



Cambridge O Level

HINDUISM

2055/01

Paper 1 Hindu Gods and Festivals

October/November 2021

1 hour 30 minutes



You must answer on the answer booklet/paper.

You will need: Answer booklet/paper

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **three** questions in total, **one** from each section.
- If you have been given an answer booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet.
- Use a black or dark blue pen.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number on all the work you hand in.
- Do **not** use an erasable pen or correction fluid.
- At the end of the examination, fasten all your work together. Do **not** use staples, paper clips or glue.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].

This document has **4** pages.

Section A: Gods

Answer **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2.

- 1 (a) (i) Name the brother of Kartikeya shown in a murti. [1]
- (ii) Give **one** item that Kartikeya is often shown holding. [1]
- (b) Outline **one** story about Kartikeya. [3]
- (c) Explain the significance of the animal vehicle of Shiva. [5]
- (d) 'Shiva is worshipped only by those who have renounced the world.'

To what extent do you agree with this view? You should use evidence from your study of gods in Hinduism to support your argument. [10]

- 2 (a) Give **two** weapons that Durga holds in her hands. [2]
- (b) Describe how Vishnu might be shown in a murti. [3]
- (c) Explain the significance of the animal shown in a murti of Durga. [5]
- (d) 'Durga is the most important deity for Hindus.'

To what extent do you agree with this view? You should use evidence from your study of gods in Hinduism to support your argument. [10]

Section B: Avatars

Answer **either** Question 3 **or** Question 4.

- 3 (a) (i) Name the avatar who appeared as a dwarf. [1]
- (ii) Give **one** item that this avatar holds. [1]
- (b) Outline **one** story about the dwarf avatar. [3]
- (c) Explain why Vishnu appeared as Narsimha. [5]
- (d) 'The animal incarnations of Vishnu are not important.'
- To what extent do you agree with this view? You should use evidence from your study of avatars in Hinduism to support your argument. [10]

- 4 (a) (i) Name the kingdom from which Rama was banished. [1]
- (ii) Name the mother of Rama who was responsible for his banishment. [1]
- (b) Describe **one** event in the life of Krishna. [3]
- (c) Explain how Krishna was the protector of dharma. [5]
- (d) 'Hindus can learn more from Rama than from the Narsimha avatar.'
- To what extent do you agree with this view? You should use evidence from your study of avatars in Hinduism to support your argument. [10]

Section C: Festivals

Answer **either** Question 5 **or** Question 6.

- 5 (a) Name **two** practices of devotees at Cavadi. [2]
- (b) Outline **one** belief associated with Cavadi. [3]
- (c) Explain why many Hindus do not sleep on Maha Shivaratri. [5]
- (d) 'Festivals are not just about fasting.'

To what extent do you agree with this view? You should use evidence from your study of festivals in Hinduism to support your argument. [10]

- 6 (a) (i) Name the festival associated with the birth of Ganesh. [1]
- (ii) Name **one** item offered during the worship of Ganesh. [1]
- (b) Outline **one** story related to Ganesh's birthday. [3]
- (c) Explain why Hindus immerse the murti of Ganesh in water. [5]
- (d) 'Divali (Deepavali) is just about the lighting of lamps.'

To what extent do you agree with this view? You should use evidence from your study of festivals in Hinduism to support your argument. [10]

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