

# Ontario Grade 12 Religion Practice Exam (Sample)

## Study Guide



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**SAMPLE**

## **Questions**

- 1. What does the Exodus summary notably address?**
  - A. The construction of the Tabernacle**
  - B. The Israelites' journey through the desert**
  - C. The creation of the world**
  - D. The fall of mankind**
- 2. Which event is NOT summarized in the book of Genesis?**
  - A. The Fall**
  - B. The Exodus from Egypt**
  - C. The Flood**
  - D. The Creation**
- 3. Which of the following represents a common belief about the afterlife?**
  - A. Reincarnation**
  - B. A single eternal life**
  - C. No afterlife**
  - D. A universal afterlife**
- 4. What does the Eucharist commemorate?**
  - A. The creation of the world**
  - B. The resurrection of the dead**
  - C. The death and resurrection of Jesus**
  - D. The birth of Christ**
- 5. Which of the following is NOT one of the 7 deadly sins?**
  - A. Greed**
  - B. Pride**
  - C. Patience**
  - D. Wrath**
- 6. In which part of the Bible are the Beatitudes primarily found?**
  - A. The Book of Revelation**
  - B. The Book of Genesis**
  - C. The Gospel of Matthew**
  - D. The Gospel of John**

- 7. What challenges may arise from religious pluralism?**
- A. Increased certainty about beliefs**
  - B. Questions regarding truth and authenticity**
  - C. Unification of all faiths into one belief system**
  - D. Reduction of disputes among religions**
- 8. What does the term "Gospel" mean?**
- A. A story of personal hardship**
  - B. Good news or good telling**
  - C. A historical narrative of events**
  - D. The teachings of a philosopher**
- 9. How is the concept of 'soul' viewed in various religions?**
- A. As a physical form of existence**
  - B. As the immortal essence of a person**
  - C. As irrelevant to one's identity**
  - D. As purely a mythological idea**
- 10. Which of the following is NOT one of the Seven Catholic Social Teachings?**
- A. Life and Dignity of the Human Person**
  - B. Promotion of Individual Wealth**
  - C. Care for God's Creation**
  - D. Solidarity**

## **Answers**

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- 1. A**
- 2. B**
- 3. A**
- 4. C**
- 5. C**
- 6. C**
- 7. B**
- 8. B**
- 9. B**
- 10. B**

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## **Explanations**

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**1. What does the Exodus summary notably address?**

- A. The construction of the Tabernacle**
- B. The Israelites' journey through the desert**
- C. The creation of the world**
- D. The fall of mankind**

The summary of the Exodus notably addresses the Israelites' journey through the desert. This topic highlights the liberation of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, their experiences as they traveled toward the Promised Land, and the challenges they faced along the way, including their reliance on God for guidance and sustenance. It is a pivotal narrative in Jewish and Christian traditions, illustrating themes of faith, perseverance, and divine intervention. In contrast, other choices focus on different aspects of biblical history. The construction of the Tabernacle, while significant, is more specifically a part of the wider narrative of Exodus and comes after the initial journey is outlined. The creation of the world and the fall of mankind are stories from the Book of Genesis, which precedes the narrative of Exodus and focuses on the origins of the world and humanity rather than the experiences of the Israelites during their exodus from Egypt.

**2. Which event is NOT summarized in the book of Genesis?**

- A. The Fall**
- B. The Exodus from Egypt**
- C. The Flood**
- D. The Creation**

The event that is not summarized in the book of Genesis is the Exodus from Egypt. The book of Genesis primarily focuses on the creation of the world, early human history, and the patriarchs of the Israelites, including stories such as the Creation, the Fall of Adam and Eve, and the Flood. Exodus, which recounts the liberation of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt and their journey to the Promised Land, is detailed in the second book of the Bible, called Exodus. Therefore, since this event takes place after the narrative covered in Genesis, it clearly distinguishes itself from the other significant events that are included in Genesis.

**3. Which of the following represents a common belief about the afterlife?**

**A. Reincarnation**

**B. A single eternal life**

**C. No afterlife**

**D. A universal afterlife**

Reincarnation represents a common belief about the afterlife in several religious and philosophical traditions, particularly in Hinduism and Buddhism. This belief holds that after death, the soul or spirit is reborn into a new body, continuing a cycle of life, death, and rebirth until achieving spiritual enlightenment or liberation. Reincarnation emphasizes the idea that our actions in one life influence our future existences, reflecting the moral consequences of one's actions (karma). While the other beliefs mentioned also pertain to concepts of the afterlife, they do not represent the same widespread and culturally significant framework as reincarnation does in certain major world religions. For instance, the idea of a single eternal life is often associated with certain branches of Christianity, while the belief in no afterlife is typically found in agnostic or atheistic perspectives, and a universal afterlife suggests an inclusive, often more modern interpretation that may not align with traditional teachings of many established religions. Thus, reincarnation is clearly a prominent and distinct belief that has a rich narrative and philosophical depth in its interpretation of life and existence beyond death.

**4. What does the Eucharist commemorate?**

**A. The creation of the world**

**B. The resurrection of the dead**

**C. The death and resurrection of Jesus**

**D. The birth of Christ**

The Eucharist commemorates the death and resurrection of Jesus, which is central to Christian belief and liturgy. During the celebration of the Eucharist, also known as the Holy Communion or the Lord's Supper, participants remember and reflect upon the sacrificial death of Jesus on the cross and the significance of his resurrection. This sacrament serves as a way for believers to partake in the grace of this central event in Christianity, emphasizing the notion that Jesus' sacrifice and victory over death provide the foundation for salvation and eternal life for humanity. The other options, while significant aspects of the Christian story, do not represent the specific focus of the Eucharistic celebration. The creation of the world, the resurrection of the dead, and the birth of Christ are important events in Christian theology, but the Eucharist specifically commemorates the passion and triumph of Jesus, which serves as the heart of the Christian faith.

**5. Which of the following is NOT one of the 7 deadly sins?**

- A. Greed**
- B. Pride**
- C. Patience**
- D. Wrath**

The concept of the seven deadly sins encompasses specific moral vices that are often considered to be fundamental to human misbehavior and spiritual downfall in Christian teachings. These sins include greed (excessive desire for material wealth), pride (an inflated sense of one's own worth), envy, lust, sloth, wrath (extreme anger), and gluttony (overindulgence). Patience, on the other hand, is not part of this list. In fact, it is generally considered a virtue in many religious and philosophical teachings. Patience embodies qualities such as tolerance, endurance, and the ability to wait without becoming frustrated, which are seen as commendable traits that contribute positively to an individual's character and spiritual development. Understanding the distinction between these sins and virtues is important, as it highlights the moral framework within which many religions operate. Thus, identifying patience as the correct answer reflects awareness of these fundamental religious teachings.

**6. In which part of the Bible are the Beatitudes primarily found?**

- A. The Book of Revelation**
- B. The Book of Genesis**
- C. The Gospel of Matthew**
- D. The Gospel of John**

The Beatitudes are primarily found in the Gospel of Matthew, specifically in the Sermon on the Mount, which comprises Matthew chapters 5 to 7. The Beatitudes are a collection of teachings attributed to Jesus that express the values of the Kingdom of Heaven and outline the characteristics of those who are blessed by God. This section of Scripture is significant because it introduces key themes of Jesus' teachings, such as humility, mercy, and righteousness. The Gospel of Matthew is known for its focus on Jesus' authority as a teacher and its connection to Old Testament prophecies. The Beatitudes serve to set the tone for Jesus' message and highlight the values that stand in contrast to worldly standards. Understanding the context and content of the Beatitudes is essential for grasping the moral and spiritual teachings of Christianity. In contrast, the other books mentioned do not contain the Beatitudes. The Book of Revelation focuses on apocalyptic visions and prophecies, while the Book of Genesis provides the creation narrative and the early history of humanity. The Gospel of John, while rich in theology and emphasizing the nature of Christ, does not include the Sermon on the Mount or the Beatitudes.

## 7. What challenges may arise from religious pluralism?

- A. Increased certainty about beliefs
- B. Questions regarding truth and authenticity**
- C. Unification of all faiths into one belief system
- D. Reduction of disputes among religions

The correct answer highlights a significant challenge posed by religious pluralism, which refers to the coexistence of multiple religions and beliefs within a given society. When numerous faiths are present, individuals and communities often face intense scrutiny concerning their own beliefs. This leads to deep questions about what is true and what is authentic in a world where contrasting views exist side by side. Religious pluralism can create an environment where people are prompted to examine their beliefs more critically, often leading to doubts or reassessments of what they previously accepted as absolute truth. The presence of diverse religious perspectives can challenge the notion of a singular path to understanding or spirituality, prompting discussions that explore the legitimacy of various traditions and doctrines. This dynamic is particularly relevant in multi-faith societies, where individuals may encounter others with vastly different religious views. Such interactions can stimulate dialogue and promote understanding, but they can also lead to confusion or conflict over beliefs, especially if individuals feel their faith is threatened or invalidated by contrasting worldviews. In contrast, the other options suggest outcomes that either imply a simplification of complex religious landscapes or an unrealistic harmonization of differing beliefs, which is not typically a challenge associated with the reality of pluralism. Religious pluralism often does not lead to increased certainty

## 8. What does the term "Gospel" mean?

- A. A story of personal hardship
- B. Good news or good telling**
- C. A historical narrative of events
- D. The teachings of a philosopher

The term "Gospel" directly translates to "good news" or "good telling." In a religious context, particularly within Christianity, the Gospels refer to the first four books of the New Testament—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John—each of which conveys the message of Jesus Christ and his teachings. This "good news" encompasses the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, which is central to Christian belief and theology. The significance of this term lies in its foundational role in Christianity; it implies a joyful message of salvation and hope that is shared with believers and non-believers alike. The Gospels serve not only as historical accounts but primarily as proclamations of faith and encouragement for adherents of the religion. This understanding is crucial for anyone studying religious texts and their implications in spiritual and cultural contexts.

## 9. How is the concept of 'soul' viewed in various religions?

- A. As a physical form of existence
- B. As the immortal essence of a person**
- C. As irrelevant to one's identity
- D. As purely a mythological idea

In many religious traditions, the concept of 'soul' is understood as the immortal essence of a person, which signifies the core of an individual's identity and existence beyond the physical body. This perspective highlights the belief that the soul continues to exist after death, often entering a different realm or state of being, which reflects the idea of an ongoing journey or existence beyond earthly life. For example, in many branches of Christianity, the soul is seen as eternal and destined for heaven or hell based on one's earthly actions and faith. Similarly, in Hinduism and Buddhism, the soul (often referred to as Atman in Hinduism) is integral to the cycle of rebirth and is considered the true self that transcends the physical manifestation. This understanding contrasts with the other options. The notion of the soul as a physical form of existence undermines its spiritual and non-material attributes found in most religious thought. Viewing the soul as irrelevant to one's identity neglects the significant role the soul plays in defining selfhood and moral accountability in many belief systems. Lastly, dismissing the soul as purely a mythological idea overlooks the profound significance that many cultures and religions attribute to the concept, which often influences ethical frameworks and existential beliefs.

## 10. Which of the following is NOT one of the Seven Catholic Social Teachings?

- A. Life and Dignity of the Human Person
- B. Promotion of Individual Wealth**
- C. Care for God's Creation
- D. Solidarity

The promotion of individual wealth is not part of the Seven Catholic Social Teachings because this framework emphasizes the importance of community, social justice, and the common good rather than individual accumulation of wealth. Catholic Social Teachings focus on the dignity of every person, the importance of community and solidarity among individuals, stewardship of the environment, and the need for economic systems that serve the well-being of all, particularly the poor and marginalized. In contrast, the other choices present principles that align with Catholic Social Teaching. The Life and Dignity of the Human Person emphasizes that every human's life is precious and must be respected. Care for God's Creation recognizes our responsibility to protect and sustain the Earth as a gift from God. Solidarity stresses the interconnectedness of all people and the responsibility to work for social reform and justice.