



GCE AS/A LEVEL – NEW

2120UD0-1



S17-2120UD0-1

RELIGIOUS STUDIES – AS unit 1

Option D

An Introduction to the Study of Buddhism

THURSDAY, 18 MAY 2017 – MORNING

1 hour 15 minutes

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

A WJEC pink 16-page answer booklet.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen.

Answer **two** questions.

Write your answers in the separate answer booklet provided.

Write the number of each question you answer both alongside your answer and on the front cover of the answer booklet.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Each question carries 30 marks.

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each part-question.

You are reminded of the need to:

- reflect on, select and apply specified knowledge.
- understand, interpret and evaluate critically religious concepts, texts and other sources.
- identify, investigate and critically analyse questions, arguments, ideas and issues arising from within this unit.
- construct well informed and reasoned arguments substantiated by relevant evidence.
- engage in debate in a way that recognises the right of others to hold a different view.
- present responses to questions which are clear and coherent.
- use specialist language and terminology appropriately.
- use spelling, punctuation and grammar appropriately.

UNIT 1 – An Introduction to the Study of Religion

Option D – An Introduction to the Study of Buddhism

Part (a) of each question tests your knowledge and understanding of religion and belief.

Part (b) of each question tests your skills of analysis and evaluation, with regards to aspects of and approaches to religion and belief.

Section A

Answer one question from this section.

Either,

1. (a) Examine the key ideas of the Four Noble Truths. [15]
- (b) 'The Four Noble Truths are essential for all Buddhists.'
Evaluate this view. [15]

Or,

2. (a) Examine the dasa sila (ten precepts). [15]
- (b) 'Rules are essential for Buddhists today.'
Evaluate this view. [15]

Section B

Answer one question from this section.

Either,

3. (a) Explain the account of the birth of the historical Buddha. [15]
- (b) 'Stories about the Buddha are not meant to be taken literally.'
Evaluate this view. [15]

Or,

4. (a) Examine features of the Buddha's awakening under the Bodhi tree. [15]
- (b) 'The Buddha's awakening is the most important event in Buddhism.'
Evaluate this view. [15]

Or,

5. (a) Explain the role and importance of dana (giving) in Buddhism. [15]
- (b) 'Punya (merit) depends on dana (giving).'
Evaluate this view. [15]

END OF PAPER