

External assessment 2022

Stimulus book

Study of Religion

General instruction

- Work in this book will not be marked.

Stimulus 1

Romans 12:14–18

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

Source: *The Holy Bible* 1989, New Revised Standard Version.

Context statement

This extract is from the letter of St Paul to the early Christian community in Rome and was written about 25 years after Jesus's death. He wrote the letter to communicate key messages from the Gospels as he was unable to visit the community.

Stimulus 2

Tosefta Sanhedrin 1.9, cited in Lorberbaum

This content has not been published for copyright reasons.

Source: Lorberbaum, Y 2011, *Disempowered King: Monarchy in Classical Jewish Literature (Vol. 9)*.

Context statement

Written during the late 2nd and early 3rd century CE, the Tosefta Sanhedrin is a supplementary explanation of Jewish laws and court proceedings in the Sanhedrin, or assembly of Jewish rabbis.

Stimulus 3

Galatians 3:28

There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

Source: *The Holy Bible* 1989, New Revised Standard Version.

Context statement

This extract is from the letter of St Paul to the early Christian communities in Galatia, Turkey. It is believed to have been written in the middle of the 1st century CE.

Stimulus 4

Bhagavad Gita 18:23–25 — The Tri-guna

This content has not been published for copyright reasons.

Source: Chapple, CK (ed.) 2009, *The Bhagavad Gita: Twenty-fifth — Anniversary Edition*.

Context statement

The Bhagavad Gita is the Hindu story of the conversation between Prince Arjuna and his charioteer Krishna (an avatar of the God Vishnu) about the nature of dharma. The Tri-guna are three qualities or attributes of human nature that can determine the way people behave and the consequences of these behaviours.

Stimulus 5

Hair offering during Hindu Birth ritual

This content has not been published for copyright reasons.

Source: Vedic Temple of Virginia 2011, *Hair Offering*.

Context statement

This ritual forms part of the eighth Hindu samskara rite of passage called Chudkarana or Mundana. The age this occurs at depends on the family and Hindu tradition. The rite is conducted for both boys and girls.

Stimulus 6

Covenantal naming ceremony from the Reform movement

This content has not been published for copyright reasons.

Source: Siegel, SR 2012, 'Jewish Welcoming Ceremonies for Newborn Girls: The modern development of a feminist ritual', *Modern Judaism: A Journal of Jewish Ideas and Experience*.

Context statement

Siegel analyses the historical development of birth rituals for newborn girls in diverse Jewish traditions. She identifies the importance of recognising women as part of the Covenant, placing these rituals within the context of the Torah and Halacha (Jewish law).

Stimulus 7

Summary of Khmer Rouge control of Cambodia, 1975–1979

Actions	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Educated people, ethnic minorities, religious adherents, protestors against the Khmer Rouge all declared ‘enemies of the state’• Families forcibly separated• Child soldiers used• ‘Re-education facilities’ used to torture and execute ‘enemies of the state’• Farming only acceptable employment• Cities declared corrupt and city inhabitants ‘lesser citizens’• No freedom of movement, personal ownership or personal privacy• Schools, religions and hospitals forbidden	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Genocide of approximately 1.8 million ‘enemies of the state’• Over 25% of the population died or disappeared• Widespread food shortages caused malnutrition and starvation• Thousands disabled by torture and forced labour• Average life expectancy dropped to 19 years• Cities destroyed• Industries destroyed

Context statement

The Khmer Rouge was a Cambodian political organisation that seized control of Cambodia in 1975. The United Nations has recognised that the psychological, social and economic effects of this government continue to impact the Cambodian people. In 1997, the Khmer Rouge Trial Task Force and Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (also known as the Tribunal) was formed in cooperation with the United Nations to put former Khmer Rouge officials on trial for crimes against humanity and seek justice for their victims.

Stimulus 8

Buddhist understandings from ‘Truth, representation and the politics of memory after genocide’

This content has not been published for copyright reasons.

Source: Hinton, AL 2008, ‘Truth, representation and the politics of memory after genocide’, *People of Virtue: Reconfiguring religion, power and moral order in Cambodia today*.

Context statement

Hinton discusses how Buddhist adherents in Cambodia have sought to heal after surviving the genocide and pursuing justice through the Tribunal.

Context statement

Stimulus 9, 10 and 11 refer to Dr Eboo Patel, the founder and executive director of Interfaith Youth Core, a non-profit organisation committed to promoting interfaith cooperation and dialogue. Raised in the Ismaili tradition of Shia Islam, Dr Patel is an active member of his faith community. He has a PhD in religious sociology from Oxford University. Dr Patel was appointed by Barack Obama to be a member of the President's Advisory Council on Faith-Based Neighbourhood Partnerships in 2009.

Stimulus 9

Acts of faith — Pluralism

This content has not been published for copyright reasons.

Source: Patel, E 2007, *Acts of Faith: The story of an American Muslim, the struggle for the soul of a generation*.

Stimulus 10

Interview with Eboo Patel — The same God

This content has not been published for copyright reasons.

Source: Ball, J 2020, 'Eboo Patel: A New Chapter', *St Anthony Messenger*.

Stimulus 11

Extended interview with Eboo Patel — Different nations and tribes

This content has not been published for copyright reasons.

Source: Religion and Ethics Newsweekly (PBS) 2007, *Eboo Patel Extended Interview*.

References

Stimulus 2

Lorberbaum, Y 2011, *Disempowered King: Monarchy in classical Jewish literature (Vol. 9)*, Bloomsbury Publishing.

Stimulus 4

Chapple, CK (Ed.) 2009, *The Bhagavad Gita: Twenty-fifth — Anniversary Edition*. State University of New York Press, pp. 684–686.

Stimulus 5

Vedic Temple of Virginia 2011, *Hair Offering*, www.vedictempleofvirginia.org/hairoffering.html.

Stimulus 6

Siegel, SR 2012, 'Jewish Welcoming Ceremonies for Newborn Girls: The modern development of a feminist ritual', *Modern Judaism — A Journal of Jewish Ideas and Experience*, vol. 32, no. 3, pp. 335–358.

Stimulus 8

Hinton, AL 2008, 'Truth, Representation and the Politics of Memory after Genocide', *People of Virtue: Reconfiguring religion, power and moral order in Cambodia today*, Nias Press, Denmark.

Stimulus 9

Patel, E 2007, *Acts of Faith: The story of an American Muslim, the struggle for the soul of a generation*, Beacon Press, United States.

Stimulus 10

Ball, J 2020, 'Eboo Patel: A new chapter', *St Anthony Messenger*, www.franciscanmedia.org/st-anthony-messenger/eboo-patel-a-new-chapter.

Stimulus 11

Religion and Ethics Newsweekly (PBS) 2007, *Eboo Patel Extended Interview* (transcript), 13 April, www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics/2007/04/13/april-13-2007-eboo-patel-extended-interview/4652/.



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