



HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

1999

STUDIES OF RELIGION

2 UNIT

(100 Marks)

*Time allowed—Three hours
(Plus 5 minutes reading time)*

DIRECTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Attempt FIVE questions.
- Answer each question in a SEPARATE Writing Booklet.
- **Section I** The question in this Section is COMPULSORY.
- **Section II** Attempt TWO questions.
- **Section III** Attempt TWO questions.

SECTION I—FOUNDATION STUDIES

Marks

(10 Marks)

The question in this section is COMPULSORY.

QUESTION 1

RELIGIOUS IDENTIFICATION IN AUSTRALIA, 1991 AND 1996						
<i>Religious Group</i>	<i>1991 Census Numbers</i>	<i>% of Popu- lation</i>	<i>1996 Census Numbers</i>	<i>% of Popu- lation</i>	<i>Growth in Numbers</i>	<i>% Change</i>
Anglican	4 018 770	23.85	3 903 324	21.99	−115 446	−2.87
Baptist	279 920	1.66	295 178	1.66	+15 258	+5.45
Brethren	24 127	0.14	22 063	0.12	−2 064	−8.55
Catholic	4 606 644	27.34	4 798 950	27.03	+192 306	+4.17
Churches of Christ	78 039	0.46	75 023	0.42	−3016	−3.86
Jehovah's Witnesses	74 803	0.44	83 414	0.47	+8 611	+11.51
Latter Day Saints	38 298	0.23	45 112	0.25	+6 814	+17.79
Lutheran	250 844	1.49	249 989	1.41	−855	−0.34
Oriental	23 294	0.14	31 342	0.18	+8 048	+34.55
Orthodox	474 921	2.82	497 015	2.80	+22 094	+4.65
Pentecostal	150 665	0.89	174 720	0.98	+24 055	+15.97
Presbyterian	732 227	4.35	675 534	3.81	−56 693	−7.74
Salvation Army	71 984	0.43	74 145	0.42	+2 161	+3.00
Seventh-day Adventist	48 341	0.29	52 655	0.30	+4 314	+8.92
Uniting Church	1 387 646	8.24	1 334 917	7.52	−52 729	−3.80
Other Christian	205 121	1.22	269 383	1.52	+64 262	+31.33
Total Christian	12 465 644	73.98	12 582 764	70.88	+117 120	+0.94
Buddhism	139 795	0.83	199 812	1.13	+60 017	+42.93
Hinduism	43 580	0.26	67 279	0.38	+23 699	+54.38
Islam	147 507	0.88	200 885	1.13	+53 378	+36.19
Judaism	74 266	0.44	79 805	0.45	+5 539	+7.46
Other religions	39 932	0.24	68 647	0.39	+28 715	+71.91
Total Others	445 252	2.64	616 428	3.47	+171 176	+38.44
No religion	2 176 608	12.92	2 948 888	16.61	+772 280	+35.48
Not well described	49 853	0.30	54 164	0.31	+4 311	+8.65
Not stated	1 712 322	10.16	1 550 585	8.73	−161 737	−9.45
Population	16 850 334		17 752 829		+902 495	+5.36

Sydney Morning Herald 7.12.1998

- (a) Name TWO Christian religious groups that have declined in number from the 1991 to the 1996 Census. 2
- (b) Choose ONE Christian religious group that has increased in number from the 1991 to the 1996 Census. Suggest reasons for this increase. 3
- (c) Refer to the table Religious Identification in Australia, 1991 and 1996. Account for the changing patterns of belief that have occurred in Australia from the 1991 to the 1996 Census. 5

SECTION II—FOUNDATION STUDIES**Marks**

(30 Marks)

Attempt TWO questions.

All questions are of equal value.

QUESTION 2

An Aboriginal man from Arnhem Land, Silas Roberts says, 'Aborigines have a special connection with everything that is natural. Aborigines see themselves as part of nature. We see all things natural as part of us. All the things on earth we see as part human. This is told through the idea of dreaming. By dreaming, we mean the belief that long ago, these creatures started human society, they made all natural things and put them down in special places'.

Keith Cole, The Aborigines of Arnhem Land, Rigby, Adelaide, 1979

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| (a) | Refer to the above quotation. Describe the relationship of Aboriginal people to the land. | 6 |
| (b) | Analyse the links between Aboriginal symbolism, art forms and ritual practices with Aboriginal cosmology and belief systems. | 9 |

QUESTION 3

Christian churches, as social reformers, as political participators, as service deliverers, are players in the main game committed to putting people first in our world.

Sydney Morning Herald, 7.12.1998

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| (a) | Name and briefly describe TWO ways that Christianity has had a formative influence on Australian society. | 6 |
| (b) | Outline Christian responses to social change and initiatives in community development. In your answer, refer to at least TWO Christian denominations. | 9 |

QUESTION 4

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| | Refer to the above quotation. Analyse how the development of religious plurality influences Australian society today. | 15 |
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SECTION III—CROSS-RELIGION STUDIES**Marks**

(60 Marks)

Attempt TWO questions.

All questions are of equal value.

NOTE. In Section III the term *religious tradition* refers only to Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam or Judaism. Candidates should demonstrate an awareness of the whole tradition and not simply focus on one variant of a tradition.

QUESTION 5 Rites of Passage

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| (a) | Define the term <i>rites of passage</i> . Using examples, briefly describe the difference between civil and religious rites of passage. | 6 |
| (b) | Choose ONE rite of passage common to TWO religious traditions. Describe the events involved in that rite of passage. Explain how the individual is transformed as a result. | 9 |
| (c) | Choose a different rite of passage from that chosen in part (b). Analyse how the beliefs of TWO traditions are reflected in the rituals associated with this rite. | 15 |

QUESTION 6 Religion and Ethics

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| (a) | Describe the ethical system in ONE religious tradition you have studied. | 6 |
| (b) | Choose ONE issue from the list below. Discuss the response of TWO religious traditions to this issue. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence, war and peace • Attitude to the Environment • Sexual behaviour • Marriage and divorce • Bioethical questions • Work ethics • Business and Professional ethics | 9 |
| (c) | Refer to the ethical issues listed in part (b). Choose a different ethical issue to that chosen in part (b). Explain the ways that TWO religious traditions justify their response in relation to this issue. | 15 |

QUESTION 7 Sacred Writings and Stories	Marks
(a) Name and briefly describe THREE different genres used in sacred writings and stories.	6
(b) Choose ONE theme from the list below. Discuss the treatment of this theme in TWO religious traditions you have studied. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suffering • Love • Death • Fidelity • Compassion • Celebration • Evil • Sacrifice 	9
(c) Explain why and how TWO religious traditions use their sacred writings and stories. In your answer, refer to extracts from sacred writings and stories in both traditions.	15

QUESTION 8 Ways of Holiness

(a) Name and briefly describe contemporary forms of prayer and spiritual expression in ONE religious tradition.	6
(b) Choose a religious tradition different to that chosen in part (a). Discuss the origins of a special way of holiness in this religious tradition. Refer to sacred writings and other sources in your answer.	9
(c) Analyse the cultural and religious influences on the ordinary ways of holiness practised in TWO religious traditions.	15

QUESTION 9 Teachers and Interpreters**Marks**

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| (a) | Describe the teaching of an individual (other than the founder) or a school of thought influential in the early development of ONE religious tradition. | 6 |
| (b) | Choose a religious tradition different to that chosen in part (a). Discuss the influence of an individual or school of thought on this tradition from a period of growth, division or crisis. | 9 |
| (c) | Analyse the ways in which the foundation beliefs of TWO religious traditions have been interpreted for the contemporary period. In your answer, refer to social and cultural factors that have influenced these interpretations. | 15 |

QUESTION 10 Women and Religion

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| (a) | Describe THREE roles women have taken in ONE religious tradition. | 6 |
| (b) | Choose a religious tradition different to that chosen in part (a). Discuss the ways in which women have interpreted this religious tradition. | 9 |
| (c) | Analyse ways in which contemporary women in TWO religious traditions are responding to the problems, questions and issues arising in their respective traditions. In your answer, refer to particular social and cultural factors that influence their responses. | 15 |

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