

13+ Scholarship Examination
Specimen Paper

Religious Studies

Time allowed: 50 minutes.

- The exam is divided into 3 sections.
- **You must answer 2 questions in total.**
- **Answer no more than 1 question from any section.**
- The quality of your writing and presentation is important.

Each question is worth 25 marks

SECTION 1: Philosophy & Ethics

1. 'It is more probable that God exists than that he does not.' Discuss.
2. 'I can never know with certainty that the external world exists.' Discuss.
3. 'To be morally good, I must follow a set of rules, not my conscience.' Discuss.
4. 'Violent action is the only way to overcome prejudice and discrimination.' Discuss.
5. 'I should be free to treat the environment as I choose.' Discuss.

SECTION 2: Biblical Texts

1. What do the miracles you have studied tell us about God and Jesus?
2. What do the parables you have studied tell us about Jesus' message?
3. What do the Old Testament texts you have studied tell us about the nature of human beings?
4. What are the main themes of the stories you have studied in the Book of Exodus?
5. What do the Crucifixion and Resurrection tell us about the person of Jesus?

SECTION 3: Beliefs and Practices

[You may refer to any of the world's 6 major religions in your answer.]

1. To what extent are places of worship essential to religious believers?
2. 'Rites of passage are designed for the benefit of human beings, and have nothing to do with God.' Discuss.
3. 'Religious festivals are entertainment for the masses, not about man's relationship with God.' Discuss.
4. To what extent can someone who says only private prayer as a form of worship be described as a member of a religion?
5. To what extent is the strength of someone's faith best expressed by their ability to undertake acts of pilgrimage?