



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

Leaving Certificate Examination 2024

Religious Education

Ordinary Level

Tuesday 25 June Afternoon 2:00 – 4:00

Total Marks 320

General Directions for Candidates

Candidates must answer the following —

- **One** Question from Unit One
- **Two** Sections from Unit Two
- **One** Section from Unit Three

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Unit One

You must answer parts (a) and (b) from **one** of the following three questions.

(All questions carry 80 marks each)

Section A The Search for Meaning and Values (80 marks)

Question 1 The Tradition of the Search

Answer (a) and (b).

- (a) Imagine you have the chance to talk with Aristotle about how his ideas could help people today in their search to find the true meaning of life. From your knowledge of Aristotle's ideas, suggest **two** points that he might talk about to help people searching for the meaning of life today. (40)



- (b) Explain **two** reasons why a person could lose interest in searching for the meaning of life today. (40)

Question 2 The Tradition of the Response

Answer (a) and (b).

- (a) Profile how an idea put forward by a person associated with the humanist tradition could influence an answer to a question about the meaning of life today. (40)
- (b) Using examples, examine how polytheism played a role in the founding story of **two** of the following religions: Christianity, Islam, Judaism. (40)

Question 3 Communal Values

Answer (a) and (b).

- (a) Explore how **two** questions about human suffering are expressed in today's art, literature, music or youth culture. (40)
- (b) (i) Describe **one** example of how symbols are used by either individuals or groups to express what is of meaning in their lives. (20)
- (ii) Explain why symbols are used in response to questions about the meaning of life by either individuals or groups today. (20)



Unit Two

You must answer **two** of the following three sections.

(All sections carry 80 marks each)

Section B Christianity: Origins and Contemporary Expressions (80 marks)

Answer any two of parts: (a), (b), (c).

- (a) Outline a way that returning to the original teaching of Jesus of Nazareth helped **two** of the following movements to rediscover the message of Jesus for themselves:
 • Céli Dé • Early 19th century Protestantism • Liberation Theology • Luther
 • The Mendicant Orders • The Second Vatican Council (40)
- (b) (i) Analyse what inspired the image of Jesus of Nazareth presented in an example from **one** of the following: art, film, literature or music. (20)
- (ii) Examine the relevance for Christians today of the understanding of Jesus of Nazareth referred to in part (b), (i) above. (20)
- (c) Describe an example of how members of a Christian denomination today try to live out the teaching of Jesus in **one** of the following ways: • Creating a just and inclusive society
 • Responding to those who are dying • Responding to violence, intolerance, sectarianism
 • Sharing the earth's resources • Supporting Christian community life (40)

Section C World Religions (80 marks)

Answer any two of parts: (a), (b), (c).

- (a) Using an example, explain how inter-faith dialogue has helped to promote a good relationship between **two** of the following religions:
 • Buddhism • Christianity • Hinduism • Islam • Judaism (40)
- (b) Describe two examples of how the influence of religious belief can be seen in the lifestyle of believers today from **one** of the following: • An African Traditional Religion
 • A Chinese Religion • A New Religious Movement • Baha'i Faith • Sikh Religion (40)
- (c) Outline how the influence of primal religion can be seen in the religious practice of members today from **two** of the following religions:
 • Buddhism • Christianity • Hinduism • Islam • Judaism (40)

Section D Moral Decision-Making (80 marks)

Answer any two of parts: (a), (b), (c).

- (a) • Media • Peers
 Using examples, explain how **each** of the above could influence a person's decision about what is right and wrong in a situation. (40)
- (b) Virtues such as courage, patience, truthfulness etc. have been described as qualities of character that prompt a person to do the right thing.
 Describe **two** examples of how 'virtue' can play a part in a person's growth towards moral maturity. (40)
- (c) Using examples, describe how a decision about what is right and wrong on an issue could be influenced by **each** of the following points of view:
 • Fundamentalism • Relativism (40)



Unit Three

You must answer **one** of the following four sections.

(All sections carry 80 marks each)

Section E Religion and Gender

(80 marks)

Answer part (a) or (b).

- (a) • Founders & Reformers of Religious Orders • Religious Writers
 • Social Reformers • Spiritual Thinkers

Choose **one** woman in any of the above categories and outline her life story using each of the following headings:

- (i) Her key insights/actions. (40)
- (ii) Two questions raised by her life and work for people today. (40)

or

- (b) Describe **two** examples of how one woman dealt with the challenges she faced in the part she played in the story of salvation, outlined in either the Hebrew or Christian scriptures. (80)

Section H The Bible: Literature and Sacred Text

(80 marks)

Answer part (a) or (b).

- (a) • The Gospel of John • The Gospel of Luke • The Gospel of Mark • The Gospel of Matthew

- (i) Using examples, outline how oral traditions have been preserved in **two** of the above Gospels. (40)
- (ii) Explain **two** reasons why oral traditions played a role in the development of the above Gospels. (40)

or

- (b) (i) Describe **two** examples of what can be referred to as 'storytelling' that are found in the Bible. (40)
- (ii) Explain the reasons why **two** examples of storytelling, found in the Bible, are relevant for people today. (40)

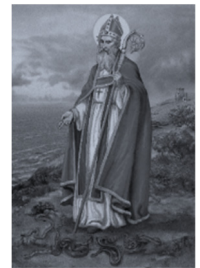


Section I Religion and the Irish Experience

(80 marks)

Answer part (a) or (b).

- (a) Using examples, explain **two** reasons why Pre-Christian practices were adapted during Saint Patrick's mission in Ireland. (80)



or

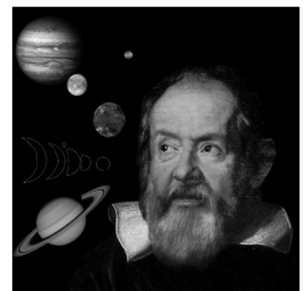
- (b) • Contemporary Ireland • Monasticism • Spirituality and Land
• Spirituality and Reform • The Enlightenment
- (i) Explain why **one** of the above can be described as a time of change in religion within Ireland. (40)
- (ii) Examine how what happened during **one** of the above moments influenced the development of Christianity in Ireland. (40)

Section J Religion and Science

(80 marks)

Answer part (a) or (b).

- (a) (i) Outline **two** ideas that were put forward by Galileo through his experiments and discoveries about the universe. (40)
- (ii) Trace **two** ways in which an idea put forward by Galileo influenced the relationship between science and religion. (40)



or

- (b) (i) Explain why being part of a community is important for both science and religion, referring to the advantages of objective and subjective investigation. (40)
- (ii) Religion and science share questions in common.
Discuss the extent to which religion and science share an interest in **two** particular questions about life and living today. (40)

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Acknowledgements

Images

Images on page 2:	First Picture: http://www.sawanonlinebookstore.com/aristotle Second Picture: http://www.kindpng.com/imgv/bmJwxb_question-mark-clip-art-free-clipart-images-image
Image on page 3:	https://media.istockphoto.com/id/1307082448/photo/right-or-wrong.jpg
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Images on page 5:	First Picture: https://catholicsaintmedals.com/saints/st-patrick Second Picture: https://medium.com/science-and-philosophy/a-tribute-to-astronomer-galileo-galilei

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