

ISEB
Independent Schools
Examinations Board

DISCOVER NEW CE TWILIGHT CPD SESSIONS

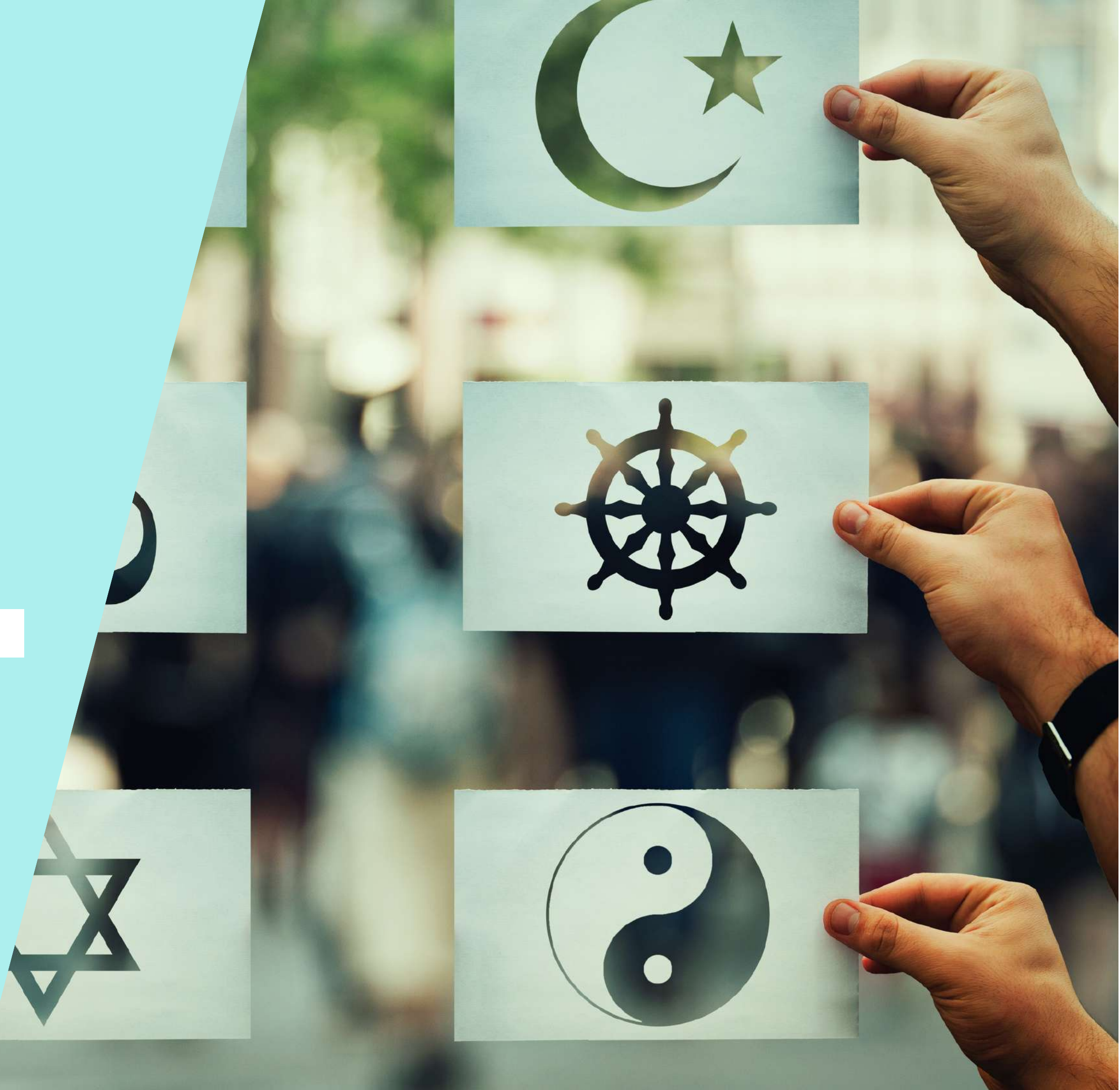
**TPR SPECIFICATIONS
MICHAEL WILCOCKSON**

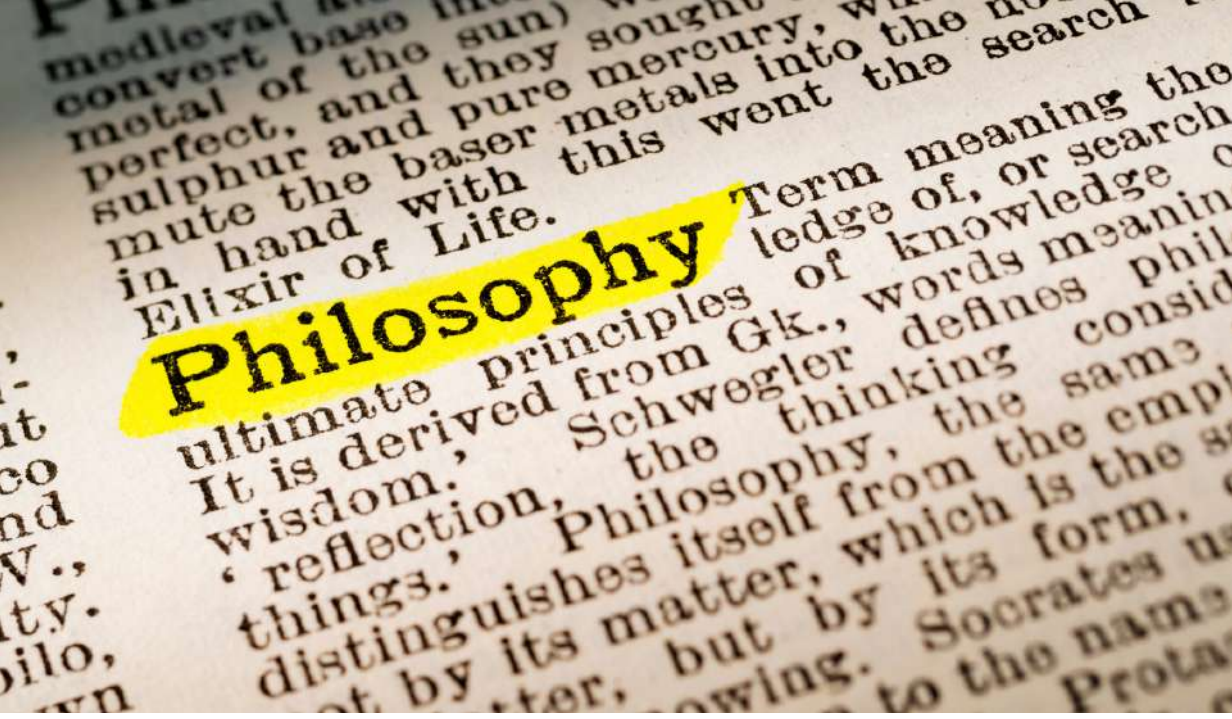
TUESDAY 25TH MAY | 17:00 BST

ISEB 13+ TPR

MICHAEL
WILCOCKSON

Tuesday 25th May 2021





Theology, Philosophy & Religion

A NEW VERSION OF A TRADITIONAL SUBJECT

Why a new specification?

Now is the time to ensure that CE RS takes account of recent changes to RS GCSE and A Level subject criteria.

For example pupils are now expected to have studied **two religions at GCSE** and the new specifications will have a higher religious knowledge/understanding.



Why a new specification?

Philosophy, either as part of religious studies or studied separately, is increasingly more popular at senior school.

Many senior heads of department veer away from traditional theological (biblical) teaching and comment that CE religious studies sometimes puts pupils off the subject.



Why a new specification?



The new Religious Studies GCSE: philosophy of religion; ethics; study of two religions; texts

The new Religious Studies A Level: four elements: philosophy of religion; ethics; study of religion; scriptural texts

Why a new specification?

A change of name to Theology, Philosophy and Religion (TPR) indicates a shift in focus and recognition of the academic nature of the subject.

Integrate Roman Catholicism (old syllabus B) into one specification

This is in line with:

- [Oxford University](#) which has renamed its undergraduate degree course to [Theology and Religion](#)
- [Cambridge University Tripos](#) is now [Theology, Philosophy of Religion and Religion](#)



TPR's USP

“the skills offered by TPR are especially significant in contemporary plural 21st Century societies, enabling pupils to be independent and enthusiastic learners, engaging in a subject which has direct relevance to their lives. The focus on evaluating and debating issues and responses opens up tremendous learning opportunities.”

TPR aims are to...

- develop **skills** relevant to the study of theology, philosophy and religion
- **think**, weigh up evidence and **evaluate** theological, philosophical and religious responses to moral issues
- **identify**, investigate and respond to **fundamental questions** of life raised by religion, philosophy and human experience, including questions about the meaning and purpose of life
- **develop theological skills** through the critical study of **foundational biblical texts** of the Judeo-Christian tradition
- develop **philosophical skills** to reason, argue and evaluate claims made by religious and non-religious belief systems
- **acquire knowledge** and develop understanding of the beliefs, values and traditions of **one or more religion(s)**
- **consider and evaluate** the influence of the beliefs, values and traditions associated with **one or more religion(s)**



The Specification

Theology,
Philosophy and
Religion

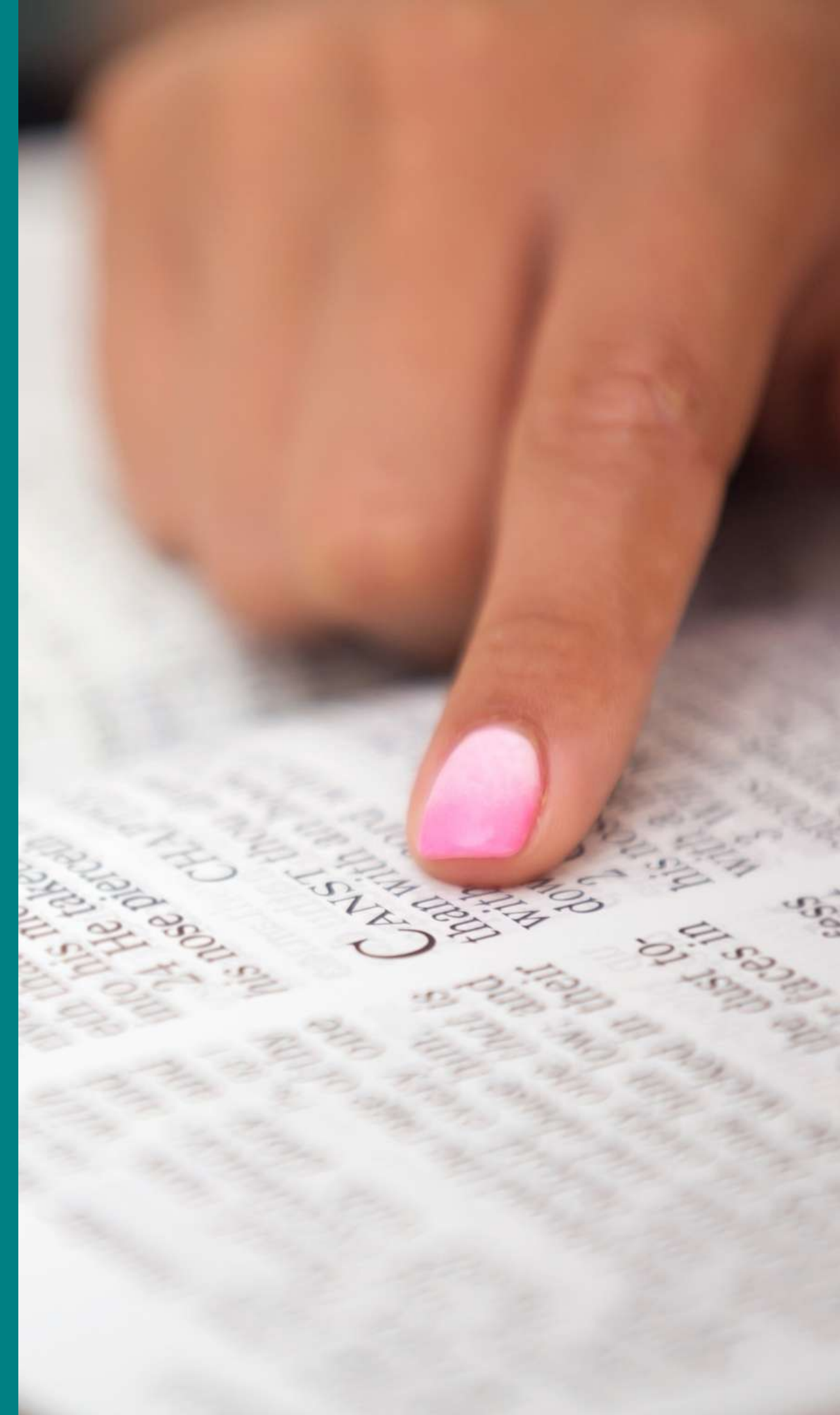
Format and teaching strategy

	Section 1 Theology	Section 2 Philosophy	Section 3 Religion	
Topic 1	God's Relationship with the World	Great Thinkers and Their Ideas	Beliefs and Teachings	Abstract
Topic 2	Human Responses to God	Ethics	Practices and Ceremonies	Practical

- The examination paper provides two questions per Topic area. Each Section has a choice of four questions
- Examination tests two questions from **any two Sections**
- In order to reduce amount of material covered teachers may choose to cover **one Topic** area from each Section
- In Section 3 teachers may wish to choose **one Topic** area from two religions

Section 1

Theology



Theology themes

Topic 1 God's Relationship with the World

The theology of the Divine Initiative selected texts cover the following themes:

- the nature of God
- the nature of revelation
- God's relationship with creation
- God's commands and call to worship
- the miraculous
- The divine nature and mission of Jesus
- Jesus' fulfilment of OT hope
- God's plans of salvation

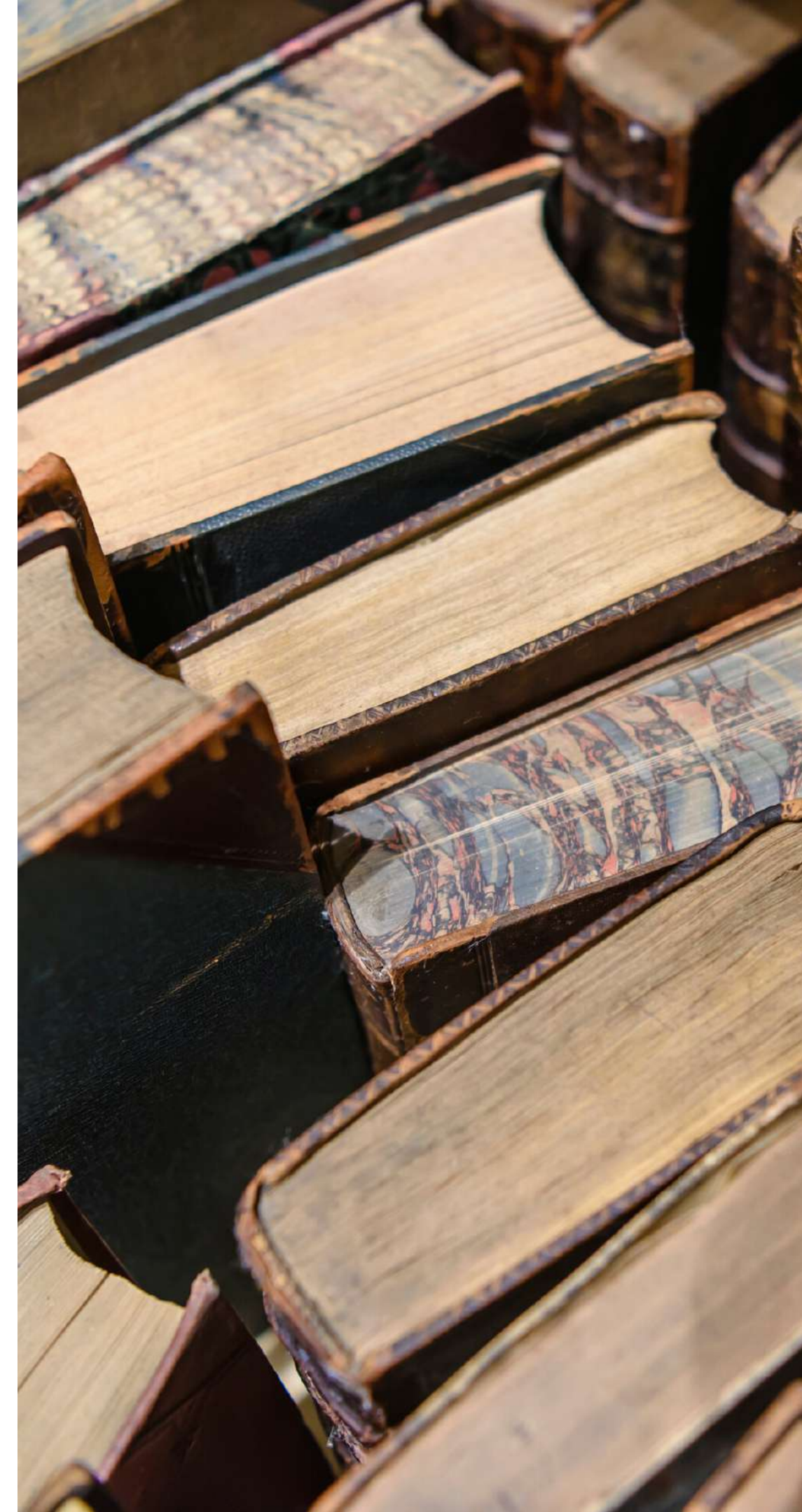
Topic 2 Human Responses to God

The theology of the Human Responses to God selected texts cover the following themes:

- human nature
- human responses to God and His commands
- human responses to creation
- requirements of discipleship and responding to God
- Different types of vocation
- the nature of belief, faith and commitment
- Consequences of faith and disobedience

Topic 1 texts

- Creation: Genesis 1:1-24
- The call of Moses: Exodus 3:1-17
- Passover: Exodus 12: 1-13
- Crossing the Red Sea: Exodus 14: 10-31
- Elijah: at Zarephath: 1 Kings 17:7-24
- Elijah at Carmel: 1 Kings 18:19-39
- The Paralyse Man: Mark 2: 1-12
- The Calming of the Storm: Mark 4: 35-41
- The Feeding of the Five Thousand: Mark 6:30-44
- The Transfiguration: Mark 9: 2-13
- The Crucifixion: Mark 15: 22-39
- The Resurrection: John 20: 24-29





Topic 2 texts

- Adam and Eve (Genesis 2:4-3:24)
- Cain and Abel: Genesis 4: 1-16
- Abraham: Genesis 12:1-9 and Genesis 22: 1-19
- David: David and Bathsheba: 2 Samuel 11: 1-17; 12: 1-14

- The Call of the Disciples: Luke 5: 1-11
- The Good Samaritan: Luke 10:25-37
- The Lost Son: Luke 15: 11-32
- Zacchaeus: Luke 19: 1-10
- The Centurion: Matthew 8:5-13
- The Rich Young Man: Mark 10: 17-31



Section 2

Philosophy

Philosophy themes

Topic 1 Great Thinkers and Their Ideas

- what is a persuasive argument?
- what is real and what is illusion?
- can God's existence be proved?
- do the ends justify the means?
- what is happiness?
- what is justice?
- is civil disobedience justified?

Topic 2 Ethics

- whether there is existence after death
- whether the use of war is justified
- what is punishment for?
- what are the limits of freedoms?
- who are the marginalised and how should they be treated?
- are humans morally responsible for their environment?

Candidates may study these topics from any religious tradition or none.
Candidates will be expected to know and understand the philosophical arguments for and against each topic.

Topic 1: Great Thinkers and Their Ideas

Plato's life and thought: Key moments in his life. Plato's parable of the cave and its key symbols: shadows, prisoners, journey out of the cave, the sun, treatment of the returning prisoner

David Hume's life and thought: Key moments in his life. Arguments for God's existence and Hume's objections: argument from design, beauty purpose and order; objections: many gods, apparent design, random design

John Stuart Mill's life and thought: Key moments in his life. Mill's ethical principles: the greatest happiness of the greatest number; ends and means

Martin Luther King's life and thought: Key moments in his life. Martin Luther King's teaching on: justice and fairness, the 'beloved community'





Topic 2: Ethics

Life and death: Life after death: nihilism, resurrection, reincarnation; ethics of war and pacifism

Punishment: Aims of punishment; ethics of imprisonment and capital punishment

Prejudice, discrimination and freedom: Reasons for and against freedom of speech, actions and beliefs; ethical issues surrounding the treatment of the marginalised in society.

The environment: The relationship of humans, animals and the material world; ethics of human treatment of the environment

Section 3

Religion



Religion

The religion element of the TPR Syllabus develops knowledge and understanding in the study of one religion chosen from six religions.

Each religion has two topic areas:

- Topic 1 Beliefs and Teachings
- Topic 2 Practices and Ceremonies

Some schools may decide to prepare candidates for two religions.

- They may do this by studying one Topic area from two religions rather than both of the designated Topics for one religion.



Judaism

Islam

Catholicism

Hinduism

Buddhism

Protestantism

Religion

- A. Buddhism
- B. Christianity
- C. Hinduism
- D. Islam
- E. Judaism
- F. Roman Catholic Christianity
- G. Sikhism

A. Buddhism

Topic 1 Buddhist Beliefs and Teachings

- Buddha
- Dharma: Three Marks of Existence/Three Universal Truths
- Dharma: Four Noble Truths
- Dharma: Eightfold Path
- Dharma: Threefold Way
- Ethical Teachings

Topic 2 Buddhist Practices and Ceremonies

- Meditation
- Buddhist places of worship
- Festivals and ceremonies



An aerial photograph of a town at sunrise. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow over the scene. In the foreground, a large, white, multi-story church building with a prominent cross on its roof is visible. The town is built on a hillside, and a river or canal flows through the lower part of the image. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue.

F Roman Catholic Christianity

Topic 1 Roman Catholic Beliefs and Teachings

- God and the world
- The Trinity
- Beliefs and teachings relating to Jesus Christ
- Sacraments

Topic 2 Roman Catholic Practices and Ceremonies

- Different forms of worship
- Prayer and life of the Church
- Pilgrimage
- Festivals and the Liturgical Year

Scheme of Assessment

Examination is 60 minutes long

- No coursework
- Each Section contains four questions.
- Two questions per Topic per Section.
- Questions are subdivided into three parts (a-c) to test knowledge, understanding and evaluation.

Two questions to be answered from ANY TWO SECTIONS
(one from each Section)

- Candidates may restrict their study to either Topic 1 or Topic 2 in each Section



Common Academic Scholarship Examination (CASE)

Section 1 – six essay style questions; answer one question. Broadly based on TPR Syllabus Section 2 (philosophy)

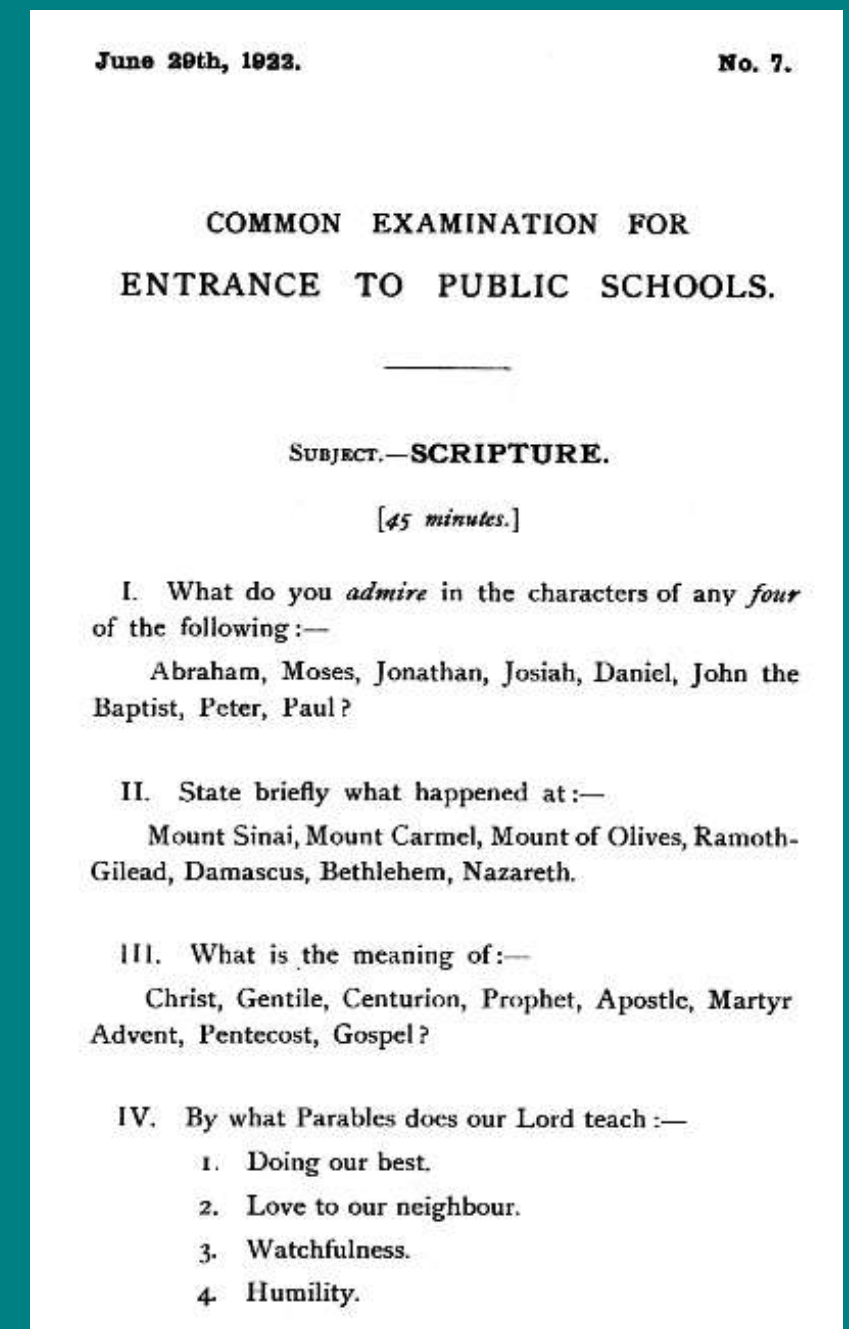
Section 2 – nine structured questions; answer one question. Based on TPR Syllabus Sections 1 and 2 (Theology and Religion)

Examination paper

Different from the present exam paper:

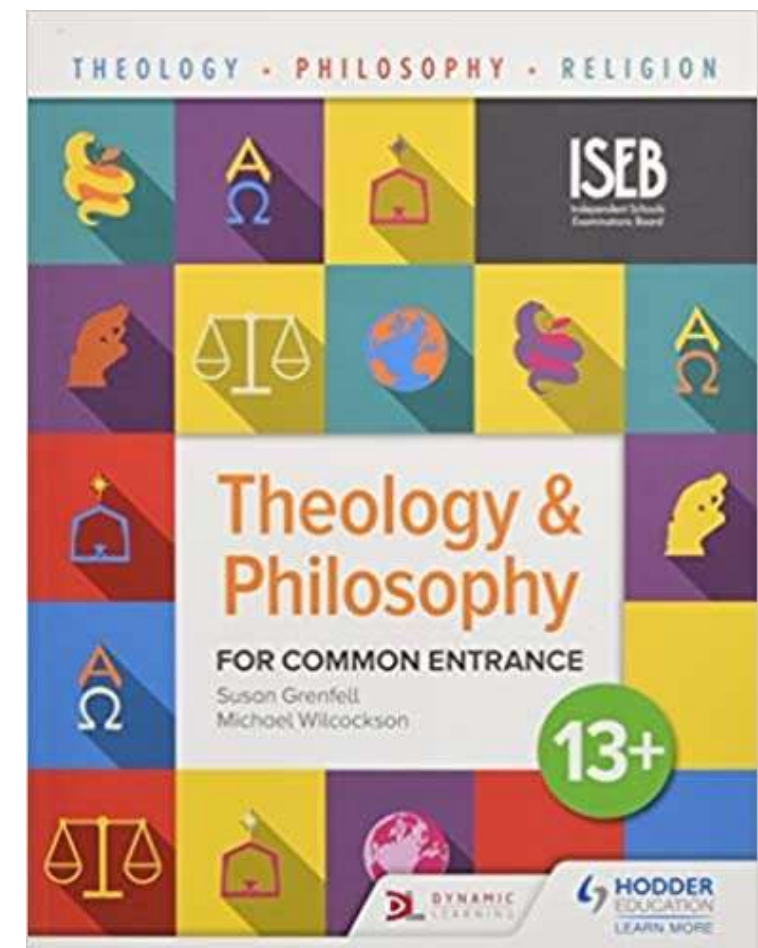
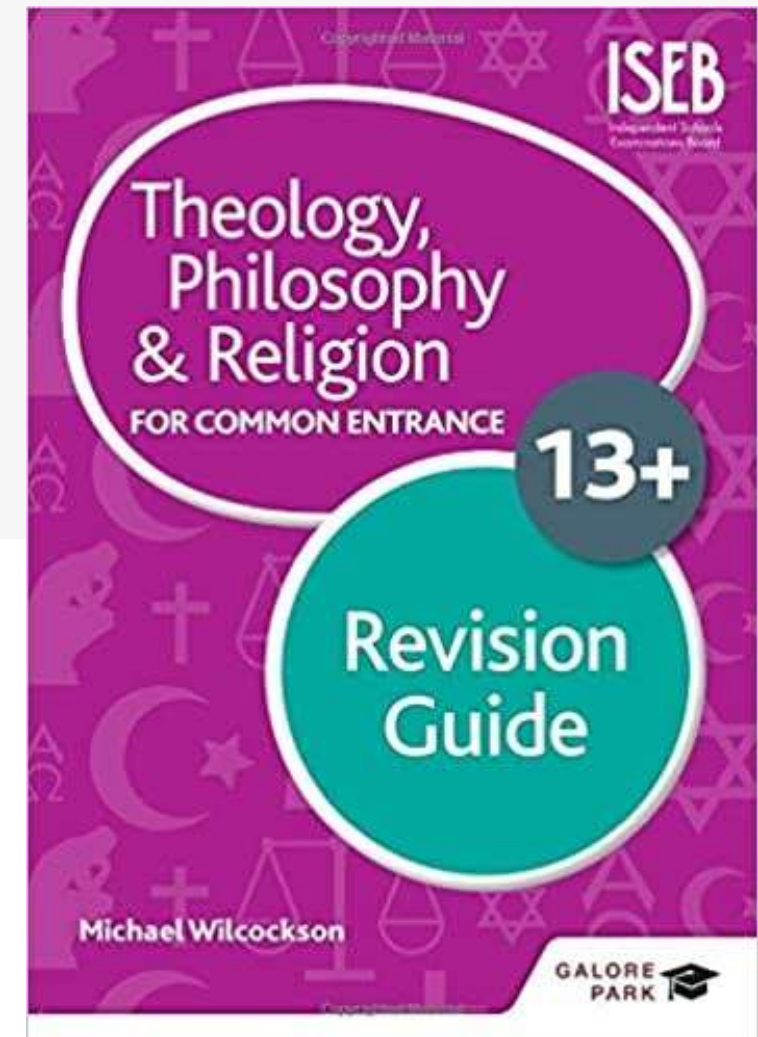
- 3 elements per question not 4 (no 'a' question)
- All Sections equally weighted
- All three assessment objectives tested in each question
- Mix of specific and generic questions per Section

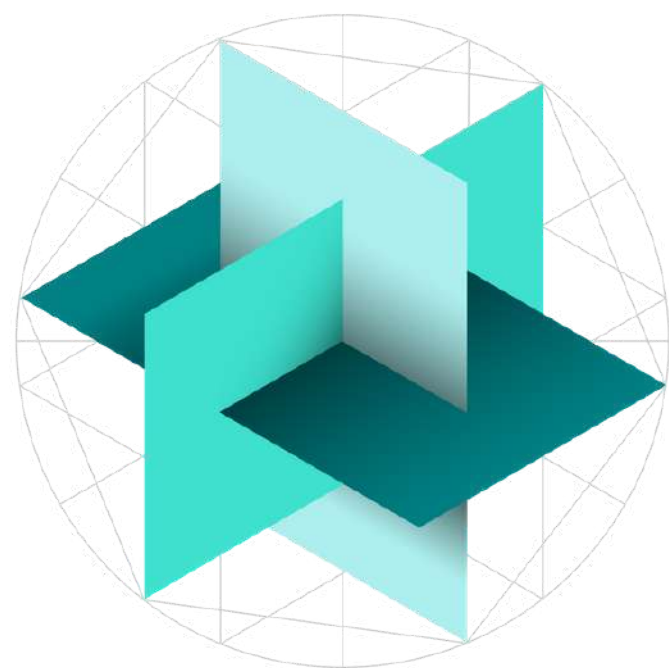
... and different from 1922



Resources

- TPR pupil's text book 1 – Theology and Philosophy (Hodder, 2018)
- TPR pupil's text book 2 – Religion (Hodder, 2018)
- TPR pupil's teacher's resource book 1 – Theology and Philosophy (Hodder, 2018)
- TPR pupil's teacher's resource book 2 – Religion (Hodder, 2018)
- TPR exam Questions and answers book (Galore Park, 2019)
- TPR Revision Guide (Galore Park, 2019)





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