

**Victorian Certificate of Education
2017**

SUPERVISOR TO ATTACH PROCESSING LABEL HERE

STUDENT NUMBER Letter

RELIGION AND SOCIETY

Written examination

Monday 20 November 2017

Reading time: 11.45 am to 12.00 noon (15 minutes)

Writing time: 12.00 noon to 2.00 pm (2 hours)

QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOK

Structure of book

| <i>Section</i> | <i>Number of questions</i> | <i>Number of questions to be answered</i> | <i>Number of marks</i> |
|----------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| A | 6 | 6 | 30 |
| B | 5 | 5 | 50 |
| | | | Total 80 |

- Students are permitted to bring into the examination room: pens, pencils, highlighters, erasers, sharpeners and rulers.
- Students are NOT permitted to bring into the examination room: blank sheets of paper and/or correction fluid/tape.
- No calculator is allowed in this examination.

Materials supplied

- Question and answer book of 18 pages
- Additional space is available at the end of the book if you need extra paper to complete an answer.

Instructions

- Write your **student number** in the space provided above on this page.
- All written responses must be in English.

Students are NOT permitted to bring mobile phones and/or any other unauthorised electronic devices into the examination room.

SECTION A

Instructions for Section A
Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.

Question 1 (4 marks)



"I understand *how* I was born; I want to know *why*."

Source: Jason Love, © Love A715;
CartoonStock Ltd, <www.CartoonStock.com>

Using the beliefs of **at least one** religious tradition or denomination you have studied, reply to the request of the child in this cartoon.

Question 2 (3 marks)

What makes a challenge significant for religious traditions or denominations?

Question 3 (5 marks)

Drawing on **at least one** religious tradition or denomination you have studied, explain how 'places' in the aspect 'spaces, places, times and artifacts' is intended to contribute to the search for meaning.

Question 4 (6 marks)

Define the role of each of these three aspects of religion.

- Sacred stories _____

- Social structures _____

- Spiritual experiences _____

Question 5 (6 marks)

Explain why **two** aspects of religion have been involved in significant challenges to **at least one** religious tradition or denomination. Use examples from your studies to support your answer.

Question 6 (6 marks)

‘We know nothing about it all [God, the world]. All our knowledge is but the knowledge of schoolchildren. Possibly we shall know a little more than we do now.’

Source: Albert Einstein quoted in A Calaprice (ed.), *The Ultimate Quotable Einstein*, Princeton University Press, New Jersey, p. 344

In what ways can religion respond to this statement?

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SECTION B

Instructions for Section B

Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.

Question 1 (7 marks)

Discuss the relationship between the relevant beliefs of a religious tradition or denomination concerning ultimate reality and the meaning of suffering. Draw on relevant sources to support your answer.

Question 2 (8 marks)

Identify one religious tradition or denomination and one of its beliefs you have studied.

Religious tradition or denomination _____

Belief _____

Explain how the expression of this belief in rituals and in ethics is intended to foster meaning for members of this religious tradition or denomination.

Question 3 (15 marks)

- a.** Briefly describe a significant life experience of an individual in **one** religious tradition or denomination you have studied. As part of your description, explain why the experience is significant. 3 marks

- b.** Explain and contrast this individual’s religious beliefs and their understanding of these beliefs before and after the significant life experience described in **part a.** 8 marks

- c. Explain the influence of this individual's religious beliefs on their interpretation of the significant life experience described in **part a**.

4 marks

Question 5 (10 marks)

Explain how **at least one** religious tradition or denomination you have studied has dealt with **one or more** challenges to its continued existence. Draw on relevant sources to support your answer.
