



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission
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S100/19

To: Management Authorities of Second Level Schools Prescribed Titles for Religious Education Journal Work for Junior Certificate 2020 and 2021

1. A new syllabus for Religious Education was introduced in September 2000 and was examined for the first time in the Junior Certificate examination of 2003.
2. The syllabus indicates that the assessment of Religious Education will have two elements – (1) a final written paper, and (2) journal work. The titles for journal work for the Junior Certificate examination of 2020 were issued with Circular S103/18. The titles for journal work for the Junior Certificate examination of 2021 are attached, as are the titles for 2020.
3. These titles are common to Ordinary Level and Higher Level. Candidates are required to submit journal work on **one title only**.
4. The subject will be assessed externally at Ordinary Level and at Higher Level. **At both levels, journal work will account for 20% of the marks. Please note that this mark allocation supersedes that given in the syllabus for Religious Education.**
5. In undertaking journal work candidates may work in groups or undertake a visit or investigation as a whole class. However, each candidate must complete and submit an individual journal for assessment.
6. Guidelines for undertaking journal work are included in *Religious Education - Guidelines for Teachers* which was issued in June 2001.
7. The journal work must be submitted in a standard form in a booklet which will be supplied for that purpose by the State Examinations Commission. Candidates taking the examination in 2020 will be supplied with the booklet in 2019. Candidates taking the examination in 2021 will be supplied with the booklet in 2020.
8. Please bring this circular and the attached lists of journal work titles to the notice of the teachers concerned.
9. Please provide a copy of this circular to the appropriate representatives of parents and teachers for transmission to individual parents and teachers.

Philomena Mulvihill
Executive Officer
January, 2020

Prescribed Titles for Religious Education Journal Work in the Junior Certificate Examination of 2020

Two titles are given for each section of the syllabus. Candidates are required to submit journal work on **one title only**. Candidates may select any **one** from the following list of journal work titles:

Section A. Communities of Faith

- a. 1. An investigation into the ways that **one** religious order in Ireland is serving the needs of people today.
- a. 2. ◆ BUDDHISM ◆ CHRISTIANITY ◆ HINDUISM ◆ ISLAM ◆ JUDAISM
A reflection on how an incident from the founding story of **one** of the above world religions influences the actions of believers today.

Section B. Foundations of Religion – Christianity

- b. 1. An examination of the effect that living under the rule of the Roman Empire had on **two** Jewish religious groups in Palestine at the time of Jesus.
- b. 2. *After Jesus' death some of his disciples helped in developing the First Christian communities.*
A profile of the work done by **one** of Jesus' disciples in the development of a First Christian community.

Section C. Foundations of Religion – Major World Religions

- c. 1. An exploration of the ways that religious commitment is shown by believers in a place of pilgrimage associated with **one** of the following world religions: Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam or Judaism.
- c. 2. Research the life story of *either* the founder *or* a person who played a key part in the development of **one** of the following world religions: Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam or Judaism.

Section D. The Question of Faith

- d. 1. *Different images of God are expressed in light, fire etc.*
An exploration of the understanding of God/gods/the divine that is presented in **two** different images of God associated with a world religion that you have studied for the Junior Certificate.
- d. 2. A survey of the questions about the meaning of life that are expressed in youth culture today through music, art etc.

Section E. The Celebration of Faith

- e. 1. Research what is involved in an example of communal prayer and the purpose it serves within **one** the following world religions: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam or Judaism.
- e. 2. An examination of how religious beliefs are expressed in **two** features of a building associated with one of the following world religions: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam or Judaism.

Section F. The Moral Challenge

- f. 1. An evaluation of the importance placed on working for peace and reconciliation in the teaching of **one** of the following world religions: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam or Judaism.
- f. 2. A case study about the role informing a person's conscience plays in their growth towards moral maturity.

Prescribed Titles for Religious Education Journal Work for the Junior Certificate Examination 2021

Two titles are given for each section of the syllabus. Candidates are required to submit journal work on **one title only**. Candidates may select any **one** from the following list of journal work titles:

Section A. Communities of Faith

- a. 1. A case study about the work being done by **one** community of faith in Ireland today to promote tolerance and respect between people who hold different religious beliefs.
- a. 2. An investigation into the main strengths and weaknesses in how **one** community of faith in Ireland today is serving the needs of people.

Section B. Foundations of Religion – Christianity

- b. 1. An analysis of what Jesus taught about love of neighbour in the Kingdom of God through **two** of his parables.
- b. 2. A case study about the impact that being called to be a disciple of Jesus can have on the life of a Christian in the world today.

Section C. Foundations of Religion – Major World Religions

- c. 1. A profile of the distribution of believers from **one** of the following world religions across different parts of the world today: Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam *or* Judaism.
- c. 2. Research the records or sources of information for the founding story of **one** of the following world religions: Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam *or* Judaism.

Section D. The Question of Faith

- d. 1. ● MONEY ● RELATIONSHIPS
A survey about the extent to which **each** of the above can help people today find answers in their search for the meaning of life.
- d. 2. A profile of the stages involved in the growth of a mature faith.

Section E. The Celebration of Faith

- e. 1. An examination of the meaning and purpose of **two** religious rituals associated with one of the following world religions: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam *or* Judaism.
- e. 2. An exploration of the ways that the importance of prayer was stressed by a person associated with the spiritual tradition of **one** of the following world religions: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam *or* Judaism.

Section F. The Moral Challenge

- f. 1. A survey about what influences teenagers today when deciding if something is right or wrong.
- f. 2. An investigation into the ways that forgiveness and reconciliation are encouraged in **one** of the following world religions: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam *or* Judaism.