



# basic education

Department:  
Basic Education  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

## **NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE**

**GRADE 12**

**RELIGION STUDIES P2**

**FEBRUARY/MARCH 2013**

**MARKS: 150**

**TIME: 2 hours**

**This question paper consists of 7 pages.**

## **INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION**

1. This question paper consists of FIVE questions.
2. Answer only THREE of the five questions.
3. Read ALL the questions carefully before selecting three questions.
4. Number the answers correctly according to the numbering system used in this question paper.
5. Write neatly and legibly.

**QUESTION 1**

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.

**INTERRELIGIOUS RELATIONSHIPS**

Today, in many parts of the world, people remain divided from one another based on nationalistic, ethnic or religious rivalries that are passed on from generation to generation. These rivalries are written into history books and perpetuated in conversations between parents and their children, as well as through discriminatory governmental policies.

Nevertheless, real potential for change exists in our schools, in our communities, even in the world's governments.

[Taken from *Focus on Religion Studies*, Donne et al., p. 25]

- 1.1 In the context of the passage above, discuss what the South African government has done to promote peace between the various religions. (10)
  - 1.2 Describe the practical steps that religious organisations in South Africa have taken to promote interreligious harmony. (10)
  - 1.3 Discuss factors that could make interreligious dialogue difficult on the African continent. (10)
  - 1.4 Identify and discuss any TWO organisations that promote interreligious dialogue in the international community. (20)
- [50]**

**QUESTION 2**

- 2.1 Analyse the role of TEACHING in any ONE religion under the following headings:
    - 2.1.1 The nature of divinity (10)
    - 2.1.2 The nature of humanity with reference to the community and the individual (10)
    - 2.1.3 The place and responsibility of human beings in the world (10)
  - 2.2 Discuss the general principles of interpreting normative sources in different religions (hermeneutics). (20)
- [50]**

**QUESTION 3**

3.1 Explain the following normative sources in the context of ONE religion:

- 3.1.1 Contemporary inspiration (10)
- 3.1.2 Oral tradition (10)
- 3.1.3 Sacred texts (10)

3.2 Select a quotation from any ONE religion listed below and give its interpretation by applying relevant hermeneutical principles.

3.2.1 **Buddhism**

**The Fourth Noble Truth**

Monks, what is the noble truth about the way that leads to the cessation of suffering?  
Just this noble eightfold path, namely  
right view, right purpose, right speech,  
right action, right livelihood, right effort,  
right mindfulness, and right concentration.

[Digha Nikaya 11 305]

3.2.2 **Judaism**

For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
Neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord.  
As the heavens are higher than the Earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

[Isaiah 55:8–9]

3.2.3 **Christianity**

Now when he saw the crowds,  
he went up on a  
mountainside and sat down.  
His disciples came to him,  
and he began to teach them, saying:  
'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the  
kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.  
Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.  
Blessed are those that hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they will be filled.'

[Sermon on the Mount: Matthew 5:1–6]

**3.2.4 Hinduism**

For sure this body is mortal, held in the grip of death. Yet it is the dwelling place of the mortal, incorporeal Self ... While still in the body, it is held in the grip of pleasure and pain; and as long as it remains in the body there is no means of ridding it of pleasure and pain. But once it is freed from the body, pleasure and pain cannot touch it.

The wind has no body. Clouds, thunder and lightning – these too have no body. So, just as these arise from the space up there and plunge into the highest light, revealing themselves each in its own form, so too does this deep serenity arise out of this body and plunge into the highest light, revealing its self in its own form.

[Chandogya VIII, xii. 1–3]

**3.2.5 Islam**

Say: He is God, the One and Only.  
God, the Eternal, the Absolute;  
He begetteth not, nor is He begotten;  
And there is none like unto Him.

[Holy Qur'an, Chapter 30, Verse 112]

**3.2.6 Baha'i**

These principles and laws, these firmly-  
Established and mighty systems, have  
Proceeded from one Source and are the  
Rays of light. That they differ from one  
Another is to be attributed to the varying requirements of the ages in  
which they  
Were promulgated.  
Ye are the fruits of one tree, and the leaves  
Of one branch ... So powerful is the light of  
Unity that it can illuminate the whole Earth.

[Baha'u'llah's Gleanings from the Writings of Baha'u'llah]

3.2.7

**African Traditional Religion****Qamata\*, I love you**

Qamata, I love you  
 Qamata, I love you  
 Qamata, you love us all.  
 Your love is everlasting and unconditional  
 Through your love you created us all equal  
 Who then has got the power to judge?  
 You are everywhere  
 You are beyond imagination of the brain that you gave me  
 I therefore cannot make any images of yourself  
 Who then told your creatures that you are male?  
 Who then has got the powers to limit your highness to that of man?  
 Qamata, I love you  
 You talk to me every day  
 You talk to me any time  
 You talked to my ancestors  
 You talk to all humanity  
 If the manner I worship pleases you  
 Who else has got the power to demonise me?  
 Who else thinks he is your only spokesman?  
 My oppressors use your name for their selfish interests  
 Thank you for the courage you are giving me  
 Qamata, I love you

\*Qamata is a personal name for God Creator.

[Taken from *Religion Studies Grade 12, Shutters*, p. 40]

(20)  
[50]

**QUESTION 4**

Read the statement below and answer the questions that follow.

Three social issues confronting South Africa today are HIV/Aids, poverty and unemployment.

With regard to any ONE social problem mentioned above:

- 4.1 Analyse the problem by discussing the causes of the problem. (20)
- 4.2 Discuss teachings of at least TWO religions to illustrate their solutions to the problem. (20)
- 4.3 Discuss FIVE practical steps that religious organisations could take to assist and support those who are affected. (10)

[50]

**QUESTION 5**

Read the statement below and answer the questions that follow:

In the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, biologist Charles Darwin published his theory of evolution in *The Origin of Species*. This was the first non-religious explanation of how the world was created and where humans came from.

[Source: *Focus on Religion Studies*, Donne et al., p 99]

5.1 Discuss ONE religion's response to the theory of evolution in detail. (10)

5.2 With reference to the religion in QUESTION 5.1, discuss what the religion believes about:

5.2.1 Creation (10)

5.2.2 How human beings made their appearance (10)

5.3 Read the following statement and answer the questions that follow:

The big bang theory is the latest explanation of how the universe came into being.

5.3.1 Briefly discuss the big bang theory. (10)

5.3.2 Do you think there are contradictions between religious beliefs and the big bang theory? Give reasons for your answer. (10)  
**[50]**

**TOTAL: 150**