

# A-level

## RELIGIOUS STUDIES

### 2A: Buddhism and Dialogues

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Specimen 2018

Morning

Time allowed: 3 hours

#### Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book

#### Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book.
- Answer:
  - **both** two-part questions from Section A, and
  - **one** question from Section B and
  - **one** question from Section C
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work that you do not want to be marked.

#### Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 100.
- In each two-part question in Section A, the first part tests your knowledge and understanding, while the second part tests your skills of reasoning and evaluation.
- The one-part questions in Sections B and C test your knowledge and understanding and your skills of reasoning and evaluation.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
  - use good English
  - organise information clearly
  - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

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**Section A: Study of Buddhism**

Answer **both** questions in this section.  
Each question has two parts.

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**Question 01**

**0 1 . 1** Examine how Buddhist teaching helps Buddhists respond to the challenge of secularisation.

[10 marks]

and

**0 1 . 2** 'For Buddhists, secularisation is an opportunity rather than a challenge.'

Evaluate this claim.

[15 marks]

**Question 02**

**0 2 . 1** Examine why there are different views in Buddhism concerning the issues of:

- marriage
- **homosexuality.**

You should refer to both issues.

[10 marks]

and

**0 2 . 2** 'Buddhist feminism has had little impact on Buddhism.'

Evaluate this claim.

[15 marks]

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**Section B: The dialogue between philosophy and Buddhism**

Answer **one** question from this section.

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**Question 03**

**0 3 . 1** 'Buddhist beliefs about the afterlife are reasonable.'

Critically examine and evaluate this view with reference to the dialogue between Buddhism and Philosophy.

**[25 marks]**

**OR**

**Question 04**

**0 4 . 1** 'Religious experience gives Buddhists knowledge of Ultimate Reality.'

Critically examine and evaluate this view with reference to the dialogue between Buddhism and Philosophy.

**[25 marks]**

**Turn over for Section C**

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**Section C: The dialogue between ethics and Buddhism**

Answer **one** question from this section.

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**Question 05**

**0 5 . 1** 'Buddhist ideas of moral responsibility have been undermined by understandings of the nature of free will.'

Critically examine and evaluate this view with reference to the dialogue between Buddhism and ethical studies.

[25 marks]

OR

**Question 06**

**0 6 . 1** 'Buddhist understandings of the status and rights of animals have been undermined by ethical studies into animal rights.'

Critically examine and evaluate this view with reference to the dialogue between Buddhism and ethical studies.

[25 marks]

**END OF QUESTIONS**

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