



SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION

DIVINITY

2010

Time: 1 hour

Name:

School:

Instructions:

Please read these instructions carefully.

All candidates must answer **TWO** questions. Question 1 is **COMPULSORY**. Please choose **ONE** from Questions 2, 3 and 4. You are advised to spend about 30 minutes on each question. Answers to be written on separate sheets provided – please ensure that you write your name and school on each sheet.

All candidates must answer this question:

1) Please read this passage from the Book of Nehemiah carefully.

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, 'Amen, Amen', lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, 'This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.' For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, 'Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.'

i) What do we learn about the role of a Hebrew priest from this passage?

[10 marks]

ii) Ezra seems to have been leading the people in an act of public worship. How did the people react?

[10 marks]

iii) Thinking about Christian worship today, what connections might be made with this passage from the Old Testament?

[10 marks]

Candidates must answer ONE of these three questions:

EITHER

2) *I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.'* (Martin Luther King)

- i) What does Martin Luther King mean by the phrase 'all men are created equal'?

[10 marks]

- ii) What action needs to be undertaken in the 21st Century to achieve equality for all?

[10 marks]

OR

3) You have been asked to represent the school debating team. The motion is:

"God is dead."

Make sure you give at least three clear arguments supporting this motion, as well as three clear arguments which argue against the motion.

[20 marks]

OR

- 4) In our lifetimes, British citizens have fought in conflicts around the world, including Afghanistan and Iraq. Many of these people call themselves Christians. The following quotation is from Jesus' teaching in the Sermon on the Mount.

"But I say to you, Do not resist an evil-doer. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also." (St Matthew 5: 39)

- i) In what circumstances might it be right for a Christian to go to war?

[10 marks]

- ii) How do you think followers of other religions feel about war and violence? Give some examples.

[10 marks]