



basic education

Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**NATIONAL
SENIOR CERTIFICATE**

GRADE 12

**RELIGION STUDIES P2
FEBRUARY/MARCH 2015
MEMORANDUM**

MARKS: 150

This memorandum consists of 12 pages.

QUESTION 1**1.1 Negative impact**

- The government uses the tax payer's money to support the pregnant teenagers.
- The government allocates specific amounts for each pregnant learner in the schools, which leads to fruitless expenditure due to school drop outs.
- It also costs huge amounts of money since public health care is expensive in South Africa.
- Less than 2% of teenage mothers earn a degree by the time they reach the age of 30.
- This leads to a significant amount of lost earning, which impacts negatively towards the economy of the country.
- Teenage pregnancy also leads to the high rate of sexually transmitted infections.
- The government spends more money on campaigns against sexually transmitted diseases.
- Teenage pregnancy further leads to the high crime rate.
- Most of the children born out of stable families become street kids, which compels the government to care and support them.
- Teenage pregnancy also leads to the increase in the child-headed families and substance abuse.
- The economy of the country is negatively affected as the government has to budget for all these unplanned circumstances.

NOTE: Any other relevant points should be awarded marks. (20)

1.2 EXAMPLE: CHRISTIANITY

- Thou shall not commit adultery: In Christianity, sex before marriage is forbidden.
- Teenagers must abstain from any sexual activities.
- Your bodies are the Temples of the Holy Spirit: This means they must be responsible for any sexual act as their bodies belong to God.
- The youth are expected to preserve themselves and remain untouched until they get married.
- It is a sin to engage in sexual activities and have babies before marriage.

EXAMPLE: AFRICAN TRADITIONAL RELIGION

- The communal way of life is central to the African Traditional Religion.
- The youth are expected to behave in accordance with the customs and values of the community.
- It is a taboo in the African culture for a teenager to become pregnant outside marriage.
- In order to cleanse the family and the community, the boy has to pay for the damages of the pregnancy caused.
- As a way of punishment, the boy's family is expected to pay a cow to the chief (Inkosi).

NOTE: Viewpoints of any other religion must be credited. (10)

1.3 Practical strategy:

- Religious organisations must start sex education among the youth.
- Debate the ABC approach to sexuality and compare it with their religious teachings on sexuality.
- Teach rights and responsibilities as well as respect for males and females.
- Sex before marriage must be discouraged and regarded as a major sin in their religions.
- Religious initiation (rites of passage) should be encouraged among the youth.
- Religious organisations must encourage their youth to participate in health and sports youth programmes.

NOTE: Any valid points should be awarded marks.

(10)

1.4 NO

- According to media reports the rate of teenage pregnancy is increasing even in the schools.
- In spite of various intervention programmes by the government and religious organisations, there is no indication of a decrease.
- The statistics released by the Department of Education show that pregnant learners increased in the previous year.
- In 2006, the statistics reveal that teenage pregnancy, jumped from 1 169 to 2 336 in Gauteng alone according to Love Life Statistics.
- One in three girls had a baby by the age of 20.
- According to the Medical Research Council 16% of pregnant teenage girls are HIV positive.

YES

- The latest statistics reveal a decrease in the rate of teenage pregnancy, especially in rural schools.
- In 2010, 201 Grade 3 learners were pregnant in Gauteng alone. However, that number was reduced to 74 learners the following year.
- The intervention programmes that are driven by the Department of education in conjunction with other government departments are beginning to bear fruit.
- Programmes such as Love Life, The Baby Project, and My Life My Future have been implemented in order to address the problems of teenage pregnancy.
- The Reed Dance in KwaZulu-Natal encourages girls to preserve their virginity.
- In the Islamic community, the rate of teenage pregnancy is low since there are strong moral teachings on sexual behaviour.
- The Christian religion provides a variety of youth programmes where the youth are moulded in various aspects of right living such as sexuality and sexual behaviour. These programmes play a significant role in the reduction of teenage pregnancy.
- Teenage pregnancy is low or non-existent in communities that have strong religious convictions.

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QUESTION 2

2.1 2.1.1.

EXAMPLE: CHRISTIANITY**Catholicism**

- In Catholicism and Protestantism, it is believed that God is made up of three equal but separate parts.
- This is referred to as the Trinity.
- In Catholicism, salvation is based in rituals such as Baptism, Confession, etc.
- The Catholic Church sees itself as the only original Christian church, founded by Christ

Eastern Orthodox Church

- In the Eastern Orthodox Church, the addition of the 'Son' rejected, as they believe that the Holy Spirit is superior.
- The Eastern Orthodox Church believes that it is the only original church founded by Christ and his disciples.

Protestantism

- Protestants also believe in the Trinity.
- In Protestantism, faith is seen as the key to salvation.

EXAMPLE: ISLAM**Sunni Islam**

- The Sunni sect believes that all the teachings contained in the Books of Hadith are equally important.
- Sunnis follow the teachings of scholars from the 7th and 8th centuries.
- Sunnis do not accept that a caliph can come exclusively from the Prophet's family.

Shia Islam

- The Shia gives more importance to the Hadith reported by Ali and the Prophet's daughter Fatima.
- The Shia follows the teachings and opinions only of a living scholar.
- The Shia believes that the last caliph from the Prophet's family was hidden in a cave, and will one day reappear as leader.

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2.1.2

EXAMPLE: CHRISTIANITY**Catholicism**

- Political control is traditional and seen 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.
- 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 churches are ruled by the ordained ministers and bishops or elected elders.
- 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: ISLAM**Sunni Islam**

- There is no clergy in Sunni Islam.
- Any Muslim can serve on the community boards.
- The governance is community based.
- The 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.

NOTE: Other differences in governance must be credited.

2.1.3 EXAMPLE: CHRISTIANITY**Catholicism**

- Celibacy among the clergy is mandatory.
- Practices include fasting during the Lent, to observe the crucifixion of Jesus.
- Penance is the paying of penalty for sinning.
- This penance is determined at the time of confession.
- Pilgrimage to holy lands (e.g. the Vatican) and meditation are key practices for Catholics.
- The most important practice is receiving of the Eucharist.

Eastern Orthodox Church

- Clergy are not celibate, and are allowed to marry
- Devotion is seen as more important than right doctrine
- Baptism is by immersion.
- This is followed by anointment (Chrismation).

Protestantism

- Ordination of women is a Protestant practice.
- They conduct healing through prophecy.
- Priests and ministers do not have to be celibate and they are allowed to marry.

NOTE: Other differences in practices must be credited.

EXAMPLE: ISLAM**Shi'a Islam**

- They are allowed to combine the five daily prayers to three.
- They practise 'mut'a' (temporary marriage).
- They practise self-mutilation on observance of the martyrdom of Hussein, grandson of Prophet Muhammad.
- They undertake pilgrimage to Karbala in Iraq.

Sunni Islam

- Sunnis are not allowed to combine the five daily prayers.
- Mut'a is not permitted.
- All practices are according to the 'sunnah' (practices) of the Prophet.

NOTE: Other differences in practices must be credited.

2.2 EXAMPLE: AFRICAN TRADITIONAL RELIGIONS

- Oral tradition in ATR is very important than in any other religion since they have no Sacred Books.
- The teachings are passed down from generation to generation through the word of mouth.
- Oral tradition is taken as a normative source in ATR.
- Such traditions may be transmitted faithfully over hundreds or thousands of years.
- This is reflected through myths, legends, stories, folk tales, song and dance.
- This may also be reflected in rituals, proverbs, sayings and riddles.
- Some of the oral traditions are preserved in arts and culture, symbols and emblems, shrines and sacred places
- Oral tradition is used to pass beliefs, creeds or dogmas.
- Although the ATR has been an oral tradition religion, some scholars have started to write some basic beliefs of the religion.
- A book called Masiphakule has been written, although it is still in progress.
- The book includes the beliefs, rite of passage, the history of religion under colonial and apartheid oppression.
- The book also contains poetry of resistance and the moral teachings of the African Traditional Religion.

EXAMPLE: HINDUISM

- In all religions the original message was passed on through the word of mouth.
- Writing is a recent invention which took the place of oral tradition in Hinduism.
- Oral tradition still plays an important role in Hinduism.
- Writing still runs parallel with oral tradition.
- Vedas are collections of traditional knowledge.
- The traditional knowledge has reached spiritual freedom or moksha.
- Rig-Veda is an anthology of religious poem and hymns that were recited at sacrifices by the officiating priests and families.
- The collections (Samhitas) provide excellent illustrations of ancient humanity's ability to conceptualise complex ideas.
- Upanishads which literally means sitting in front of a teacher and listening to his teachings is also a good example of an oral tradition.
- The Mahabharata basically tells the story of conflict between two families, king Barata and the Pandava brothers, which took place in Delhi.
- The Mahabharata is a good example of the role of oral tradition as it is a record of conflict which took place many years ago before the invention of writing.

NOTE: Any other relevant facts on other religions must be credited.

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QUESTION 3

3.1 3.1.1

EXAMPLE: TAOISM

- Taoism has a very sophisticated idea about the nature of what is called divinity.
- Tao means path travelled by stars and finally the path of the universe.
- In Taoism all there is, is the universe and so all there is, is divine.
- The workings of the universe are divine.
- Taoists suggest that the Tao cannot be described.
- The things that are seen and touched are 'being'.
- Unlimited divine is described as 'non-being'
- The non-being is the starting point of everything.
- Divine is huge and spacious since all that is created is held in a vast bowl of emptiness.
- According to the Taoists everything in creation consists of two kinds of forces: the yang is active, light, forceful, male, and the yin is passive, dark and female.

EXAMPLE: CHRISTIANITY

- According to Christianity in the beginning there was nothing.
- They believed in the existence of a Supreme and Divine Being, known as God.
- God manifested Himself as Three persons.
- God the Father as the Creator of the universe.
- God the Son, the Saviour and Liberator of humanity.
- God the Holy Spirit as Counsellor and Comforter in Christianity.

NOTE: Any other relevant facts on other religions must be credited. (10)

3.1.2

EXAMPLE: TAOISM

- Humans are just a tiny, micro-cosmic by-product of the Tao's creative activity.
- Humans are not special or in charge of the world.
- We are not needed to look after it.
- The world and the universe will continue whether human continues or not.
- The world will take whatever shape the Tao gives it.
- Humans have a potential to destroy only a very small part of the creation.
- Even if the part gets destroyed, the incredible and bountiful creative activity of the Tao will continue.

EXAMPLE: CHRISTIANITY

- Humans were created in the image of God.
- Adam and Eve were instructed to look after the Garden of Eden and the whole creation.
- Humans are God's representatives on earth.
- They were appointed to look after His property.
- They are accountable to God.

NOTE: Any other relevant fact or facts on other religion must be credited

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3.2 **EXAMPLE: TAOISM****No**

- According to Taoism, humans are responsible for any suffering.
- In order to avoid suffering they must align themselves with Tao.
- People are good and perfect to be in harmony with Tao, other people and within themselves.
- Human beings must also be flexible to the way of the Tao.
- Human beings expected to follow their desires and plans to avoid suffering.

EXAMPLE: CHRISTIANITY**Yes**

- In the Book of Job, we find a story where a righteous man endures great sufferings because of the evil spirits (Satan).
- Jesus healed the sick people who were suffering because of evil spirits.
- Some Christian Churches exercise exorcism where they chase away the evil spirits.
- Due to high rate of evil forces (Satanism) pastors are currently been invited to schools for support.
- According to the Christian teachings, evil and suffering are caused by the devil.

NOTE: Relevant teachings from other religions must be credited.

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3.3 **EXAMPLE: ISLAM**

- A central teaching of Islam is that 'There is no god besides Allah, and Muhammad is His messenger'
- In terms of 'clearest meaning', this teaching has a straightforward, unambiguous meaning.
- The 'meanings of the words' are also unchanged, and devoid of any specific context.
- The word 'ila' in Arabic refers not only to gods, but also to any other object, philosophy or whim – all of these are negated.
- The interpretation of the teachings as contained in the Qur'an was initially done by Prophet Muhammad himself.
- He explained the various attributes of God, e.g. god is all knowing, all wise, most merciful.

- He emphasised that his prophecies and his miracles are made possible by God's grace, and what God reveals to him. The Prophet himself is not all knowing.
- Even when the Prophet was taken on the Mi'raj (night journey) he is referred to as God's servant.
- Belief in the Oneness of God is non-negotiable and must be complete.
- The Meccans asked the Prophet if they could worship their idols on only one day of the year, and worship God on all the other days.
- He replied that this was not acceptable. This is an example of 'historical context' which explains the oneness of God.
- The Prophet further emphasised that each of the Five Pillars was for God's pleasure alone.
- Prayers offered with the intention of impressing people were a sign of hypocrisy.
- Similarly, the giving of charity must be only for the purpose of earning God's pleasure.
- After the passing away of the Prophet, interpretation of Qur'anic texts was done by the companions of the Prophet.
- They explained verses by referring to other Qur'anic verses, as well as the teachings of the Prophet.

EXAMPLE: CHRISTIANITY

- For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son (John 3:16)
- Clearest meaning of this:
- Christians believe that God demonstrated His Love to human kind so that they can leave their sins and turn back to Him
- Plan, purpose and context of this:
- To show that Jesus Christ is the Son of God who was sent to die for humankind, for the remission of their sins.
- The purpose is to show God's love to the world.
- Meaning of words of this:
- The word 'begotten' means that Jesus had God's attributes in Him.
- God gave up the Only Son He had to demonstrate His Love
- Figurative language means:
- The word 'World' does not mean the earth but it means humanity.
- Other sacred texts are:
- In the last prayer that Jesus had before His crucifixion He said, 'Father I am coming to You' (John 17:2-5). He came from God. He is the Son of God.
- 'He will be called the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.' (Isaiah 9:5)
- The prophet stated that Jesus is the Everlasting Father, so He is the Son of God. (Isaiah 9:5)

NOTE: Hermeneutical principles specific to any other religion must be credited, provided that these are applied to a central teaching from that religion.

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QUESTION 4

- 4.1
- Secularism is the belief that the government and morality should not be exclusively based on religion.
 - It advocates that there must be separation of the Church and the state.
 - Most countries in Europe were ruled by the emperors, kings, queens or other nobility who were subject to God.
 - The fact that the Church was influential both politically and socially, contributed to the rise of secular humanism
 - Wars broke out between states which had different religious belief systems.
 - People were tired of wars and started to look for alternative forms of government.
 - Under the influence of the enlightened philosophers, such as Hobbes and Hume, secular humanism spread rapidly in Europe and America.
 - They came with suggestions that there was a need to test religious beliefs, and not simply accept faith.
 - Reasoning, evidence and scientific methods of enquiry were promoted.
 - Secular world views such as humanism, materialism, agnosticism and atheism emerged.

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4.2 **EXAMPLE: HINDUISM**

- Hinduism does not have a problem with the Big Bang Theory.
- To the Hindu Religion, the universe is the creator.
- The creator has existed and will exist for all times.
- The creator has no limitations and, therefore is not a 'He' or 'She' or anything else.
- The creator is simply a creator.
- The creator exists in the active or passive state.
- The passive state is a state of rest when nothing happens.
- At rest the universe has no form and is undifferentiated, and is sort of 'flat' all over.
- After a long time the creator becomes active.
- This is when parts of the universe look and are different from parts and the creation begins.
- Humans are a by-product of the dance.

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OR

4.2 EXAMPLE: MIDDLE EASTERN RELIGIONS

- The scriptures of the Middle Eastern religions - Judaism, Christianity and Islam- are said to be inspired by God.
- They believe that their scriptures are the direct word of God.
- They share similar views of creation.
- There is one omnipotent, omniscient, perfect creator.
- He created human beings as the centrepiece of creation.
- Creation took six days as it is stated in their scriptures.
- It started from separating light from dark.
- It was made from nothing and there were only two humans to start with who had been made from clay.
- God created the world through the power of His word.
- Everything that God created was perfect; therefore they do not accept the Big Bang Theory.

NOTE: The learner may select any one of the Abrahamic faiths. (20)

4.3 YES

- Believers who are evolutionists argue that science and religion contribute different kind of knowledge.
- Religion and science are answering different questions and use different methods and language to explain things.
- Scientific knowledge explains processes of how the creation occurs based on evidence and observations.
- Religion deals with the questions of purpose and meaning for existence
- Sacred Texts should be read as myth about creation rather than as factual accounts.

NO

- There is no doubt that God created the universe as part of His divine plan for humanity.
- Creationists believe in the Genesis account of creation.
- Adam and Eve were created perfectly and were the pinnacle of God's creation
- There is no place for evolution in creationism.
- This is consistent with a literalist interpretation of the sacred texts. (10)

- 4.4**
- Western astronomers challenged the belief that the earth is the centre of the universe which was fitting perfectly with the Christian view of creation.
 - The Orthodox Church could not believe that God would put man on the planet that was not perfect.
 - Astronomers, such as Copernicus produced the heliocentric theory, which states that the earth is revolving around the sun.
 - In the Bible it was the sun that moved not the earth.
 - The astronomers appeared to be contradicting the literal word of the Bible. (8)

[50]**TOTAL: 150**