



Cambridge
O Level

Cambridge International Examinations
Cambridge Ordinary Level

HINDUISM

2055/02

Paper 2 Scriptures, Ethics and Hindu Life

October/November 2018

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: Aspects of knowledge, action and devotion

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

- 1** (a) What do the two birds described in the Mundaka Upanishad III.1 represent? [2]
- (b) What does the Mundaka Upanishad III teach Hindus about atman? [3]
- (c) Explain what the Mundaka Upanishad means when it says 'In truth who knows God becomes God'. [5]
- (d) 'The Upanishads are the best source of knowledge about Brahman.'

To what extent do you agree with this view? Refer to the specified texts you have studied in your answer. [10]

- 2** (a) Name the two yogas discussed in the Bhagavad Gita chapter III. [2]
- (b) Describe one teaching from the Bhagavad Gita chapter III about desire. [3]
- (c) Explain how the 'two roads of perfection' described in the Bhagavad Gita chapter III are different. [5]
- (d) 'Bhakti is the best way to reach God.'

To what extent do you agree with this view? Refer to the specified texts you have studied in your answer. [10]

Section B: Hindu life and ceremonies

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

- 3** (a) (i) Name one of the four ashramas.
(ii) What stage of life does this ashrama describe? [2]
- (b) Describe the upanayana samskara. [3]
- (c) Explain how dharma is related to the other purusharthas. [5]
- (d) 'Ashrama is not important for Hindus in the modern world.'
To what extent do you agree? Refer in your answer to your study of ashrama. [10]
- 4** (a) Name any two of the four varnas. [2]
- (b) Describe the role of the samskaras in Hindu life. [3]
- (c) Explain how the varnas have affected modern Hindu society. [5]
- (d) 'Antyeshti is the most important of the samskaras.'
To what extent do you agree? Refer in your answer to your study of antyeshti and the samskaras. [10]

Section C: Reforms and reformers of the 18th to 20th centuries

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

- 5** (a) Name two people who taught Ramakrishna Paramahansa. [2]
- (b) Describe Ramakrishna's first vision of Kali. [3]
- (c) Explain how Ramakrishna influenced the life of Swami Vivekananda. [5]
- (d) 'Ramakrishna was not interested in social reforms.'
- To what extent do you agree? Refer in your answer to your study of Indian reformers. [10]
- 6** (a) (i) What is meant by the term 'Brahmo Samaj'? [2]
- (ii) Name the founder of the Brahmo Samaj. [2]
- (b) Describe one of the social issues the Brahmo Samaj worked to change. [3]
- (c) Explain why the Brahmo Samaj rejected many traditional Hindu practices. [5]
- (d) 'The Brahmo Samaj has had a lasting influence on Hinduism.'
- To what extent do you agree? Refer in your answer to your study of Indian reformers. [10]

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