



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
International General Certificate of Secondary Education

---

**RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

**0490/21**

Paper 2

**October/November 2011**

**1 hour 45 minutes**

Additional Materials:      Answer Booklet/Paper

---

**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Choose **two** of Sections A, B and C and answer **two** of the questions in each of your chosen sections.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.



---

This document consists of **4** printed pages.



Choose **two** of Sections A, B and C and answer **two** of the questions in each of your chosen sections.

### Section A – Christianity

If you have chosen this section, answer **all** the parts in **two** of the questions.

- 1 (a) Describe how Christians celebrate Easter. [7]
- (b) Explain why Easter is an important festival for Christians. [7]
- (c) 'All Christian festivals are equally important.'  
Discuss this statement. Give your own opinion and show that you have thought about other points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer. [6]
- 2 (a) Describe a Christian marriage ceremony. [7]
- (b) Explain the importance of making and keeping the vows in a Christian marriage. [7]
- (c) Should children follow the religion of their parents?  
Give your own opinion and show that you have thought about other points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer. [6]
- 3 (a) What are the Two Greatest Commandments and why are they called this? [7]
- (b) Explain the ways in which Christians might follow the teachings in the Two Greatest Commandments. [7]
- (c) 'Caring for others is the most important Christian duty.'  
Discuss this statement. Give your own opinion and show that you have thought about other points of view. You must refer to Christianity in your answer. [6]

**Section B – Islam**

If you have chosen this section, answer **all** the parts in **two** of the questions.

- 4** (a) Describe how Muslims observe Ramadan. [7]
- (b) Explain the ways in which observing Ramadan might strengthen the ummah. [7]
- (c) Should religious duties be a matter of choice for Muslims and not compulsory?  
Give your own opinion and show that you have thought about other points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer. [6]
- 5** (a) Describe how Muslims celebrate Id al-Adha. [7]
- (b) Explain why Id al-Adha is an important festival for Muslims. [7]
- (c) 'Muslims make many different kinds of sacrifices for their religion.'  
Discuss this statement. Give your own opinion and show that you have thought about other points of view. You must refer to Islam in you answer. [6]
- 6** (a) Describe Muslim beliefs about the Qur'an. [7]
- (b) Explain the importance of the Sunnah (Ahadith) of the Prophet. [7]
- (c) Are the Qur'an and Sunnah equal in authority?  
Give your own opinion and show that you have thought about other points of view. You must refer to Islam in your answer. [6]

**Section C – Judaism**

If you have chosen this section, answer **all** the parts in **two** of the questions.

- 7** (a) Describe how Jews celebrate Pesach (Passover). [7]
- (b) Explain why Pesach is an important festival for Jews. [7]
- (c) 'All religious festivals should involve children.'  
Discuss this statement. Give your own opinion and show that you have thought about other points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer. [6]
- 8** (a) Describe the main features of the Talmud. [7]
- (b) Explain why the Talmud is important for Judaism. [7]
- (c) 'The Talmud is necessary to understand the Torah.'  
Discuss this statement. Give your own opinion and show that you have thought about other points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer. [6]
- 9** (a) Describe a Jewish marriage ceremony. [7]
- (b) Explain why marriage and family life are important in Judaism. [7]
- (c) 'Jews should only choose another Jew when they marry.'  
Discuss this statement. Give your own opinion and show that you have thought about other points of view. You must refer to Judaism in your answer. [6]

---

Permission to reproduce items where third-party owned material protected by copyright is included has been sought and cleared where possible. Every reasonable effort has been made by the publisher (UCLES) to trace copyright holders, but if any items requiring clearance have unwittingly been included, the publisher will be pleased to make amends at the earliest possible opportunity.

University of Cambridge International Examinations is part of the Cambridge Assessment Group. Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which is itself a department of the University of Cambridge.