involves traditional rituals, feasting, and the sharing of gifts, strengthening cultural practices and family bonds.
- **Economic Impact:** The festival boosts the economy through increased sales of decorations, gifts, and festive foods, and stimulates local businesses.
- **Social Impact:** It provides an opportunity for communities to come together, fostering a sense of unity and collective joy among Hindus.
- **Educational Aspect:** Diwali celebrations often include educational components about Hindu mythology and history, helping to pass cultural knowledge to younger generations.

- 4) Different religions offer various perspectives on ethical issues such as war and peace. Compare the foundational views of Christianity and Islam on just war theory.

Suggested Answer

Christianity:

Just War Theory: Originates from St. Augustine and St. Thomas Aquinas, emphasizing that war can be morally justified under certain conditions (e.g., legitimate authority, just cause, right intention).

Principles: The war must be declared by a legitimate authority, have a just cause (e.g., defending against aggression), and be conducted with the right intentions (e.g., restoring peace, not for personal gain). Civilians must be protected, and the use of force should be proportional.

Islam:

Jihad: The concept of just war in Islam is often associated with "Jihad," which includes both personal struggle and armed struggle in defense of the faith. It is governed by principles outlined in the Quran and Hadith.

Principles: War must be conducted with a legitimate cause (e.g., defending the community or religion), should be declared by a legitimate leader, and must adhere to ethical conduct, including the protection of non-combatants and avoiding unnecessary destruction. Peace should always be sought if possible.

- 5) Philosophical arguments for the existence of God have been central to religious debates for centuries. Examine the strengths and weaknesses of the ontological argument for the existence of God.

Suggested Answer

Strengths:

Logical Coherence: The ontological argument, notably proposed by Anselm of Canterbury, is based on pure logic and definitions. It argues that God, being the greatest conceivable being, must exist in reality because existence is a perfection.

Philosophical Depth: It provides a deep philosophical basis for the existence of God, focusing on the nature of existence and the concept of perfection.

Weaknesses:

Criticisms: Critics, such as Immanuel Kant, argue that existence is not a predicate or quality that can be attributed to a being in the way Anselm suggests. The argument might be seen as a tautology rather than a substantive proof.

Empirical Challenge: The ontological argument does not provide empirical evidence for God's existence, relying solely on abstract reasoning, which some find insufficient.