
HINDUISM

8058/01

Paper 1

October/November 2015

3 hours

No Additional Materials are required.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

An answer booklet is provided inside this question paper. You should follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

Answer **five** questions.

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

Read the questions **carefully**. Try to understand exactly what is being asked of you.

You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.

All questions in this paper carry 20 marks.



This document consists of **3** printed pages, **1** blank page and **1** insert.

Answer any **five** questions, choosing at least **one** from each section.

Section A

- 1 'The Vedic gods represent only the forces of nature, both beneficial and destructive.'
Discuss this view, with reference to the Vedic gods you have studied.
- 2 '*Yajna* in the Brahmanas is totally different from the theme of sacrifice in the Purusha Sukta.'
Discuss.
- 3 'Do not covet ...'
Explain why the Upanishads emphasise this moral teaching, giving examples from the Upanishads you have studied.

Section B

- 4 Is the Bhagavad Gita's teaching on 'the way of action' (*karma yoga*) relevant to people today?
Give reasons to support your answer.
- 5 Explain how the Mahabharata throws light on the causes of human conflict.
- 6 Discuss the moral and religious significance of Rama's replies to Bharata and to Jabali the sage when they urge him to leave the forest.

Section C

- 7 In what ways was the religious life of Hindus enriched by the Alvars and other *bhakti* saints of the medieval age?
- 8 Explain what Tulsidasa understands as the ‘forms of *bhakti*’ and why these are an important feature of his religious teaching.
- 9 ‘Says Surdasa,
“All your life
Sing Krishna’s glory.”’

Explore the ways in which the poet himself followed this ideal.

Section D

- 10 ‘Ram Mohan Roy’s vision for India was of a self-determining society, founded on the Upanishadic principles of freedom of worship and one rule for all.’
- Discuss.
- 11 ‘Without the pioneering work of Swami Dayananda Saraswati, Hindu women could have had no hope of legal or social equality.’
- Discuss.
- 12 ‘Both Ramakrishna Paramahansa and M.K.Gandhi are remembered as reformers who identified with the poor and the powerless.’

Explore the similarities and differences between these two champions of the poor.

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