



# basic education

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Department:  
Basic Education  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

## SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS

**RELIGION STUDIES P2**

**2017**

**MARKS: 150**

**TIME: 2 hours**

**This question paper consists of 4 pages.**

## **INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION**

1. This question paper consists of FIVE questions.
2. Answer any THREE questions.
3. Start EACH question on a NEW page.
4. Read ALL the questions carefully.
5. Number the answers correctly according to the numbering system used in this question paper.
6. The length of your answers must be in accordance with the marks allocated to each question.
7. Write neatly and legibly.

**QUESTION 1**

Read the article below and answer the questions that follow.

**WORKERS CLAIM RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION**

Employees at a freight company in Durban have stopped work, claiming that management are not allowing staff to wear traditional wristbands (Iziphandla), while people from other religions and cultures were allowed to freely practise their religions.

They also claim that men who belonged to the Nazareth Baptist Church were instructed to shave their beards. 'This is against the teachings of our church, and we will not shave our beards,' said a spokesman for the employees.

The company has denied all claims of religious discrimination, and has fired some workers for embarking on an illegal strike.

[Adapted from [www//m.news24.com/news2](http://www//m.news24.com/news2) (Accessed on 09/02/2017.)]

- 1.1 Explain how discrimination has negatively affected religions in South Africa. (10)
- 1.2 Religions have many teachings that denounce discrimination. With reference to any ONE religion, elaborate on such teachings. (16)
- 1.3 Discuss practical strategies that religious communities can use to overcome the problem of discrimination. (14)
- 1.4 In your opinion, is there less discrimination in South Africa today than there was in the past? Give reasons to support your answer. (10)
- [50]**

**QUESTION 2**

- 2.1 All religions are based on the central teachings that sustain its believers in their spiritual journey.

In the context of any ONE religion, answer the following questions on central teachings.

- 2.1.1 Discuss the *nature of humanity*. (10)
- 2.1.2 Discuss the concept of *life after death*. (10)
- 2.1.3 Based on the relevant teachings of the religion you have chosen, do you think that a human being can overcome evil? Give reasons to support your answer. (10)
- 2.2 In the context of religion, discuss the role of the following:
- 2.2.1 Oral tradition (10)
- 2.2.2 Inspiration (10)
- [50]**

**QUESTION 3**

Read the extract below and answer the questions that follow.

The more I study Christianity as my religion, the harder it becomes to point out what is unique to my church as a member of the Protestant branch of the Christian faith.

[Source: *Religion Studies Grade 12*, Steyn et al.]

- 3.1 With reference to any ONE religion, answer the following questions.
- 3.1.1 Name TWO subgroups of this religion. (4)
- 3.1.2 Compare the differences in practice of each group. (16)
- 3.1.3 Compare the differences in governance of each group. (10)
- 3.2 Name and explain any FIVE hermeneutical principles. (20)
- [50]**

**QUESTION 4**

Read the extract below and answer the questions that follow.

Western secularism has to do with adopting a foundation for life and law which excludes conventional religions. In the West it tends to go with democratic forms of governments, freedom of religion within the bounds of the secular law of the land, support for humans rights, and non-discrimination on the basis of religious belief.

[Source: *TOP CLASS Religion Studies Grade 12*]

- 4.1 Discuss the factors that led to the development of Western secular thinking. (12)
- 4.2 How has the establishment of secular states led to the prevention of religious wars? (12)
- 4.3 Name and explain any ONE secular worldview. (10)
- 4.4 Discuss the origin of sacred texts in any ONE religion. (16)
- [50]**

**QUESTION 5**

- 5.1 Give a brief explanation of Darwin's Theory of Evolution. (10)
- 5.2 Explain why Hinduism has no problem with the theory of evolution. (10)
- 5.3 Explain how the universe was created, according to any ONE Abrahamic faith. (10)

The difficulties between religion and science have escalated over the centuries, leading to competitiveness and even conflict between them.

[Source: *Religion Studies Grade 12*, Steyn, et al.]

- 5.4 In the context of the extract above, suggest the reasons why religion is still such an influential force in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. (20)

**[50]**

**TOTAL: 150**