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**Pearson**  
**Edexcel GCSE**

Centre Number

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Candidate Number

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# Religious Studies

## Unit 15: Buddhism

Tuesday 7 June 2016 – 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 meant by **anatta**? (2)
- (b) Do you think the Tipitaka is essential for all Buddhists?  
Give **two** reasons for your point of view. (4)
- \*(c) Explain why the Wheel of Existence is important for some Buddhists. (8)
- (d) "Understanding the Four Noble Truths 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 1 = 24 marks)**

**OR**

- 2 (a) What is meant by **prajna**? (2)
- (b) Do you think the sangha is important for Buddhists today?  
Give **two** reasons for your point of view. (4)
- \*(c) Explain why the three marks of existence are important for many Buddhists. (8)
- (d) "Samadhi (meditation) only matters if you are a Buddhist."  
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)**

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

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## SECTION 2 – COMMUNITY AND TRADITION

You must answer ONE question from this section.

**EITHER**

- 3** (a) What is a **bhikku**? (2)
- (b) Do you think Buddhists have to follow the dhamma?  
Give **two** reasons for your point of view. (4)
- \* (c) Explain why the founding of the sangha is important for many Buddhists. (8)
- (d) "Zen Buddhism is the best path to enlightenment."  
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 the **bodhi tree**? (2)
- (b) Do you think Vajrayana Buddhism is the same as other types of Buddhism?  
Give **two** reasons for your point of view. (4)
- \* (c) Explain why the four sights are important for Buddhists. (8)
- (d) "The life of the Buddha is more important than his death and parinibbana."  
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)

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

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**SECTION 3 – WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION**

**You must answer ONE question from this section.**

**EITHER**

- 5** (a) What is a **mudra**? (2)
- (b) Do you think Vassa is important for all Buddhists?  
Give **two** reasons for your point of view. (4)
- \* (c) Explain why the use of mantras is important for some Buddhists. (8)
- (d) "Puja should only take place in the vihara."  
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 **mandala**? (2)
- (b) Do you think dhyana meditation is the same as other types of meditation?  
Give **two** reasons for your point of view. (4)
- \* (c) Explain why the celebration of Wesak is important for many Buddhists. (8)
- (d) "Rupas help a person to meditate."  
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)**

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

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**SECTION 4 – LIVING THE BUDDHIST LIFE**

**You must answer ONE question from this section.**

**EITHER**

- 7** (a) What is **dana**? (2)
- (b) Do you think khanti (patience) is important for everyone?  
Give **two** reasons for your point of view. (4)
- \* (c) Explain why the five pansils are important for Buddhists. (8)
- (d) "The most important thing a Buddhist can do 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 a **vihara**? (2)
- (b) Do you think the five additional pansils are important for lay Buddhists?  
Give **two** reasons for your point of view. (4)
- \* (c) Explain why metta (loving kindness) is important for Buddhists. (8)
- (d) "It is easy to live the Buddhist life today."  
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)**

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

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