



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

Junior Cycle Final Examination 2026

Religious Education

Common Level

Wednesday 3 June Afternoon 1:30 - 3:30

360 marks

Examination Number

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Date of Birth

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For example, 3rd February
2005 is entered as 03 02 05

Centre Stamp

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Instructions

There are **three** sections in this paper.

Section A	120 marks	5 questions
Section B	120 marks	5 questions
Section C	120 marks	5 questions

Answer all questions.

The questions do not all carry equal marks.

Write your answers in blue or black pen.

Write your answers in the spaces provided in this booklet. There is space for extra work at the end of Section A, Section B and Section C in the booklet. Label any such extra work clearly with the question number and part.

This examination booklet will be scanned and your work will be presented to an examiner on screen. Anything that you write outside of the answer areas may not be seen by the examiner.

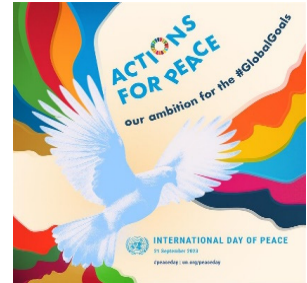
You must return this examination booklet at the end of the examination.

Question 1

Read the account below and answer the question that follows.



September 21st is the International Day of Peace. Peace Day was established by the United Nations in 1981, to encourage the world to work together toward the goal of worldwide peace. People around the world participate in activities and host events. Schools arrange art exhibitions and lessons for students to discuss how different cultures celebrate peace. People can take part in activities like planting trees, setting caged animals free, walking for peace or wearing a symbol of peace.



- (a) From your reading of the above account state **two** ways that people celebrate the 'International Day of Peace'.

1.

2.

- (b) Describe an example of how the founding story of **one** organisation encourages its members to work for peace and reconciliation in the world today.

Name of Organisation:

- (b) Describe an example of how trust in God/gods/the Divine was shown by the founder/earliest followers of **one** of the following religions: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam or Judaism.

Religion:

Question 3

Picture
Number. 1



Picture
Number. 2



- (a) Suggest **one** reason why the people in either of the above photographs can be described as a community of faith.

Picture Number :

(b) Name **two** communities of faith found in Ireland today.

1.
2.

(c) Explain how the beliefs of a community of faith are expressed in **one** example of the activities in which its members engage today.

Question 4

(a) State **one** way the photograph opposite suggests that the people pictured value the wellbeing of others.



(b) Describe **another** example of how people today value the wellbeing of others.

Question 5

- (a) A. The Bible
- B. The Koran/Qur'an
- C. The Torah
- D. The Tipitaka/Tripitaka
- E. The Vedas

Match **one** of the above sacred texts to the religion that it is most associated with from the following list: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam or Judaism.

Insert the letter in the box below.

Sacred Text (Write the letter below for one sacred text given above)	Religion

- (b) Examine **two** ways that valuing the wellbeing of others is encouraged in the teaching of a sacred text associated with one of the following religions: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam or Judaism.

1.

2.

Label all work clearly with the question number and part.

[illegible]

Label all work clearly with the question number and part.

[illegible]

Question 6

- (a) Read the description of a film given below and answer the question that follows.



The film 'Angels' is inspired by the true story of a hairdresser who single-handedly gathers an entire community to help a widowed father save the life of his critically ill young daughter.

From your reading of the above film description complete the following sentences using the words from the box below. One sentence has been completed as an example for you.

community	daughter	father	true story
(i) The film 'Angels' is inspired by the ... true story			
(ii) Gathered an entire ...			
(iii) Helped a widowed ...			
(iv) Saved the life of his critically ill young ...			

- (b) Describe an example of how the teaching of a religion has been expressed in **one** of the following ways: Art Literature Music Tick (✓) **one** box.

☐
☐
☐

Question 7

(a) A - Baptismal Font



B - Buddha Statue



C - Trimurti Shrine



D - Wudu



E - Yad



Match **one** of the above religious objects to the religion with which it is most associated from the following list: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam or Judaism.

Insert the letter in the box below.

Religious Object (Write the letter below for one religious object given above)	Religion

(b) Explain how religious belief is being expressed in the way a religious object is treated by believers in **one** of the following religions: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism.

Religious object:
Religious belief:

Question 8

(a) State how **one** thing from this photograph opposite suggests that these people are praying.



(b) Explain **two** reasons why communal prayer is practised by the members of a community of faith.

Community of faith:
Reason 1:

Reason 2:

- (c) Describe one example of what is involved in daily or weekly prayer for believers in **one** the following religions: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam or Judaism.

Religion:

Question 9

(a) A - Aqiqah



B - Bar Mitzvah



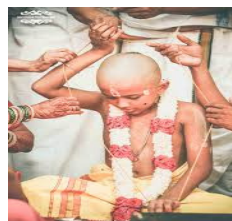
C - Confirmation



D - Jukai/Sugye



E - Sacred Thread



Match **one** of the above religious ceremonies to the religion with which it is most associated from the following list: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam or Judaism.
Insert the letter in the box below.

Religious Ceremony (Write the letter below for one religious ceremony given above)	Religion

- (b) Outline **two** ways that the growth of a person's faith is marked in a ceremony associated with one of the following religions: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam or Judaism.

Religion:
1.
2.

Question 10

- (a) Read the account of a funeral given below and answer the question that follows.

My friend's Dad, Charlie, had a humanist funeral in the function room of our local hotel. As we walked into the room where his coffin was brought by the undertakers I noticed the Beatles music was playing in the background and remembered my friend telling me it was Charlie's favourite music. When everyone had gathered a celebrant stood at the top of the room and spoke about Charlie's life and hobbies. The celebrant spoke about the gifts that were placed beside Charlie's coffin which included a sports' jersey, a golf club and small garden tools, representing his love for sport, golf and gardening. The celebrant read Charlie's favourite poem as we all sat in silence thinking of him. Then some of the family stood up and spoke about the different memories they had of Charlie. Some of the stories were really funny and everyone laughed in appreciation of his wit and character. At the end the family handed out flowers from Charlie's garden and we were all invited to bring them up and lay them on his coffin. Even though it was a sad occasion, there was still a huge amount of happiness in the room and it was a true celebration of Charlie's life.

Outline the meaning of **one** of the actions described in the above funeral account for the family involved.

(b) Explain **two** reasons why rituals play an important part in the lives of people today.

1.
2.

Optional writing space for Section B.

Label all work clearly with the question number and part.

[illegible]

Label all work clearly with the question number and part.

[illegible]

Question 11

Using examples, explain why **two** particular places in Ireland have been associated with Christianity for centuries.

Place 1.

Place 1.

Place 2.

Place 2.

Question 12

- (a) Describe examples of what it means to live a morally good life according to the teaching in **two** of the following religions: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam or Judaism.

Religion 1.	Example:

Religion 2.	Example:

- (b) Explain how **one** understanding of living a morally good life, outlined in part (a) above, is similar and different to how it is seen from a non-religious point of view.

Religion:
Similar:

Religion:
Different:

Question 13

(a) Read the item from the school newsletter below and answer the question that follows.



School Debate 1.30pm in the School Hall
 Take part in our next school debate.
Topic: The introduction of a new mobile phone policy. Pouches are going to be purchased where students can place their mobile phones and have them securely locked away during the school day.

Suggest the arguments you could make for and against the introduction of a school's phone policy as described above.

Argument for phone policy:

Argument against phone policy:

(b) Read the moral issue below and answer the question that follows.



You come across a package that was delivered to your home by mistake. When you look at the label on the package it states that it is an iPad and should have been delivered to one of your neighbours. You have been hoping to get an iPad for a long time but still don't have one. You would really like to keep it. Do you keep it for yourself or notify the person for whom it was intended?



Outline what steps a person could take to help them decide what is the right way to behave in this situation.

Question 14

Family

☐

Friends

☐

Media

☐

Tick (✓) **one** of the above and explain how it could influence a person's idea of what is the right way to behave in a moral situation.

Question 15

- (a) Tick (✓) **one** of the questions about the meaning of life listed below and outline how it could be answered from a religious and a non-religious point of view.

Why are we here?

☐

How should we live?

☐

What happens when we die?

☐

Religious Response:

Non-Religious Response:

- (b)** Describe an example of how the teaching of **one** of the following religions could help believers in their search for the meaning of life: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam or Judaism.

Religion:

Label all work clearly with the question number and part.

[illegible]

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[illegible]

Acknowledgements

Images

- Images on page 3: First Picture: <https://internationaldayofpeace.org/>; Second Picture: <https://tmspress.org/5066/news/world-peace-day-an-international-celebration/>
- Image on page 5: First Picture: <https://www.jpost.com/judaism-holidays/article-760196>; Second Picture: <https://fpmt.org/centres/sangha/>
- Image on page 6: <https://www.anglocelt.ie/2021/03/09/tidy-towns-volunteers-in-local-litter-blitz>
- Image on page 11: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ordinary_Angels_%28film%29
- Images on page 12: First Picture: https://stpatricksskerries.ie/featured_item/baptism-font/; Second Picture: <https://images.app.goo.gl/JiaWpLW9B4YbGN6q9>; Third Picture: [https://wikipedia.org/wiki/trimurti#/media/File:UgrataraTemple2_\(cropped\).jpeg](https://wikipedia.org/wiki/trimurti#/media/File:UgrataraTemple2_(cropped).jpeg); Fourth Picture: <https://images.app.goo.gl/q4ABz7Gb18Kxes3C6>; Fifth Picture: <https://www.quora.com/why-is-a-yad-used-to-touch-the-torah>
- Image on page 13: [https://fthmb.tqn.com/Qi384Gyggs55WaHBi3q6v5I3Mho%3D/1280x854/filters:fill\(auto%2C1\)/123074736-56a536935f9b58b7d0db896c.jpg](https://fthmb.tqn.com/Qi384Gyggs55WaHBi3q6v5I3Mho%3D/1280x854/filters:fill(auto%2C1)/123074736-56a536935f9b58b7d0db896c.jpg)
- Images on page 14: First Picture: <https://images.app.goo.gl/7iK4irGo7oQQYAXUA>; Second Picture: <https://images.app.goo.gl/K1SWQsG6E5USmjtY8>; Third Picture: <https://stjkc.org/sacrament-of-confirmation>; Fourth Picture: <https://brooklynzen.org/2019/10/27/jukai-ceremony-2019>; Fifth Picture: <https://images.app.goo.gl/JsmfWYfxvxxz4ijFA>
- Image on page 21: <https://www.veryondr.com/phone-locking-pouch>
- Images on page 22: First Picture: https://www.refurbed.ie/p/ipad-6-2018/2142/?co=ie&utm_cluster=gradeA&utm_content=ipad-6-2018-2142&utm_group=ipad-6-2018&gad_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAjw74e1BhBnEiwAbqOAJD85Jx7kwWzn8RLhf8ei62si9hoXXR8gFL2LkUqwQNBloV_kHoGUNhoCVvsQAvD_BwE Second Picture: <https://tinybuddha.com/blog/making-a-big-decision-when-youre-not-sure-which-choice-is-right/>

Texts

- Text on page 3: <https://www.internationaldayofpeace.org/get-involved/>
- Text on page 11: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ordinary_Angels_%28film%29

Do not write on this page

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