



# basic education

Department:  
Basic Education  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

## **NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE**

**GRADE 12**

**RELIGION STUDIES P2**

**NOVEMBER 2024**

**MARKING GUIDELINES**

**MARKS: 150**

**These marking guidelines consist of 15 pages.**

**QUESTION 1**

- 1.1
- Xenophobia is the fear, hatred and distrust of strangers or foreign groups.
  - Racism is discrimination and prejudice against people based on their race or ethnicity.

**NOTE: Other relevant answers must be credited.** (4)

- 1.2
- The xenophobic or racist person may fear or feel uncomfortable to mingle with strangers or other nationalities/races.
  - Avoid certain geographic areas.
  - Hate people from certain countries.
  - People tend to think their group/race is superior compared to others.
  - Hostility toward people from other cultures/races.

(8)

**NOTE: Other relevant answers must be credited.**

- 1.3
- **Rapid globalisation:**
  - Globalisation led to national boundaries becoming transparent. This has led to increased migration to certain countries.
  - **Cultural factors:**
  - Culture includes identifying people through dress code, language and nationalism.
  - **Material or economic factors:**
  - People become afraid that foreigners will take their job opportunities and steal their resources.
  - **Interactive factors:**
  - Inhabitants do not feel safe when they interact with people of different cultures.
  - **Media stereotyping:**
  - Media has a major impact on people's attitudes. When foreigners are shown in a negative light, xenophobic attacks increase.
  - **Lack of education and diversity:**
  - People need to be educated about foreign cultures.
  - **Racism**
  - This is a broader form of discrimination which can lead to xenophobia.

**NOTE: Other relevant answers must be credited.** (Only 4) (4 x 4) (16)

- 1.4
- Religious communities must organise counselling sessions within their communities.
  - Sermons must address racism and xenophobia.
  - Sunday school classes can be used to address racism and xenophobia.
  - Religious communities must create awareness of how marginalisation, discrimination and oppression can affect an individual's thoughts.
  - They must broaden people's experiences by promoting cultural tourism.
  - Exposure to the wider world may reduce the symptoms of xenophobia.
  - Encourage people to read books that can improve knowledge of different cultures. This will reduce fear of the unknown.
  - Organise a 'Cultural Day' where people from different cultures can teach one another about their cultures.

**NOTE: Other relevant answers must be credited.** (10)

**1.5 EXAMPLE 1: CHRISTIANITY**

- The Bible teaches that God created all humanity in His image.
- The Bible does not indicate anywhere that one nationality or ethnic group is superior to another.
- According to Christian teachings, there is no difference between Jew and gentile.
- Heaven will include people from 'every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages.' Rev 7:9-12
- The Old Testament has instructions to care for the foreigner and aliens among the people. Lev 19:34
- The Old Testament teaches that God is not partial and His plan of salvation is for all people. Ps146:8/Acts10:34-35
- The New Testament makes God's saving of the gentiles patently obvious. Jesus came because 'God so loved the world.' John3:16/Gal 3:28
- The Bible also teaches that no wrong or violence should be done to the foreigner, the fatherless or the widow. Deut. 10:19; 23:7
- Jesus Christ spoke to a Samaritan woman, which was taboo. He showed the gospel transcends human boundaries.

**EXAMPLE 2: HINDUISM**

- The teachings of Hinduism lay emphasis on the practice of Dharma, the essence of which is, 'do not do unto others that which you would not wish for yourself.'
- Hinduism promotes love and mutual respect for all people.
- It teaches that the Divine is equally present in all.
- All beings are connected through this shared divine presence.
- Hinduism forbids prejudice and discrimination against anyone, even people of a different race or culture.
- Hindus think of all living creatures as equal, so they show them respect. This will include people of various races, religions and culture.
- 'Dana' and 'seva' are actions which many Hindus follow. 'Dana' is helping others through charity irrespective of race or culture, and 'seva' is serving others without wanting back.

**NOTE: Other relevant answers must be credited.**

**(12)**  
**[50]**

**QUESTION 2****2.1 DIVINE INSPIRATION**

- It refers to the breath (power and knowledge) of an extra-ordinary being that has been breathed into a person.
- The extra-ordinary being or power comes into an ordinary person, taking over that person and inspiring him/her with divine knowledge.
- Divine inspiration is a very significant normative source in various religions.
- People who stood face to face with God or a divine power are believed to have had divine inspiration.
- The founders of various religions were inspired to establish the different religions. Examples are Abraham, Moses, the Prophet Muhammed and the Apostles.

**CONTEMPORARY INSPIRATION**

- Contemporary inspiration means current inspiration (taking place in this era).
- Religious leaders and other ordinary members of religions who are being inspired during this era experience contemporary inspiration.
- Contemporary inspiration is used as a guidance to the followers of a particular religion.
- Today we still find people who get inspired to write books and hymns. These individuals usually commit themselves to a religious life and experience inspiration from time to time. (2 x 6)

(12)

**NOTE: Other relevant answers must be credited.****A maximum of EIGHT marks may be awarded for either divine or contemporary inspiration.****2.2 EXAMPLE 1: JUDAISM**

- Like in many religions, the original inspiration was largely spread first by oral traditions.
- Such oral traditions were transmitted faithfully for hundreds and even thousands of years.
- The primary scripture in Judaism is collectively known as the Tanach.
- The Tanach is made up of the Torah, Nevi'im and Ketuvim.
- The first group of the primary scriptures began to enjoy canonical status by the 5<sup>th</sup> century BCE.
- The second group of primary scriptures gained canonical status by the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BCE.
- The third group of primary scriptures was finally accepted into the canon in the last decade of the 1<sup>st</sup> century CE.
- The corpus of these scriptures was decided by the scholars after careful deliberation of the revealed word of God.
- The Apocryphal were not included as divinely revealed books.
- The canon was thereafter supported by the Talmud.
- The Talmud was completed by the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> century CE.
- On the third tier, were further detailed rabbinical explanations of the Torah.
- The most important of these rabbinical explanations were written down (Midrash).

**EXAMPLE 2: HINDUISM**

- In Hinduism the original sound of the spoken word is awarded absolute priority.
- The oral teachings and written texts originated from inspiration that can be traced back 4 000 years ago.
- The original inspiration was transmitted orally for centuries and even millennia before the advent of heard writings.
- The 'heard' writings are distinguished from secondary, derived and humanly composed writings, such as philosophical interpretations.
- This distinction, however, is not absolute.
- The composition, commentaries and interpretations were later included in the sacred tradition of the Vedas.
- The Brahmanas and Upanishads later became compositions, commentaries and interpretations of the earlier collections.
- As time went by, there was development from the original to the derived, to the different classical philosophical schools.
- Examples of the classical philosophical schools that have developed are Nyaya, Vaishesika, Sankhya, Purva-Mimamsa, Yoga and Vedanta.
- Over the years there have been more innovative and authoritative commentators and re-interpreters.
- Examples of the innovative and authoritative commentators are Shankara and Vivekananda.

**NOTE: Other relevant answers must be credited.****(12)**

2.3

- **Grammar and historical context**
- This means that the writings must be understood within the context of the time and circumstances in which the text was written.
- **Clearest meaning**
- The meaning that is clearest to the reader should be considered.
- **Plan, purpose and context**
- The writing plan or structure of the whole document must be considered.
- An extract must be seen as part of the whole.
- E.g. Is the writing in the form of poetry or prose?
- **Meaning of words**
- The meaning of words often changes over time and context.
- For the correct interpretation, the original meaning must be considered.
- **Figurative language**
- Figurative language is used widely in sacred texts.
- This must be identified as such, so that it is not interpreted literally.
- Figurative language requires the application of all the other hermeneutical principles for correct interpretation.
- **Other sacred texts**
- One sacred text may be used to interpret other sacred texts from the same religion.
- This is because there is consistency between the teachings of the religion and its sacred text.

**NOTE: Marks must be awarded for any THREE of the above.****(3 x 4)****(12)**

- 2.4
- The establishment of the Parliament of the World's Religions took place in Chicago in 1893.
  - Its aim was to create a global dialogue of faiths.
  - In 1993 the Parliament was again held in Chicago to work together on world issues, as well as creating a declaration titled 'Towards a Global Ethic.'
  - In 1999 the Parliament in Cape Town highlighted the issue of HIV and Aids.
  - In 2004 the Parliament met in Barcelona, Spain, and focused on religious violence, safe water, refugees and eliminating external debt in developing countries.
  - In 2007 the focus was on the Millennium Development Goals for eradicating poverty.
  - In 2009 the Parliament met in Melbourne, Australia and dealt with aboriginal reconciliation, sustainability and global climate change.
  - The Parliament has always selected common social challenges, which has encouraged religions to work together.

**NOTE: Other relevant answers must be credited.**

(14)

**[50]**

**QUESTION 3**

3.1 3.1.1

**EXAMPLE 1: ISLAM**

- Sunni Muslims
- Shi'a Muslims

**EXAMPLE 2: CHRISTIANITY**

- Roman Catholic Church
- Eastern Orthodox Church
- Protestantism

(4)

3.1.2(a)

**EXAMPLE 1: ISLAM  
SUNNI MUSLIMS**

- Sunni refers to following the 'Sunnah' (example) of the Prophet Muhammad.
- The Hadith narrated by the companions of the Prophet have equal status to those narrated by his family members.
- The Sunni sect believes that all the teachings contained in the Books of Hadith are equally important.
- Sunnis follow the teachings of scholars from the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> centuries.

**SHI'A MUSLIMS**

- Shi'a means 'partisan' or separate party.
- The Hadith narrated by the companions of the Prophet have less significance than those narrated by his family members.
- The Shi'a follow the teachings and opinions only of living scholars.
- They believe that the last caliph from the Prophet's family was hidden in a cave and will one day reappear as leader. He is referred to as 'Imam'.

**EXAMPLE 2: CHRISTIANITY****ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

- This branch sees itself as the original church of Christ.
- The Holy Spirit comes from God the Father and the Son.
- They believe that the Pope is the supreme earthly authority of the Roman Catholic Church.
- They believe that the Pope is infallible.

**EASTERN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

- According to the Eastern Orthodox Church, the Holy Spirit comes from God the Father only, and not the Son.
- They believe that they are the rightly guided church.
- They teach that no one has the power to change Christian teachings and traditions.
- They see the Bible as canonical.

**PROTESTANTISM**

- In Protestantism, the Bible has more authority than the Pope.
- Protestants teach that rituals are less important than belief.
- They believe that faith is the key to salvation.
- Salvation is a gift given freely through the work of Jesus Christ, who died for sinners.

**NOTE: Other relevant answers must be credited.**

**A maximum of SIX marks may be awarded for each branch.**

(12)

3.1.2(b)

**EXAMPLE 1: ISLAM****SUNNI MUSLIMS**

- Religious practices are strictly in accordance with the Sunnah of the Prophet, as laid down in the Hadith.
- In Sunni Islam, an 'Imam' is simply a leader of a congregational prayer.
- Imam does not denote formal training in Sunni Islam.
- Muttah (temporary marriage) is forbidden.

**SHI'A MUSLIMS**

- Imams are only descendants of the Prophet Muhammad, whom they believe to be divinely appointed.
- The shrine of Husein in Karbala is an important pilgrimage for the Shi'a.
- Muttah (temporary marriage) is allowed.
- They practise self-mutilation, e.g., at the commemoration of the tragedy of Karbala.
- They are allowed to combine the five daily prayers to three.

**EXAMPLE 2: CHRISTIANITY****ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

- There is regular attendance of the Holy Mass.
- Confirmation is a sacrament and all members must undergo the training before they are confirmed.
- There is veneration of the cross.
- The followers are expected to confess their sins to a priest.
- They ordain their priests.
- Nuns and monks do not marry.
- There is no dissolution of marriage.
- They practise last rites before the death of a person.



**EASTERN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

- They express piety by kissing images of saints, called icons.
- They see the entire Bible as canonical.
- Ordained priests can get married.
- They use incense during the Holy Mass.

**PROTESTANTISM**

- Attendance of Sunday services is very important in Protestantism.
- Holy Communion services are also practised in many forms of Protestantism.
- Speaking in tongues is a characteristic of the Pentecostal/Charismatic churches.
- They have revival tent crusades with the gospel to reach the lost.
- Healing services are also common.
- Charity is seen as an outward sign of inner grace, and not as 'buying one's way to heaven'.

**NOTE: Other relevant answers must be credited.**

(12)

**A maximum of SIX marks may be awarded for each branch.**

**3.1.3****EXAMPLE 1: ISLAM**

- The Sunni-Shi'a split started after the death of the Prophet Muhammad in 632CE.
- A debate ensued as to who the Prophet's successor would be.
- The Sunni group believed that Abu Bakr, the prophet's father-in-law, should be the successor or caliph.
- The Shi'a believed that the Prophet's son-in-law, Ali ibn Talib, should be the first caliph.
- While this was a political difference, the disagreement escalated over the interpretation of certain Hadith (teachings of the Prophet) and laws.
- Most Sunnis accept the Hadith collections of Imam Bukhari.
- The Shi'a gives more importance to the Hadith narrated by the family of Prophet Muhammad (Ahl al Bayt).

**EXAMPLE 2: CHRISTIANITY**

- After the crucifixion of Christ, the church was unified but had two main subgroups in the early years.
- These were the Eastern (Constantinople) and Western (Rome) traditions.
- In about 1054, the two subgroups officially separated.
- The supreme authority of the Pope in Rome was challenged by Constantinople.
- The other difference was the status of the Holy Spirit in the Trinity.
- The Rome-based church was called the Roman Catholic Church.
- The eastern branch was referred to as Eastern Orthodox Church, or Greek/Russian Orthodox Church.
- In the 15<sup>th</sup> century, the Roman Catholic Church was challenged by reformers, or Protestants.
- The major disagreement was over the supreme authority of the Pope and the corruption by Catholic office bearers.
- Another major issue was the Catholic practice of penance, whereby a person's sins were pardoned by making a donation to the church.
- Each of the three major branches has further subdivisions.

**NOTE: Other relevant answers must be credited.**

(12)

**3.2 EXAMPLE 1: TAOISM****NO**

- According to Taoism, humans are responsible for all suffering.
- In order to avoid suffering, they must align themselves with the Tao.
- People are good and perfect to be in harmony with Tao, other people and within themselves.
- Human beings must also be flexible to the way of the Tao.
- Human beings are expected to modify their desires and plans to be in line with the TAO.

**EXAMPLE 2: CHRISTIANITY****YES**

- In the Book of Job, we find a story where a righteous man endures great sufferings because of Satan.
- Jesus healed the sick people who were suffering because of evil spirits.
- Some Christian churches exorcise evil spirits from possessed individuals.
- Due to an apparent increase in the influence of evil, pastors are currently invited to schools to render spiritual support.
- According to Christian teachings, evil and suffering are caused by the devil.

**NOTE: Other relevant answers must be credited.**

(10)  
[50]

**QUESTION 4**

- 4.1
- Secularism means a separation of power between state and religion.
  - In the 16<sup>th</sup> century, Martin Luther set in motion certain changes that led to the splintering of Christianity into Catholic and Protestant groups.
  - This led to decades of religious wars in Europe.
  - At the time, the Church was very influential, both politically and socially.
  - Kings, emperors and nobility used the church to establish their power.
  - In return, religious leaders also influenced rulers to promote their interpretation of beliefs.
  - Religion and politics were intertwined, and wars continued.
  - People started to seek for a state where there would be religious tolerance.
  - Intellectuals of the time came to a conclusion that religion was divisive rather than uniting.
  - A government which was based purely on reasoning and on an understanding of human nature was then the solution.
  - The Prince of Orange was one of the first persons to advocate a split between church and state.
  - Thus government was divorced from religion and secularism came into being.
  - **NOTE: Other relevant answers must be credited.**
- (12)
- 4.2
- It creates a collective sense of fairness and people will choose this over religion.
  - There is less judgement of people in society. Morality is not dependent on religious values.
  - In affluent Western societies, there is a little need for prayer.
  - People lead comfortable lives and do not need a god.
  - Religion has been blamed for numerous wars, particularly in Europe, e.g. the Spanish Inquisition and the Crusades. This caused people to lose faith in religion.
  - The Protestant movement set in motion numerous religious wars in Europe, with each church and king trying to impose a particular brand of Christianity on others.
  - Unacceptable conduct by religious leaders causes disillusionment among their followers, e.g. child abuse by Catholic priests, exploitation of the poor by Hindu priests.
  - The growing influence of science also diminished the power of religion.
  - **NOTE: Other relevant answers must be credited.**
- (12)
- 4.3
- In a secular state there is peace because all religions are recognised as being equal.
  - There is no religion that is officially favoured by the state.
  - It promotes religious freedom.
  - Secularism embraces various value systems and, as a result, it promotes religious tolerance.
  - In a secular constitution, all religions may practise and worship in their own ways but must not infringe on the rights of others.
  - In state functions, such as the inauguration of the president, all religions participate. This shows religious tolerance.
  - Religion cannot dictate terms regarding the laws of the state.
  - **NOTE: Other relevant answers must be credited.**
- (14)

**4.4 EXAMPLE 1:**

- **AGNOSTICISM**

- This term was first used by the philosopher, TH Huxley, in 1869.
- The word 'agnosticism' comes from Greek: 'a' meaning 'without' and 'gnosis' meaning 'knowledge'.
- This refers to uncertainty about God-knowledge.
- Agnostics believe that it is not possible to either prove or disprove the existence of a God/supernatural being.
- Agnostics are sceptical of religious teachings.
- They also argue that humans cannot comprehend such a thing as a divine power.
- They reject religious doctrine, especially religions that claim to have intricate knowledge of the divine.

**EXAMPLE 2:**

- **MATERIALISM**

- As a secular worldview, materialism believes that matter is the only reality.
- Materialism teaches its followers that there is no supernatural realm.
- This worldview is opposed to the religious worldviews that are based on the beliefs that affirms the existence of any form of spiritual reality.
- Materialism teaches that nothing exists but nature.
- According to materialism, any being that is viewed as beyond nature is a creature of imagination.
- Materialism forbids its followers to subject themselves to any spiritual dependency.
- New terms were developed from materialism, namely, dialectical materialism and historical materialism.
- In dialectical materialism matter is regarded as the fundamental cause of everything.
- Historical materialism: economics and the relationships between workers and owners as the basic structure in the community are referred to as historical materialism.
- However, contemporary physicists and neuroscientists are challenging the materialist explanation of reality.

**NOTE: Other relevant answers must be credited.**

(12)  
[50]

**QUESTION 5**

- 5.1
- It is not known what existed before the Big Bang.
  - The Big Bang Theory is the scientific account of how the universe came into being.
  - It teaches that there was an enormous explosion from which the different planets were formed.
  - These eventually formed into clusters of matter and energy.
  - The clusters continued to condense in a lumpy way and formed the vast collection of stars called galaxy.
  - This happened about 13,7 billion years ago.
  - According to the scientific theory the earth was formed about 4,5 billion years ago.
  - No god or supreme being is mentioned.

**EXAMPLE 1: CHRISTIANITY**

- In the beginning only God existed.
- The Creator then makes the universe from nothing.
- God created the universe in six days and He rested on the seventh day.
- God created the perfect world through the power of His Word.
- He created the sun and the moon as the regulators of time.
- Christianity mentions a Supreme Being called God as a creator.

**EXAMPLE 2: HINDUISM**

- In Hinduism, the Creator exists in either active or passive state.
- The passive state is a state of rest, when nothing happens.
- After a very long time the Creator becomes active again.
- This is when part of the universe becomes different from other parts, and creation begins.
- To Hindus, the universe itself is the Creator.
- In Hinduism the Creator is neither male nor female.
- Hindus believe that the Big Bang theory is an alternative way of explaining how the universe came about.
- Hinduism has no problem with the Big Bang Theory.

**NOTE: Other relevant answers must be credited.**

**A maximum of SIX marks may be allocated for either the Big Bang theory OR the religious account.**

(12)

- 5.2
- The scientific explanation is called Darwin's theory of evolution.
  - The theory proposes that all life evolved from primitive forms and continues to adapt and evolve.
  - It asserts that humans have evolved from an ancestor shared with apes.
- The theory consists of the following ideas:
- Species contain a great variety of minor differences.
  - In the fight for survival, the adapted variations will be favoured while those that are not fit will struggle to survive.
  - This applies to change in humans as well.
  - In the fight for survival, humans adapted and gradually changed from apes to human beings.
  - The process of change and adaptation happened over a very long period of time.
  - Science offers no explanation of creation as part of a divine plan.

**NOTE: Other relevant answers must be credited.**

(14)

5.3      5.3.1      **HINDUISM**

- Hindus have no problem with the theory of evolution.
- They believe that the universe is based on evolution.
- They believe that they have a more advanced theory of evolution than the scientific one.
- The scientific theory is limited.
- It focuses only on the physical perspective of creation.
- Hindus believe that if one lives a good life one will evolve through many rebirths until one is physically and spiritually advanced.
- Ultimately, one will achieve liberation from physical death and be one with God.
- Hindus believe that there is an intelligent designer behind everything, like evolution of humanity and of the universe.

(12)

**5.3.2 CHRISTIANITY**

- In contrast, there is no connection between the traditional Christians and the theory of evolution.
- Traditional Christians only accept that God created Adam and Eve, as it is narrated in the Book of Genesis.
- They argue that there is no evidence that human beings evolved from apes.
- God created perfect human beings and gave them authority to rule and manage the world.
- However, there is a connection between the theory of evolution and liberal/progressive Christians.
- They argue that everything in the universe was created by God.
- The process of evolution is also part of the Divine Plan. (It is referred to as 'theistic evolution'.)
- Progressive Christians accept the idea of guided/theistic evolution, and add that the creation myth must be seen as symbolic.
- They admit that there were some stages of creation which involved evolution, as explained by scientists.

**NOTE: Other relevant answers must be credited.****(12)**  
**[50]****TOTAL: 150**