



basic education

Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE

GRADE 12

RELIGION STUDIES P2

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MEMORANDUM

MARKS: 150

This memorandum consists of 13 pages.

QUESTION 1

1.1 1.1.1

EXAMPLE 1: Christianity

- God is one, but is made up of three personalities/persons.
- They are God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.
- He created the universe/earth to be used by man.
- He created everything visible and invisible.
- Man relates to God through Jesus Christ
- He is continuously involved in the world; His creative energy is constantly at work in the world.

EXAMPLE 2: Hinduism

- Contrary to the popular misconception that Hindus have many gods, belief in one God is the central teaching of the Hindu worldview
- The highest concept of God in Hinduism is Brahman the Supreme Being, who is everywhere and is the source of our existence.
- God can also be experienced in graded stages according to the spiritual development of the devotee.
- The first level or experience of God under Brahman is Ishwara, the formless God who is everywhere and has qualities like love, peace and compassion, he is formless.
- God is also presented as the Eternal Feminine, the Mother Goddess who fulfils all the prayers of her devotees.
- God descends to the earthly plane to correct human affairs (avatara) which become chaotic because of humanity's lack of morality and love.
- Divine incarnations come to fulfil a divine mission through their great spiritual influence, teachings and personal conduct, reversing vice and promoting virtue, love, compassion and , importantly, devotion to God.
- In Hinduism, Rama and Krishna are popular divine incarnations.

NOTE: Any other relevant factor is accepted.

(10)

1.1.2

EXAMPLE 1: Christianity

- Reward and punishment is fair.
- Rewards motivate believers to sacrifice their life because of the greater rewards.
- Rewards have influenced people to die for their belief.
- Punishment helps believers to live according to their religious teachings.
- Punishment is one of the motivation factors to adhere to religious teachings.
- We are all rewarded in this world by doing good. There is no need for extra reward.

EXAMPLE 2: Hinduism

- There is no concept of sin or evil as such in Hinduism.
- Hinduism teaches that humans commit sin only because they are ignorant about the true nature of the soul and Brahman.
- Humans control their fate because everything in the universe is bound to the law of karma.
- How a person chooses to live their life will affect him or her in the next lifetime.

Most Hindus will try to live a life that is free from sin so that they will be rewarded with a better lifetime, and ultimately, moksha.

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NOTE: Any other relevant factor is accepted.

1.1.3 **EXAMPLE 1: Christianity**

- According to Christianity, life does not cease with death, but continues beyond the grave.
- Those who die enter a new phase, called paradise/heaven, which lasts from the moment they die to the day of Resurrection.
- Sinners go to Hades/hell, where they are punished.
- It is believed that on the Last Day, the ordinary world will no longer exist and everything will come under the control of God
- On this day, there will be a final judgement and everyone will either be punished or rewarded.
- Only those who have lived a life according to the will of God will be allowed into an eternal life.
- Death, therefore, is not the end of life, but a phase in the journey of humankind.
- The resurrection implies that life has a purpose, that good and evil must have reward and that there is a higher life beyond this world.

EXAMPLE 2: Hinduism

- According to the Vedas, everyone has a soul or 'self' that lives in the body.
- There is a cycle of birth and rebirth.
- This is referred to as reincarnation, whereby a soul evolves.
- The aim of every Hindu is to free the 'self' from this cycle, so that it can become one with Brahma.
- This stage is called moksha.

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1.2 **EXAMPLE 1: African Traditional Religion***First Guideline*

- A person is a person through other people.
- Umuntu ngumuntu ngabantu (Nguni languages).
- In life one needs other people in order to survive.
- Ilima is an example of ubuntu.
- Communal living is encouraged.

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- Respect towards humanity is emphasised.

Second Guideline

- Veneration of the ancestors.
- Seeking guidance from the ancestors through the diviner.
- Communicating with the creator through the ancestors.
- Holding ceremonies in commemoration of the ancestors.
- Burning the incense in communicating with the ancestors.
- Dedication of the animals to the ancestors.

EXAMPLE 2: Christianity

First Guideline

- Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven (Mathew 5:3).
- The concept 'poor' in this teaching does not refer to the material needs.
- The people who realise that they are poor in spirit acknowledge that they need the Word of God.
- According to the quotation above those who are poor in spirit will be rewarded in heaven.
- Things such as money, expensive cars, houses and other material possessions will not be recognised in heaven.
- Therefore, the people are asked to seek the word of God first.

Second Guideline

- Honour your father and mother (Ephesians 6:2).
- The children should respect their parents.
- A father and a mother refer to any responsible adult.
- The parents are God's representatives on earth.
- It is implied that by honouring the parents you are honouring God Himself.
- The time of living on earth will be increased.

NOTE: *Any other relevant facts from these or other religions must be credited.*

- *A maximum of 10 marks may be allocated if the candidate has merely listed practical examples. The two guidelines need not be treated separately. However, both teachings MUST be from the same religion.*

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[50]**QUESTION 2**

2.1

2.1.1

EXAMPLE 1: Christianity

Catholic Church

- Political control is traditional and seen to be centred in Rome.
- The head of the Catholic Church is the Pope.
- The first Pope is said to be St. Peter.
- The Catholic Church has many orders of monks, priests, friars and nuns.
- All Catholics are governed by the Vatican.
- The Parish is an area or district with a particular church and priest.

Eastern Orthodox Church

- Political control was traditionally in Constantinople (Istanbul).
- They are found in the Middle East, parts of Africa, Greece and Russia.
- The church structure comprises of priests and bishops.
- There is no single leader.
- Authority within the church is in the hands of a group of bishops.
- A diocese is a group of parishes under the leadership of the bishop.

Protestantism

- This movement was started in 1517 by a German monk, Martin Luther.
- The local churches are guided/ ruled by the ordained ministers and bishops or elected elders.
- There is no uniformity in the governance of Protestant churches.
- The overall rule is by higher authority such as a synod or General Assembly, chaired by a presiding bishop.
- In the Protestant churches, each church is independent.
- The churches are not responsible to any higher authority than the congregation.

EXAMPLE 2: Islam

- Sunni Islam
- There is no clergy in Sunni Islam.
- Any Muslim can serve on the community boards.
- Governance is community based.
- Scholars of Islam and community members serve on the governing boards of mosques, madrassas and schools.
- In governance the Sunnah of the Prophet is observed.
- Shi'a Islam
- The Shi'a Muslims revere the descendants of the Prophet Muhammad.
- They believe that the descendants have a divine right to lead the Muslims.
- They reserve the title Imam for certain past leaders who were believed to be chosen by God.
- The governance is in the hands of mullahs.
- The Mullahs also have considerable political influence. (20)

2.1.2 EXAMPLE 1: Christianity

- The Catholic Church
- Considers itself the original Christian Church.
- This Church teaches that God is made of three separate yet equal parts, namely, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This is known as Trinity.

- This Church practises a number of rituals called Sacraments, such as confession, baptism, confirmation, the last rite before the death of a person, Confirmation, ordination to priesthood and sacrament of marriage. (It practises seven sacraments).
- The centre of Christian life is based on the Eucharist (Holy Communion).

Eastern Orthodox Church

- The Trinity and the Holy Spirit are understood in a different way to the views of the Catholic Church.
- At the end of the 6th century CE, the RCC of the West (Western Church) introduced the filioque (from the Son) clause.
- This clause taught that the Holy Spirit came from God.
- The Eastern Church disagreed with adding the Son because they believed that this made the Father and Son superior than the Holy Spirit.
- The Eastern Church also challenged the idea that the Western Church and the Pope had more power to add or change Christian teachings and traditions.
- The clergy within the Church do not have to be celibate and are allowed to marry.
- The Eastern Orthodox Churches see devotion as a more important expression of faith than the right doctrine as in the case of the Roman Catholic Church.

Protestantism

- Unlike Catholicism, the Protestant Churches did not believe that salvation was something that had to be earned through rituals and practices.
- Protestants believed that salvation was attainable as a gift given freely by God through the works of Jesus Christ on earth.
- Protestantism is made up of different Churches.
- They believed that the teachings of the Bible had more authority than the Pope or the Catholic Church.
- Priests and ministers do not have to be celibate and they are allowed to marry.
- Unlike the Catholic Church the Protestant Churches allow women to be priests or ministers.

EXAMPLE 2: Islam

- Sunni Islam
- Sunnis believe that the faithful rather than the descendants of the Prophet should elect their leaders.
- Sunni refers to following the sunnah (example) of the Prophet Muhammad.
- All the companions of the Prophet are believed to be given equal respect in Islamic jurisprudence.

- Shi'a Islam
- They believe that caliphate (successor) should be from the descendants of the Prophet Muhammad.
- They believe that the caliphs are divinely appointed imams.
- They also believe that caliphs have supernatural knowledge and authority to lead the faithful.
- They share a collective guilt for not coming to the aid of Husain when he was killed.

NOTE: Any other relevant response from the candidate should be accepted. Discussion of sub branches within sects must be credited. NO marks are awarded for repeating names of the sects.

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2.2 2.2.1

- The family structure is confronted by poverty in most parts of the country, which leads to even more societal challenges.
- Teenage pregnancy is one of the challenges facing the family structure, which eventually also leads to neglect of children since the parents are also still too young to take care of their own children.
- Most South Africans who are skilled or highly educated have developed a tendency to make their careers a priority at the expense of family life.
- Drug and alcohol abuse have become very common in the society. In many families, both the mother and the father drink and take drugs which leads to neglect of parental responsibilities.
- Divorce has become a common practice in our society, which leads to single parenthood, and therefore leading to the suffering of the children.
- HIV and Aids and other killer diseases have deteriorated the family structure, resulting in child-headed families.

NOTE: Any other relevant response should be accepted.

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2.2.2 EXAMPLE 1: African Traditional Religion

- The family need to continuously organise family gatherings and meetings in order to revive family roots and values.
- A traditional practice that assists those who are poor (ilima) can be done in order to promote Ubuntu.
- Proverbs and metaphors can be used as an everyday form of teaching to the community.
- These provide ethical and moral guidelines for correct behaviour, as well as warnings about immoral behaviour.
- Rituals can be performed to ask for the protection and blessings from ancestors.
- The parents and the wider community must encourage the children to attend youth traditional classes.

EXAMPLE 2: Christianity

- The family was created by God as the basic unit of society and as the only place in which children should be brought up.
- Christian parents should look after their children and bring them up as good Christians; children should respect their parents and look after them in their old age.
- Children need to be obedient to their parents in the Lord—that is their duty. This is the first commandment that has a promise attached to it. Honour your father and mother and you will prosper and have a long life in the land.
- The parents must orientate their children on the values that are promulgated in their religion.
- The parents must also encourage and ensure that their children attend religious classes.
- Parents never drive your children to resentment but in bringing them up, correct them and guide them as the Lord does.

NOTE: Any other relevant response must be credited. Maximum marks may only be allocated if there is clear reference to religious teachings

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QUESTION 3

3.1 3.1.1

- Oral tradition in all religions serves as an effective way of passing the original message, from one generation to another by word of mouth.
- Some religions lay more emphasis on oral tradition than their sacred texts.
- Oral tradition still plays an important role in some religions, e.g. African Traditional Religion.
- Oral tradition still runs parallel to written texts.
- Oral tradition provides more clarity than written text, owing to narrative style.
- The chain of narrators is also important, as it leads to the source.
- Oral tradition reflects local dialect and culture. It is therefore more easily understood in each culture.
- The disadvantage of oral tradition is that it can give rise to different and contradictory versions.
- Rituals in many religions include oral traditions.
- E.g. Baptism in Christianity and initiation ceremonies/ veneration of ancestors in African Traditional Religion

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3.1.2

- Writing entered the religious scene roughly 4 000 years ago.
- As the technology of writing becomes more prevalent, it increases the way of spreading religious teaching.
- The written text changes the tradition to be more fixed.

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- The written texts provide fixed yardsticks of measuring right and wrong teachings.
- Sacred texts are more central especially in the religions of books, e.g. Abrahamic religions.
- Sacred texts usually form part of larger collections.
- The accepted collection of sacred books referred to as 'canons' provide more authority than religious leaders.
- Sacred texts also have numerous commentaries.
- These explanations are governed by specific laws of interpretation (hermeneutical principles).

NOTE: A maximum of four marks may be allocated for naming examples. A minimum of four marks is set aside for evaluation. If no evaluation is included, a maximum of 10 marks may be awarded.

- 3.1.3
- Inspiration is an important normative source in many religions.
 - It is the true origin of all religions.
 - Inspiration refers to the power or force of an extraordinary being, 'taking over' a chosen being.
 - The founding figures of many religions were inspired by a higher power or wisdom.
 - Such people felt that they received 'revelation' from an extraordinary being.
 - Examples are Moses, Jesus Christ, Abraham, Prophet Muhammad, Buddha and Baha'u'llah.
 - In ATR, mediums or diviners receive inspiration while they are in a trance.
 - This inspiration is on-going, while that of the Abrahamic faiths did not go beyond their founders.
 - Inspiration is a powerful motivation for the followers of a religion.

(12)

- 3.2
- Grammar and historical context. and historical facts to interpret sacred text. One must use the rules of grammar
 - Clearest meaning- one should take the literal meaning of the text.
 - Plan, purpose and context. A piece of writing should be viewed as a whole. What is the writing plan or structure? What was the author's purpose in writing the text? What is the context of the passage being looked at?
 - Meaning of words/ Etymology: The meaning of words change over time and in different places. Find out the original meaning as they were used in the normative source.
 - Figurative meaning: Figurative and non- literal meaning must be taken into account.
 - Other sacred texts: Sacred texts themselves may be used to interpret other sacred texts.

(Any 5 x2)

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QUESTION 4

- 4.1
- The scientific theory of the creation of the universe is called the 'Big Bang' theory.
 - It explains how the universe came into existence.
 - The theory of evolution explains the development of life from a simple form to its most complete form today.
 - This development includes the evolution of humans through primitive stages to modern humans.
 - It is believed that evolution still continues today.
 - The study of evolution of the universe is called 'cosmology.'
 - What existed before the Big Bang is not known.
 - There was a big explosion in space and within seconds the universe had appeared and expanded to an enormous size.
 - It happened about fifteen billion years ago.
 - Small temperature differences in the initial explosion led to varying densities throughout the universe.
 - These eventually formed into clusters of matter and energy.
 - Huge spaces separated these clusters.
 - They formed vast collections of stars that we call galaxies.
 - Some galaxies condensed into a combination of stars and planets called solar systems.
 - Our earth is in one of the solar systems.
 - This is where the evolution of life takes place.
 - Again the theory does not dispel the existence of a divine being.
 - It only provides a scientific explanation of the structure and composition of the universe.

NOTE: A maximum of six marks may be allocated for Darwin's Theory (20)

4.2 **EXAMPLE 1: Taoism**

- According to Taoism, everything in creation consists of two kinds of forces.
- The Yang is active, light, forceful, and male and the Yin is passive, dark, yielding and female.
- All the world's processes are made up of a combination of the two forces (Yang and Yin).
- Night and day, summer and winter, joy and sadness, birth and death, the universe rocks endlessly between opposites like these.

- To the Taoists, what you see when you stand back and look at the creative process is this endless oscillation between poles – The waxing and waning of things.
- The Yang and Yin are present. As soon as one is present, then the opposite is also present.
- One and not one are two. The One comes from the Two, which means path.
- Two does not stand for 'creator' in the western or even a Hindu sense. It stands simply for the pattern of the universe.

- There is nothing about “in the beginning” and “at the end” unlike the Hindu or the Abrahamic religious accounts.
- The Taoist account simply talks about how things get made and does not speculate as to when it started, whether there was a time before it or whether it will ever stop.
- Everything comes from nothing.

EXAMPLE 2: African Traditional Religion

- In ATR there is a belief in a Supreme Being. He does not play an important part in religious beliefs and practices.
- African Traditional Religion sees the divine as distant and beyond human understanding.
- The creation of man has many myths in African Traditional Religion.
- These are regarded as symbolic.
- Although scientists have made amazing discoveries about nature and the universe, the world seems too complex to dispel the existence of an intelligent designer.
- ATR scholars who support the theory of intelligent design do not reject the theory of evolution, but claim that it cannot be the only explanation about creation.
- All that exists is seen as a living wholeness, manifesting itself in a variety of facets or phases.
- Humanity is one of these facets.
- Humans appeared as a result of perpetual exchange of forces.
- Traditional Zulus believe humans appeared from water/ the sea.
- The 'reed dance' celebrates renewal of life and the advent of man, as reeds from water are used to build huts.

EXAMPLE 3: Judaism

- Creationism is explained in the Book of Genesis.
- The scriptures of Judaism are said to be inspired by God.
- There is one omnipotent, omniscient, perfect creator.
- He created human beings as a centrepiece of creation.
- Creation took six days: it started by separating light from dark.
- The universe was made from nothing.
- God created Adam and Eve, who were the first humans.
- They had been made from clay.
- Some modern Jews accept the theory of Evolution.
- They argue that evolution is part of God's plan.

NOTE: Any other relevant explanation must be credited. A maximum of ten marks are allocated for each religion.

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4.3

- Hinduism does not have a problem with evolution since the universe is based on evolution.
- They have a more advanced theory of evolution than the scientific, because the scientific theory is based on the physical.
- Hinduism provides a more comprehensive view because it includes the spiritual aspect.
- Scientists see evolution as a person that happens by chance.

- Hindus believe that you have control over both your spiritual and physical evolution.
- Good life leads to gradual evolution to advanced forms.
- Ultimately you will achieve liberation from the physical and become one with god.

NOTE: Any other relevant facts must be credited.

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[50]**QUESTION 5**

- 5.1
- 'Secular' refers to "non-religious."
 - Humanism is a group of philosophies that believe human beings can develop ethics and morality independently of a supernatural being.
 - Secular humanism is a branch of humanism that rejects religious belief.
 - It also rejects the existence of a supernatural being.
 - It is often associated with scientists and academics.
 - Secular humanism generally leads to atheism.
 - Secular humanism originated as a liberal view of human rights.
 - It was not anti-religion, but emphasised that people's emotional and spiritual needs can be fulfilled without religion.
 - Examples of secular humanism are atheism, communism, agnosticism and materialism.

NOTE: Any other relevant facts must be credited. A **MAXIMUM** of **TWO** marks may be awarded for naming examples of secular humanism.

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- 5.2
- In the 16th century, Martin Luther set in motion certain changes that led to the splintering of Christianity.
 - This led to decades of religious wars in Europe.
 - Various Christian groups fought for dominance.
 - At the time, the Church was very influential, both politically and socially.
 - Most countries were not democratic, as they were ruled by emperors, kings, queens or nobility.
 - These rulers used the Church to establish their power.
 - In return, religious leaders also influenced rulers to promote their interpretation of beliefs.
 - All the warring parties thought that a society would be peaceful if everyone shared the same beliefs.
 - Protestant reformers were not tolerant of religious diversity.
 - Catholics and Protestants imposed on each other, one or other form of their Christianity.
 - People started to seek for a state where there would be religious tolerance.
 - The intellectuals came to a conclusion that religion was divisive rather than uniting.
 - A government which was based purely on reasoning and on an understanding of human nature was then the solution.
 - The Prince of Orange was one of the first persons to advocate a split between church and state.
 - Thus government and morality were divorced from religion, and secular humanism came into being.

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5.3 EXAMPLE 1:

- Agnosticism
- This term was first used by philosopher T.H.Huxley in 1869.
- Darwin's theory of human evolution challenged the idea of a supreme creator.
- Agnostics believe that it is not possible to either prove or disprove the existence of a God/supernatural being.
- Agnosticism comes from Greek – 'a' meaning without and 'gnosis' meaning 'knowledge'.
- This refers to uncertainty about God-knowledge.
- Agnostics are sceptical of religious teachings.
- They reject religious doctrine-especially religions that claim they have spiritual knowledge. (Any 4)

EXAMPLE 2:

- Atheism
- Atheists reject the belief that divine or supernatural powers exist.
- There are different degrees of atheism.
- Soft (or neutral) atheists do not actively reject the existence of a supernatural being.
- Strong (or Positive) Atheists believe there is evidence to support their atheistic views
- In some cases, soft atheists reject both theism and strong atheism.
- This is because they feel both world views depend on proof to support their claims.
- Atheists often turn to science to explain the nature of the universe, rather than relying on faith. (Any 4)

EXAMPLE 3:

- Materialism
- This is a worldview that believes that physical matter is the only reality.
- It denies the existence of a spiritual or supernatural realm.
- As such, materialism is a purely secular world view, and is incompatible with religion.
- Materialism developed in Asia and Europe (800–200 BCE).
- In the 19th century, Karl Marx, a German philosopher, elaborated on the concept of materialism to describe human history and economic activity. (Any 4)

NOTE: Any similar facts must be credited.

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TOTAL: 150