



basic education

Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**NATIONAL
SENIOR CERTIFICATE**

GRADE 12

RELIGION STUDIES P2

NOVEMBER 2015

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. Read ALL the questions carefully.
4. Number the answers correctly according to the numbering system used in this question paper.
5. The length of your answers must correspond to the marks allocated to each question.
6. Write neatly and legibly.

QUESTION 1

Read the extract below and answer the questions that follow.

Every religion has some beliefs that are not negotiable, that all the religion's followers share. However, within most religions, interpretations of beliefs may differ from one school of thought to another. Sometimes these differences are major, and have even led to religious wars, and sometimes they are minor.

[Source: *Shuters Top Class Religion Studies*, page 8]

- 1.1 Choose any ONE religion and discuss its subdivisions under the following headings:
- 1.1.1 Religious teachings (16)
- 1.1.2 Governance of religious structures (14)
- 1.2 What do you think will happen to the internal differences that exist among the various religions in future? (10)
- 1.3 How does 'contemporary inspiration' influence the internal differences that exist within religions? (10)
- [50]**

QUESTION 2

- 2.1 Choose any ONE religion and discuss its central teachings under the following headings:
- 2.1.1 The nature of divinity (10)
- 2.1.2 The origin and role of evil (10)
- 2.2 Read the extract below and answer the questions that follow.

Darwin's theory of evolution gave an alternative explanation for the origin of man. While evolution does not refute religious ideas about creation directly, it is clear that it offers no explanation as part of a divine plan.

[Source: *Shuters Top Class Religion Studies*, page 163]

- 2.2.1 Explain the *theory of evolution*. (10)
- 2.2.2 Discuss the response of any ONE religion to Darwin's theory. (20)
- [50]**

QUESTION 3

Read the statement below and answer the questions that follow.

Every religion is concerned with the protection of the natural environment. This is because nature is seen as part of divine creation in most religions.

- 3.1 State FIVE possible causes of environmental destruction. (10)
- 3.2 Analyse the impact of environmental destruction on society. (10)
- 3.3 State FIVE practical strategies that religious organisations can implement to protect the environment. (10)
- 3.4 With reference to the teachings of any ONE religion, discuss the solution(s) that it offers for protecting the environment. (20)
- [50]**

QUESTION 4

Answer the following questions with reference to any ONE religion.

- 4.1 Explain the origin and development of the normative source(s). (20)
- 4.2 Discuss the specific hermeneutical principles relevant to the interpretation of sacred text. (14)
- 4.3 Explain the relationship between *divine inspiration* and *normative sources*. (16)
- [50]**

QUESTION 5

Read the statement below and answer the questions that follow.

Secularism is a world view that does not subscribe to any religious dogma. In the West, in particular, there are an increasing number of people who live secular lives.

- 5.1 Give possible reasons for the increasing popularity of secular world views. (10)
- 5.2 Name any TWO secular world views and explain the similarities and differences that exist between them. (20)
- 5.3 The Big Bang Theory is a scientific explanation for how the universe came into being. Religions, of course, also have their own explanations.

In light of the above statement, discuss the *different* responses of any TWO religions to the Big Bang Theory. (20)

[50]

TOTAL: 150