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Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS/ NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS

RELIGION STUDIES P2

2023

MARKING GUIDELINES

MARKS: 150

These marking guidelines consist of 14 pages.

QUESTION 1

- 1.1 1.1.1
- Land and soil degradation.
 - Degradation of soil quality is caused by poor farming practices, excessive use of fertilizers and pesticides.
 - Atmospheric degradation.
 - It is air degradation, particle pollution and the depletion of the ozone layer.
 - Water degradation.
 - Pollution of water from trash dumped in oceans, disposal of industrial waste into nearby rivers.
 - Overpopulation.
 - Rapid population growth puts strain on natural resources, which results in the degradation of the environment.
 - Deforestation. Destruction of natural forests.
 - It contributes to global warming as decreased forest size puts carbon back into the environment.
 - Landfills.
 - These are huge garbage dumps within the city due to the large amount of waste that gets generated by households, industries and hospitals.

NOTE: A maximum of FOUR marks may be awarded for any one TYPE of environmental degradation.

Other relevant responses must be credited.

(12)

- 1.1.2
- Impact on human health: exposure to toxic air pollutants can cause respiratory problems like pneumonia and asthma.
 - Ozone layer depletion: as it gets depleted, harmful radiation on earth increases.
 - This increases risk of skin cancer.
 - It also causes global warming, resulting in floods and drought that destroy infrastructure and houses, e.g. floods in KZN.
 - Loss for the tourism industry: environmental damage in the form of loss of green cover, loss of biodiversity can be a negative factor for the tourists, thus affecting the economy of the society.
 - Some species are becoming extinct, as a result of climate change.
 - This causes imbalance to the ecosystem which leads to increase of some dangerous species in society, e.g. rats.
 - Most township rivers are contaminated due to water pollution. This leads to an increase in water-borne diseases.

NOTE: Other relevant responses must be credited.

(12)

1.1.3 **EXAMPLE 1: CHRISTIANITY**

- In the book of Genesis God commanded Adam to tend (to work, to serve) the garden.
- God commanded that the land should also keep the Sabbath unto the Lord as a way of conserving the earth (Lev. 25:2–4).
- God condemns the destruction of fruit-bearing trees even when waging war (Deut. 20:19).
- In the book of Jeremiah God warns against destroying wildlife and nature (Jer. 9:9–11).
- The Bible condemns the destruction of beasts (Habakkuk 2:17).

EXAMPLE 2: AFRICAN TRADITIONAL RELIGION

- The goddess uNomkhulwana is approached during times of natural disaster.
- Protecting the environment is a sign of obedience to uNomkhulwana.
- There are different myths which are told to the young ones so that they can respect nature.
- Burning the land unnecessarily is a punishable offence in African Traditional Religion.
- They believe in traditional medicine made of herbs and some animals, so plants and animals are vital to African Traditional Religion.

(6)

NOTE: Other relevant responses must be credited.1.2 1.2.1 **EXAMPLE 1: TAOISM**

- The world and everything in it comes into being automatically as part of the activity of the Tao.
- It is not planned, but it is also not unplanned.
- The Tao did not intend for the world to exist, nor did it not want the world to exist.
- The world simply emerged as a tiny speck in the enormous 'bowl' of the Creation as the Tao continued on its path.
- The observable world consists of opposites that alternate – Yin and Yang.

EXAMPLE 2: ISLAM

- According to the Qur'an, Allah created the universe in six phases.
- Allah also provides the energy that everything in the universe needs for survival and growth.
- The existence of the universe is not accidental and life is not purposeless, but planned and purposeful.
- The universe, having been created in time, is not eternal but has a fixed time span.
- Since Allah alone is eternal, to believe in the eternity of the universe would mean equating creation to the Creator. This is a major sin (shirk).

NOTE: Other relevant responses must be credited.**Only the first religion identified must be credited.**

(10)

1.2.2

EXAMPLE 1: TAOISM

- Humans are a tiny, microscopic by-product of the Tao's creation.
- The Tao is infinitely more powerful than humans.
- Humans are not a special creation, and they are not in charge of the world.
- The universe will continue on its path, as determined by the Tao.
- Whatever humans do is exactly according to the whims of the Tao.
- Humans should look after the earth because polluting it is harmful for us.
- It is not done to appease the Tao.
- Humans can destroy only a small part of creation.
- In spite of this, the bountiful creative activity of the Tao will continue.

EXAMPLE 2: ISLAM

- Humans are one of the many species that make up creation.
- Humans in Islam are the highest form of creation.
- They are created in the image of God to look after God's creation.
- This places an enormous responsibility on human beings.
- They are entitled to use the earth's resources for their own benefit.
- They must acknowledge the Creator as Owner of the entire universe, and use resources responsibly and efficiently.
- They are accountable for their actions on the Day of Judgement.

NOTE: Other relevant responses must be credited.

Only the first religion identified must be credited.

(10)
[50]

QUESTION 2**2.1 EXAMPLE 1: BUDDHISM**

- Theravada Buddhism
- Mahayana Buddhism
- Tibetan Buddhism
- Zen Buddhism

Any TWO of the above must be credited.

2.1 EXAMPLE 2: CHRISTIANITY

- Eastern Orthodox Church
- Roman Catholic Church
- Protestantism

Any TWO of the above must be credited.

(4)

2.2 2.2.1 EXAMPLE 1: BUDDHISM**Theravada Buddhism**

- Monks live in monasteries, they beg for their food and meditate most of the day.
- Theravada monks also assist and co-operate with laity in important life events such as births, wedding and funerals.
- Building stupas (tower-like structures) is a widespread practice.
- Most practices are performed in the home although there is also individual and communal meditation and chanting in temples.
- They leave altar offerings of food, incense, candles and flowers at the temple, in front of the statue of Buddha.

Mahayana Buddhism

- They practise more ritual elements than Theravada Buddhism, such as prostrating themselves.
- Only people who live in monasteries are allowed to practise meditation.
- Lay people are allowed to practise chanting and prayer.

Tibetan Buddhism

- Practices used include meditation, rituals and chanting.
- They use methods like trances to recover hidden ancient scriptures.
- Tibetan Buddhist monks wear orange robes in their temples.

Zen Buddhism

- They practise meditation in order to attain enlightenment.
- They choose Zen teachers to guide students in meditation and performing rituals.
- They practise dharma transmission (passing of Buddha's teachings from the master to the students).

2.2

2.2.1

EXAMPLE 2: CHRISTIANITY**Roman Catholic Church**

- They ordain their priests, who practise celibacy.
- They confess their sins to a priest.
- Nuns and monks do not marry.
- There is no dissolution of marriage.
- They practise last rites before the death of a person.

Eastern Orthodox Church

- They express piety by kissing images of saints, called icons.
- They see the entire Bible as canonical.
- Ordained priests can get married.

Protestantism

- Attendance of Sunday services is important in Protestantism.
- Holy Communion service is also practised in many forms of Protestantism.
- Speaking in tongues in the Pentecostal/Charismatic churches is a characteristic.

Any TWO of the above must be credited.**NOTE: Other relevant responses must be credited.****(8)**

2.2.2

EXAMPLE 1: BUDDHISM**Theravada Buddhism**

- Theravada Buddhism believes in the doctrine of anatman.
- 'Anatman' means that the ego/self prevents us from becoming enlightened and reaching Nirvana.
- Theravada Buddhism teaches that enlightenment comes through an individual's efforts, and not by the intervention of others or any gods.

Mahayana Buddhism

- This branch believes that there is no such a thing as an individual, autonomous self. All beings are connected.
- Followers of Mahayana Buddhism believe in collective enlightenment.
- Mahayana Buddhism teaches that the motivation for enlightenment is compassion for all living things.
- The followers strive to become bodhisattva, (one who is the service of the enlightenment of others).

Tibetan Buddhism

- The followers of Tibetan Buddhism believe in the reincarnation of lineage of certain lamas (teachers), such as the Dalai Lama.
- They believe that Buddha can take a human form.
- They believe in a pantheon of Buddhas, bodhisattvas and dharma protectors.

Zen Buddhism

- They teach that direct communication, and not scriptural study, is the way of experiencing enlightenment.
- They believe that Zen is the way of life and not solely a state of conscience.
- They believe that Buddha can take a human form, such as in the person of Padmasambhava (one who brought Zen Buddhism to Tibet).

Any TWO of the above must be credited.

NOTE: Other relevant responses must be credited.

2.2.2

EXAMPLE 2: CHRISTIANITY

Roman Catholic Church

- This branch sees itself as the original church of Christ.
- The Holy Spirit comes from God the Father and the Son.
- They believe that the supreme authority of the church rests with the Pope.
- The Pope is considered to be the successor of St. Peter, who is believed to be the leader of Jesus' twelve apostles.

Eastern Orthodox Church

- According to the Eastern Orthodox Church, the Holy Spirit comes from God the Father only, and not the Son.
- They believe that they are the rightly guided church.
- They teach that no one has the power to change Christian teachings and traditions.
- They see the Bible as canonical.

Protestantism

- In Protestantism, the Bible has more authority than the Pope.
- Rituals are less important than belief.
- They believe that faith is the key to salvation.
- Salvation is a gift given freely through the work of Jesus Christ, who died for sinners.

(8)

Any TWO of the above must be credited.

NOTE: Other relevant responses must be credited.

2.2.3

YES

- Development of science leads to a new progressive interpretation of sacred text, and that can cause internal differences within a religion.
- Most religions have contemporary inspiration, which will increase internal differences.
- Religious leaders fight for leadership positions because these come with financial gain.
- An increase in the number of religious organisations will always lead to internal differences.

NO

- Religions are following democratic structures of leadership.
- Those who are not following democratic structures have learnt from their past experience and now have a clear succession plan.
- Since religious members like to be part of a large religious organisation, they will remain united.
- Religions have some attractive benefits within themselves such as burial cover, stokvel, and charity works that will keep them together irrespective of their differences.

NOTE: Other relevant responses must be credited.

(8)

- 2.3
- Inspiration is an important normative source in many religions.
 - It is the true origin of all religions.
 - Inspiration refers to the power or force of an extraordinary being taking over a chosen being.
 - The founding figures of many religions were inspired by a higher power or wisdom.
 - Such people felt they received 'revelation' from an extraordinary being.
 - In African Traditional Religion, the mediums or diviners receive inspiration while they are in a trance.
 - Inspiration is a powerful motivation for the followers of a religion.
 - There are several types of inspiration, namely:
 - Divine inspiration, which is direct and immediate and inspired the founders of religions.
 - Contemporary inspiration, which is on-going and serves to unite worshippers with their Creator.
 - Mediums and diviners in ATR communicate with the spiritual realm through inspiration.

NOTE: A maximum of FOUR marks may be awarded if ONLY the types of inspiration are discussed.

(10)

- 2.4
- **Grammar and historical context:**
 - Meaning one must use rules of grammar and historical facts to interpret the sacred texts.
 - **Clearest meaning:**
 - One should take the literal meaning of the text.
 - **Plan, purpose and context:**
 - This means that a piece of writing should be viewed as a whole. What is the writing plan or structure? What was the author's purpose in writing the text? What is the context of the passage being studied?
 - **Meaning of words:**
 - The meaning of words changes over time and in different places. Find out the original meaning of the words as used in the normative source.
 - **Figurative meaning:**
 - Figurative and non-literal meaning must be taken into account.
 - **Other sacred texts:**
 - Sacred texts themselves may be used to interpret other sacred texts.

Any THREE of the above must be credited.

(12)
[50]

QUESTION 3

3.1 3.1.1

- It is mainly the Abrahamic religions that are against the theory of evolution because it is against the fundamental teachings about the creation of humans and their status in the universe.
- Evolution does not recognise the existence of a Creator.
- Nor does it put human beings at the centre of creation.
- According to evolution, a human being is simply another organism.
- This is contrary to the teachings of the Abrahamic religions.
- The Abrahamic religions teach that human beings are created in the image of God, which places human beings above all creation.
- According to evolution, humans are part of the process of life, coming into being and passing away.
- This is against religious teachings which teach that human beings are immortal, and that they possess a spiritual part (soul)
- Religions teach that everything was created by God and each creation was perfect.
- Modernist/liberal believers in Abrahamic religions are not against the theory of evolution.
- They believe that scriptures must not be interpreted literally, but figuratively.
- This will accommodate scientific discoveries.

NOTE: Other relevant responses must be credited.**(12)**

3.1.2

- Hinduism has a broader theory of evolution than Darwin's theory.
- Their concept of evolution also involves spiritual evolution.
- Hindus believe that one has control over either spiritual or physical evolution.
- Good life leads to gradual evolution to an advanced form.
- Doing good deeds leads to better life, and bad deeds lead to lower life in reincarnation.
- According to Hinduism Darwin's theory of evolution has some shortcomings because it does not address spiritual life.
- Hinduism therefore has no problem with the theory of evolution.

NOTE: Other relevant responses must be credited.**(12)**

- 3.2
- The scientific explanation of creation is called the Big Bang Theory.
 - According to the Big Bang theory, it is not known what existed before the Big Bang.
 - The Big Bang theory states that the process of creation occurred within a second.
 - According to the scientific account, the Big Bang took place about 13,7 billion years ago.
 - Small temperature differences led to varying densities of matter throughout the universe.
 - Those densities formed into clusters of matter and energy.
 - The clusters continued to condense in a lumpy way and eventually formed the vast collection of stars called galaxies.
 - Some galaxies condensed into a combination of stars called solar systems.
 - Scientists believe that the universe is still expanding.

NOTE: Other relevant responses must be credited.

(14)

- 3.3
- Taoism has no creator of the universe.
 - Taoism explains the creation of the universe through Yin and Yang.
 - These are opposing forces, such as light and darkness, or male and female.
 - The Tao (universal force or pattern) produces the One. The One produces the Two (opposites).
 - A combination of the Two produces the Three.
 - Taoism does not speak of the beginning or the end of the universe.
 - It merely speaks of on-going interaction between Yin and Yang.

NOTE: Other relevant responses must be credited.

(12)

[50]

QUESTION 4

- 4.1
- Secularism means a separation of power between state and religion.
 - In the 16th century, Martin Luther set in motion certain changes that led to splintering of Christianity into Catholic and Protestant groups.
 - This led to decades of religious wars in Europe.
 - At the time, a church was very influential, both politically and socially.
 - Kings, emperors and nobility used the church to establish their power.
 - In return, religious leaders also influence rulers to promote their interpretation of their beliefs.
 - All the warring parties thought that a society will be peaceful if everyone shared the same beliefs.
 - People started to seek for a state where there would be religious tolerance.
 - Intellectuals of the time came to a conclusion that religion was divisive rather than uniting.
 - A government which was based purely on reasoning and on an understanding of human nature was then the solution.
 - The Prince of Orange was one of the first persons to advocate a split between church and state.
 - Thus government and morality were divorced from religion, and secularism came into being.

NOTE: Other relevant responses must be credited.

(12)

4.2 **EXAMPLE 1:**

- **ATHEISM**
- Atheists reject the belief that divine or supernatural powers exist.
- There are different degrees of atheism.
- Soft or neutral atheists do not actively reject the existence of a supernatural being.
- Strong or positive atheists believe there is evidence to support their atheistic views.
- In some cases, soft atheists reject both theism and strong atheism.
- This is because they feel both world views lack proof to support their claims.
- Atheists often turn to science to explain the nature of the universe, rather than relying on faith.

EXAMPLE 2:

- **AGNOSTICISM**
- Agnosticism comes from the Greek, 'a', which means 'without' and 'gnosis' which means 'knowledge'.
- This term was first used by a philosopher called TH Huxley in 1869.
- Agnostics believe that it is not possible to either prove or disprove the existence of God or a supernatural being.
- This refers to uncertainty about God-knowledge.
- Agnostics are skeptical of religious teachings.
- They reject religious doctrine, especially religions that claim to have spiritual knowledge.

NOTE: Other relevant responses must be credited.

(12)

- 4.3
- The Constitution of South Africa is not based on any religious teaching.
 - The Constitution of South Africa promotes equal recognition of all religions.
 - Secularism helped South Africans to design a constitution that promotes religious tolerance.
 - Freedom of religion, belief, thought and opinion are enshrined in the Constitution.
 - In the South African Constitution, religious observances may be conducted at state or state-aided institutions.
 - Everyone has the right to freedom of expression, which include freedom of the press and other media.
 - Religious organisations can have their own media.

NOTE: Other relevant responses must be credited.

(12)

4.4 **YES**

- Secularism promoted the development of the Bill of Human Rights that protect individual's rights.
- Moral values are promoted through the Constitution in secular states.
- There is no need for sacred texts to develop a moral code.
- Families have the responsibility of developing moral values in their children. This can be done independently of religion.
- Secularism has contributed through secular states to end religious wars, thus restoring human dignity.
- Today people of different faiths are able to coexist and help each other during difficult times because one religion does not dominate another.
- Secularism instils a sense of self awakening.
- Some people do not belong to any religion, but still have a deep concern for their soul or spirit, thus developing high moral values.

NO

- Today society relies on the faculty of reason in order to make decisions.
- They ignore the authority of the Supreme Being.
- They rely on reason, evidence and scientific approach in dealing with life.
- They undermine the dictates of sacred texts.
- The majority of youth do not attend religious celebrations and rituals, because these are not based on human reasoning.
- Secular humanists put more emphasis on liberal views of human rights than traditional religious beliefs.
- As a result, there is an increase in social challenges, such as crime and teenage pregnancy, which result from a degeneration of morals.

NOTE: Other relevant responses must be credited.

The candidate should support either YES or NO, not both positions.

(14)
[50]

QUESTION 5

- 5.1
- In the Constitution, there is provision for freedom of religious observance and conscience, which all South Africans must enjoy.
 - This provision is protected by the Human Rights Commission.
 - The National Religious Leaders' forum (NRLF) advises government on religious and cultural matters.
 - Government upholds the Constitution which has created an opportunity for religion education to be offered in schools, through subjects like Life Orientation and Religion Studies.
 - Religion Studies replaced single faith subject.
 - Religion Studies covers different religious traditions.
 - The subject promotes religious tolerance.
 - Minority groups are entitled to religious observances.
 - At public gatherings e.g. parliamentary gatherings, a universal prayer embracing all religions is offered.

NOTE: Other relevant responses must be credited. (12)

- 5.2
- All religions teach the importance of service to humanity.
 - It is the practical way of demonstrating their scripture.
 - It is the way of assisting their affected members.
 - They have resources like buildings and transport.
 - It is their duty to provide spiritual and material assistance to their members.
 - They have broad networks with other organisations all over the world, that assist them with logistical support.

NOTE: Other relevant responses must be credited. (12)

- 5.3
- 5.3.1 **PROCMURA**
- It is the oldest and pioneer interfaith organisation in Africa.
 - The focus is on Christian-Muslim relations.
 - It aims to witness the Gospel within an interfaith environment.
 - It aims to hold interfaith consultation.
 - To promote peace and development in African countries.
 - Most of its programmes are directed to women, youth, education and reconciliation.

(8)

- 5.3.2 **IFAPA**
- It is committed to working together for peace, democracy, unity in the continent.
 - It ensures a decent life for all.
 - It is establishing and registering national chapters.
 - It sends interfaith delegations to conflict risk areas.
 - It participated in the legislative election in Togo.
 - It also includes commissioning of meetings of religious leaders, who take the IFAPA decisions.

NOTE: Other relevant responses must be credited. (8)

- 5.4
- To restore compassion to the centre of morality and religion.
 - Ensure that youth is given accurate and respectful information about traditions, religions and cultures.
 - Return to the principle that any interpretation of scripture that breeds violence, hatred or disdain is illegitimate.
 - Encourage a positive appreciation of cultural and religious diversity.
 - Cultivate an informed empathy with the suffering of all human beings, even those who are regarded as enemies.

(10)
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TOTAL: 150