



Cambridge International Examinations
Cambridge Ordinary Level

HINDUISM

2055/01

Paper 1 Hindu Gods and Festivals

October/November 2017

1 hour 30 minutes

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, glue or correction fluid.

DO NOT WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

Answer **three** questions.

Answer **one** question from **each** section.

You should read the questions **carefully**. Try to understand exactly what is being asked of you, and then write your answers.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

This document consists of **4** printed pages.

Section A: Gods

Answer **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2.

- 1 (a) (i) Name **one** object which is held by a murti of Ganesha. [1]
- (ii) State what this object represents. [1]
- (b) Describe how **one** aspect of Ganesha's nature is symbolised by his broken tusk. [3]
- (c) Explain why a Hindu might pray to Ganesha before an important event. [5]
- (d) 'A worshipper of Ganesha will have no problems in life.'
- To what extent do you agree with this view? You should use evidence from your study of gods in Hinduism to support your argument. [10]

- 2 (a) Vishnu is one of the three members of the Trimūrti. Name the other two. [2]
- (b) Outline the significance of the conch which is held by Vishnu. [3]
- (c) Explain how Vishnu churned the Milky Ocean. [5]
- (d) 'None of the Hindu gods are powerful without their female consort.'
- To what extent do you agree with this view? You should use evidence from your study of gods in Hinduism to support your argument. [10]

Section B: Avatars

Answer **either** Question 3 **or** Question 4.

- 3** (a) (i) State the meaning of the name Narsimha. [1]
- (ii) Name the avatar of Vishnu which had the form of a boar. [1]
- (b) Outline **one** story of the avatar Narsimha. [3]
- (c) Explain why Vishnu comes to earth as an avatar. [5]
- (d) 'The avatars in human form are the most important of Vishnu's incarnations.'
- To what extent do you agree with this view? You should use evidence from your study of avatars to support your argument. [10]
- 4** (a) (i) Name the mother who cared for the infant Krishna. [1]
- (ii) Name the musical instrument which Krishna plays. [1]
- (b) Outline the story of Krishna as the 'butter thief'. [3]
- (c) Explain Krishna's purpose in appearing as Arjuna's charioteer. [5]
- (d) 'Only through avatars can Hindus learn the rules of a good life.'
- To what extent do you agree with this view? You should use evidence from your study of avatars to support your argument. [10]

Section C: Festivals

Answer **either** Question 5 **or** Question 6.

- 5** (a) (i) What is meant by the term 'pilgrimage'? [1]
- (ii) Give **one** reason why Hindus might make a pilgrimage. [1]
- (b) Give **three** reasons why Hindus might give gifts at festivals. [3]
- (c) Describe how Hindus might observe Cavadi. [5]
- (d) 'Fasting at Hindu festivals is less important than joyful celebration.'
- To what extent do you agree with this view? You should use evidence from your study of festivals in Hinduism to support your argument. [10]
- 6** (a) Give **two** ways in which a Hindu might celebrate Ganesh Chaturthi. [2]
- (b) Outline **one** story about the origins of Maha Shivaratri. [3]
- (c) Explain why Maha Shivaratri is a major festival for many Hindus. [5]
- (d) 'Only religious people should take part in festivals.'
- To what extent do you agree with this view? You should use evidence from your study of festivals in Hinduism to support your argument. [10]

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