



Cambridge O Level

HINDUISM

2055/01

Paper 1 Hindu Gods and Festivals

May/June 2024

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) Give **two** features that might be shown on a murti of Durga. [2]
- (b) Outline the meaning of Ganesha's vehicle. [3]
- (c) Explain Hindu beliefs about the concept of the Trimurti. [5]
- (d) 'Shiva is the most powerful of the gods.'

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) (i) Give the role that Brahma has in the Trimurti. [1]
- (ii) Give **one** iconographic feature of a murti of Brahma. [1]
- (b) Outline **one** story about Ganesha's elephant head. [3]
- (c) Explain why a murti of Shiva might show him dancing. [5]
- (d) 'It is not important to worship each member of the Trimurti separately.'

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) Name **two** people who chose to go to the forest with Rama when he was exiled. [2]
- (b) Outline **one** event from the life of Rama. [3]
- (c) Explain why some Hindus might choose to worship the child Krishna. [5]
- (d) 'It is better to worship Vishnu than his avatars.'

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) Give **two** reasons why Hindus believe Vishnu might choose to incarnate as an avatar. [2]
- (b) Outline **one** story about a human avatar. [3]
- (c) Explain why stories about the human avatars might be significant to Hindus. [5]
- (d) 'There are no avatars present in the world today.'

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) (i) Name **one** deity associated with Divali (Deepavali). [1]
- (ii) State **one** thing that Hindus celebrate on Divali (Deepavali). [1]
- (b) Outline **one** story about the origins of Divali (Deepavali). [3]
- (c) Explain why clay murtis are made and destroyed for Ganesh Chaturthi. [5]
- (d) 'There is no need for Hindus to celebrate festivals.'
- 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 a festival observed by staying awake all night. [1]
- (ii) Name a deity who is associated with that festival. [1]
- (b) Outline **one** belief associated with Cavadi. [3]
- (c) Explain why lamps are lit during Divali (Deepavali). [5]
- (d) 'It is essential for Hindus to know the story of why a festival is being celebrated.'
- 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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