**Pearson
Edexcel GCSE**

Centre Number

Candidate Number

Religious Studies
Unit 15: Buddhism

Wednesday 7 June 2017 – Afternoon
Time: 1 hour 30 minutes

Paper Reference
5RS15/01

You do not need any other materials.

Total Marks

Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer **ONE** question from each of the **four** sections.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
  – *there may be more space than you need*.

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 84.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
  – *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*
- Questions labelled with an **asterisk** (*) are ones where the quality of your written communication will be assessed
  – *you should take particular care on these questions with your spelling, punctuation and grammar, as well as the clarity of expression.*
- The marks available for spelling, punctuation and grammar are clearly indicated.

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Turn over ▶

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Pearson

SECTION 1 – BELIEFS AND VALUES

You must answer ONE question from this section.

YOU WILL BE ASSESSED ON YOUR SPELLING, PUNCTUATION AND GRAMMAR IN THIS SECTION.

EITHER

1 (a) What is **anicca**?

(2)

(b) Do you think the Wheel of Existence is important for all Buddhists?
Give **two** reasons for your point of view.

(4)

*(c) Explain why the five khandas are important for Buddhists.

(8)

(d) "Lay people are just as important as monks and nuns in Buddhism."

In your answer you should refer to Buddhism.

(i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion.

(3)

(ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you.

(3)

(Total for spelling, punctuation and grammar = 4 marks)
(Total for Question 1 = 24 marks)

OR

2 (a) What is **parinibbana**?

(2)

(b) Do you think the way of wisdom (prajna) should be followed by everyone?
Give **two** reasons for your point of view.

(4)

*(c) Explain why the sangha is important for Buddhists.

(8)

(d) "Following the Tipitaka is essential in today's society."

In your answer you should refer to Buddhism.

(i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion.

(3)

(ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you.

(3)

(Total for spelling, punctuation and grammar = 4 marks)
(Total for Question 2 = 24 marks)

Chosen question number: **Question 1** ☒   **Question 2** ☒

Write your answer here:

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SECTION 2 – COMMUNITY AND TRADITION

You must answer ONE question from this section.

EITHER

3 (a) What is meant by **Mahayana**?

(2)

(b) Do you think Mahayana viharas should be plain and simple?
Give **two** reasons for your point of view.

(4)

*(c) Explain why the dhamma is important for Buddhists.

(8)

(d) "The Buddha learnt nothing from the time he spent as an ascetic."

In your answer you should refer to Buddhism.

(i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion.

(3)

(ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you.

(3)

(Total for Question 3 = 20 marks)

OR

4 (a) What is an **Arahant**?

(2)

(b) Do you think the four sights were the beginning of Buddhism?
Give **two** reasons for your point of view.

(4)

*(c) Explain the distinctive features of Vajrayana Buddhism.

(8)

(d) "The Buddha's meditation under the bodhi tree sets an example for all people."

In your answer you should refer to Buddhism.

(i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion.

(3)

(ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you.

(3)

(Total for Question 4 = 20 marks)

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ⊠. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ⊠ and then indicate your new question with a cross ⊠.

Chosen question number: **Question 3** ☒ **Question 4** ☒

Write your answer here:

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(d) (i) ....

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SECTION 3 – WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION

You must answer ONE question from this section.

EITHER

5 (a) What is meant by a **mantra**?

(2)

(b) Do you think rupas distract a Buddhist during puja?
Give **two** reasons for your point of view.

(4)

*(c) Explain why dhyana meditation is important for Buddhists.

(8)

(d) "New Year is an important celebration for Buddhists."

In your answer you should refer to Buddhism.

(i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion.

(3)

(ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you.

(3)

(Total for Question 5 = 20 marks)

OR

6 (a) What is a **mala**?

(2)

(b) Do you think Wesak should be celebrated by all Buddhists?
Give **two** reasons for your point of view.

(4)

*(c) Explain why mudras are important for many Buddhists.

(8)

(d) "Puja is better when it is performed in the home."

In your answer you should refer to Buddhism.

(i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion.

(3)

(ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you.

(3)

(Total for Question 6 = 20 marks)

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ⊠. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ⊠ and then indicate your new question with a cross ⊠.

Chosen question number: **Question 5** ⊠ **Question 6** ⊠

Write your answer here:

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SECTION 4 – LIVING THE BUDDHIST LIFE

You must answer ONE question from this section.

EITHER

7 (a) What is meant by **metta**?

(2)

   (b) Do you think the five pansils are all equally important?
Give **two** reasons for your point of view.

(4)

  *(c) Explain why right livelihood is important for Buddhists.

(8)

   (d) "The main aim of any Buddhist organisation is to reduce suffering."

     In your answer you should refer to Buddhism.

     (i)   Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion.

(3)

     (ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you.

(3)

(Total for Question 7 = 20 marks)

OR

8 (a) What is meant by **tiratana**?

(2)

   (b) Do you think khanti (patience) is important for all people?
Give **two** reasons for your point of view.

(4)

  *(c) Explain why karuna (compassion) is important for Buddhists.

(8)

   (d) "The vihara is only important for Buddhists."

     In your answer you should refer to Buddhism.

     (i)   Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion.

(3)

     (ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you.

(3)

(Total for Question 8 = 20 marks)

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ⊠. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ⊠ and then indicate your new question with a cross ⊠.

Chosen question number: **Question 7** ⊠ **Question 8** ⊠

Write your answer here:

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TOTAL FOR PAPER = 84 MARKS

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