

# The New Forest Small School



## RELIGIOUS STUDIES / PHILOSOPHY

### Buddhism, World Religion Ethics & Philosophy

Time: 2 hours

Year 8

Name.....

Date of Birth.....

Date.....

Grade.....

## INSTRUCTION TO STUDENTS

- Write your name, date of birth and date on the front cover.
- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- In **Section A** answer **four** questions from a choice of **six** topics. In **Section B** answer **one** question from a choice of **three** topics. In **Section C** answer **one** question from a choice of **three** topics.
- Answer **six** questions in total.
- Write your answers in black or blue ink in the areas provided. If you need additional space you will find blank pages at the end of the exam paper. If you use these extra pages ensure that you **clearly place the question number at the beginning of your answer**.

## INFORMATION TO STUDENTS

- The number of marks for each question is given in brackets at the end of each question or part question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is **100%**.
- **Section A** is worth **60%**, **Section B** and **C** are worth **20%** each.
- Ensure that you leave yourself **at least 5 minutes to check over your answers**, correcting any spelling or grammatical mistakes.
- Now relax...focus your mind...and Good Luck!







- d. To achieve the end of suffering Guatama Buddha developed the Noble Eightfold Path.

For  
Examiner's  
Use

Describe each of the eight sections of the Noble Eightfold Path. **(15%)**

A large rectangular box containing 30 horizontal lines for writing the answer.

- e. The concept of Karma has now become part of Western culture although it is often been misunderstood.

For  
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Explain exactly what the Buddhist concept of Karma means. Give an example of karma based on the Buddhist concept. **(15%)**

A large rectangular box containing 30 horizontal lines for writing the answer.

- f. Each religion has its own idea about what death is and what happens to the 'soul' after death.

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What does Buddha teach about death and the afterlife? (15%)

A large rectangular box containing 30 horizontal lines for writing the answer to the question.

## **SECTION B – World Religion Ethics**

You should spend no more than **25 minutes** on this section.

Answer **one** question from a choice of **three** questions.

### **Question 2**

#### **SOURCE MATERIAL**

##### **The Ten Commandments of Christianity**

1. Thou shalt have no other Gods before me
2. Thou shalt not make for yourself an idol
3. Thou shalt not make wrongful use of the name of God
4. Thou shalt remember the Sabbath and keep it holy
5. Thou shalt honour thy father and mother
6. Thou shalt not commit murder
7. Thou shalt not commit adultery
8. Thou shalt not steal
9. Thou shalt not bear false witness against your neighbour
10. Thou shalt not covet your neighbour

##### **The Five Precepts of Buddhism**

1. To refrain from taking life
2. To refrain from taking that which is not given
3. To refrain from sexual misconduct
4. To refrain from lying
5. To refrain from intoxicants which lead to loss of mindfulness

**Choose 1 of the following 3 questions to answer –**

**Either a**

Study the source material above carefully. Compare the Ten Commandments of Christianity with the Five Precepts of Buddhism. In what ways are they different to one another and in what ways do they share similar values?

**You should consider:**

- **Each of the commandments and precepts**
  - **The differences between the commandments and precepts**
  - **The similarities between the commandments and precepts.**
- (20%)**

**Or b**

Does 'Good and Evil' exist as absolute moral truths or are they just based on each society's particular set of values and beliefs? Support your answer with reference to the world's major religions.

**You should consider:**

- **How societies define what is Good and Evil**
  - **How religions define what is Good and Evil**
  - **What Good and Evil means to you.**
- (20%)**

**Or c**

Write out your own ten commandments / precepts. Explain why each of your commandments / precepts would make the world a better place if followed.

**You should consider:**

- **The values which are important to you**
  - **What has influenced your values, i.e. culture, religions, family etc...**
  - **Why your commandments would improve the world.**
- (20%)**

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## SECTION C – Philosophy

You should spend no more than **25 minutes** on this section.

Answer **one** question from a choice of **three** questions.

### Question 3

Choose 1 of the following 3 questions to answer –

Either a

*‘There are no facts, only interpretations.’* Friedrich Nietzsche

Consider the quote above. Do you agree or disagree with Nietzsche that there is no objective reality, only subjective interpretations? Support your argument with examples.

You should consider:

- The nature of objective truth
- The nature of subjective truth
- How humans understand reality. (20%)

Or b

*‘What is the meaning of life? To be happy and useful.’* The Dalai Lama

Consider the quote above. What in your opinion is the purpose of life? Are we all here for a reason or purely by chance? Support your argument with examples.

You should consider:

- How societies define the meaning of life
- How religions define the meaning of life
- Whether you believe life has a greater meaning or not. (20%)

Or c

*‘Life is like a game of cards. The hand you are dealt with is determinism; the way you play it is free will.’* Jawaharal Nehru

Do you believe our actions and thoughts are determined by external influences or decided internally by each person’s free will? Or do you agree with the quote by Nehru that it is a combination of the two?

You should consider:

- What might determine our thoughts and actions
- To what degree we are free to make our own choices
- How different religions understand determinism and free will. (20%)

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**ADDITIONAL SPACE**

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For  
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Use