



Cambridge O Level

HINDUISM

2055/01

Paper 1 Hindu Gods and Festivals

May/June 2023

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.

6427943660

Section A: Gods

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

- 1 (a) (i) Name the god in the Trimūrti who is also known as the destroyer. [1]
- (ii) Name **one** item this god might be shown holding in a murti. [1]
- (b) Outline **one** story about Ganesha. [3]
- (c) Explain how beliefs about Ganesha are shown in a murti. [5]
- (d) 'Ganesha is only worshipped by Hindus to achieve success.'
- 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) Name **two** items that might be held by Brahma in a murti. [2]
- (b) Describe the meaning of the mace held by Vishnu. [3]
- (c) Explain the significance of the animal vehicle of Vishnu. [5]
- (d) 'The concept of the Trimūrti expresses important beliefs in Hinduism.'
- 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) What is meant by the term avatar? [2]
- (b) Outline the story of Prahlada. [3]
- (c) Explain what Hindus can learn from animal avatars. [5]
- (d) 'The significance of avatars for Hindus is more in what they teach than in their actions.'

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) Name the foster parents of Krishna. [2]
- (b) Outline why Vishnu descends as avatars. [3]
- (c) Explain why some Hindus worship Krishna. [5]
- (d) 'Hindus can learn more from Krishna than from Vamana.'

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) State **two** reasons why a Hindu might carry a cavadi. [2]
- (b) Outline **one** belief associated with Maha Shivaratri. [3]
- (c) Explain the significance of pilgrimage during some Hindu festivals. [5]
- (d) 'Only a sannyasa (renouncer) needs to observe Maha Shivaratri.'

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) Give **two** things that a Hindu family might do to celebrate at Ganesh Chaturthi. [2]
- (b) Outline **one** belief associated with Divali (Deepavali). [3]
- (c) Explain why Cavadi is not celebrated by all Hindus. [5]
- (d) 'It is not the events of the stories that are celebrated at Hindu festivals but the values they portray.'

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]

Permission to reproduce items where third-party owned material protected by copyright is included has been sought and cleared where possible. Every reasonable effort has been made by the publisher (UCLES) to trace copyright holders, but if any items requiring clearance have unwittingly been included, the publisher will be pleased to make amends at the earliest possible opportunity.

To avoid the issue of disclosure of answer-related information to candidates, all copyright acknowledgements are reproduced online in the Cambridge Assessment International Education Copyright Acknowledgements Booklet. This is produced for each series of examinations and is freely available to download at www.cambridgeinternational.org after the live examination series.

Cambridge Assessment International Education is part of Cambridge Assessment. Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which is a department of the University of Cambridge.