



GCE AS/A LEVEL

2120UE0-1



S25-2120UE0-1

FRIDAY, 16 MAY 2025 – MORNING

RELIGIOUS STUDIES – AS unit 1

Option E

An Introduction to the Study of Hinduism

1 hour 15 minutes

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

A WJEC pink 16-page answer booklet.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen. Do not use gel pen or correction fluid.

Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

Write your answers in the separate answer booklet provided, following the instructions on the front of the answer booklet.

Use both sides of the paper. Write only within the white areas of the booklet.

Write the question number in the two boxes in the left-hand margin at the start of each answer,

for example

0	1
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Leave at least two line spaces between each answer.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Each question carries 30 marks.

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each part-question.

You are reminded of the need to:

- reflect on, select and apply specified knowledge.
- understand, interpret and evaluate critically religious concepts, texts and other sources.
- identify, investigate and critically analyse questions, arguments, ideas and issues arising from within this unit.
- construct well-informed and reasoned arguments substantiated by relevant evidence.
- engage in debate in a way that recognises the right of others to hold a different view.
- present responses to questions which are clear and coherent.
- use specialist language and terminology appropriately.
- use spelling, punctuation and grammar appropriately.

UNIT 1 – An Introduction to the Study of Religion

Option E – An Introduction to the Study of Hinduism

Part **a)** of each question tests your knowledge and understanding of religion and belief.

Part **b)** of each question tests your skills of analysis and evaluation, with regards to aspects of and approaches to religion and belief.

Section A

Answer **one** question from this section.

Either,

- | | |
|---|---|
| 0 | 1 |
|---|---|
- a)** Outline the Hindu understanding of Saguna Brahman (God with characteristics), with reference to the Trimurti. [15]
- b)** ‘It is possible to worship an impersonal God.’
Evaluate this view with reference to Hinduism. [15]

Or,

- | | |
|---|---|
| 0 | 2 |
|---|---|
- a)** Explain the views of Shankara and Madhva on the relationship between Brahman and atman. [15]
- b)** ‘The atman cannot exist without Brahman.’
Evaluate this view. [15]

Section B

Answer **one** question from this section.

Either,

- | | |
|---|---|
| 0 | 3 |
|---|---|
- a) Explain the importance of **two** of the following during congregational puja:
- i) darshan
 - ii) circumambulation
 - iii) accepting prashad. [15]
- b) 'Personal worship is far more important in Hinduism than congregational worship.'
Evaluate this view. [15]

Or,

- | | |
|---|---|
| 0 | 4 |
|---|---|
- a) Explain the practicality of the concept of ahimsa in the modern world. [15]
- b) 'Ahimsa is only relevant in an ideal world.'
Evaluate this view. [15]

Or,

- | | |
|---|---|
| 0 | 5 |
|---|---|
- a) Explain the role of the Mahabharata in teaching the importance of doing one's duty. [15]
- b) 'The Ramayana is the most important Hindu text.'
Evaluate this view. [15]

END OF PAPER

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