



Government of **Western Australia**
School Curriculum and Standards Authority



ATAR course examination, 2018

RELIGION AND LIFE

SOURCE BOOKLET

Question 1 Source

Read Source 1 and then answer Question 1 in the Question/Answer booklet.

Source 1

The results of the latest national Census (2016) reveal we're a religiously diverse nation, with Christianity remaining the most common religion (52 per cent of the population). Islam (2.6 per cent) and Buddhism (2.4 per cent) were the next most common religions reported. Nearly a third of Australians (30 per cent) reported in the Census that they had no religion in 2016.

The religious makeup of Australia has changed gradually over the past 50 years. In 1966, Christianity (88 per cent) was the main religion. By 1991, this figure had fallen to 74 per cent, and further to the 2016 figure. Catholicism is the largest Christian grouping in Australia, accounting for almost a quarter (22.6 per cent) of the Australian population.

The growing percentage of Australia's population reporting no religion has been a trend for decades, and is accelerating. Those reporting no religion increased noticeably from 19 per cent in 2006 to 30 per cent in 2016. The largest change was between 2011 (22 per cent) and 2016, when an additional 2.2 million people reported having no religion.

How likely a person was to identify as religious in 2016 had a lot to do with their age. Young adults aged 18-34 were more likely to be affiliated with religions other than Christianity (12 per cent) and to report not having a religion (39 per cent) than other adult age groups. Older age groups, particularly those aged 65 years and over, were more likely to report Christianity.

Question 2 Sources

Read Sources 2A and 2B and then answer Question 2 in the Question/Answer booklet.

Source 2A

In 'Bowling Alone', scholar Robert Putnam observes that we moderns are a disconnected lot. Isolation, not community, is the measure of our lives. We bowl alone today, whereas we once bowled in leagues. This change symbolises the decline of social capital in America and how social structures—whether they be PTA* (school), church, or political parties—have disintegrated. The ties that bind us in community—social capital—are weaker now than in our past.

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Clearly, religion is an important source of social capital. Yet it is not always so. Many churches and synagogues report sporadic attendance. Clergy feel isolated from their neighbourhoods and from each other. Many congregations lack resources to serve communities beyond their walls. At times, people of faith also seem to be bowling alone.

* Parent-teacher Association

Source 2B

Societal religions vary throughout the world, with some worshipping one god and others worshipping many. One thing all these religions have in common is the ability to bring people together.

The core framework of religions is to create moral benchmarks for believers that guide their footsteps. Religion also encourages believers to put words into action and go into the community to shower others with compassion, love and charity. Many religions address problems that can become negative epidemics in a society including drug use, divorce, alcoholism, adultery, murder and greed. Believers of religion will be charitable with time and money, hoping to relieve some of the burdens a society faces, such as hunger, clothing needs, housing needs and overall spiritual counselling. Without the religious frameworks that guide these actions, many people may not feel morally obligated to address societal problems, making religion important to society and its people.

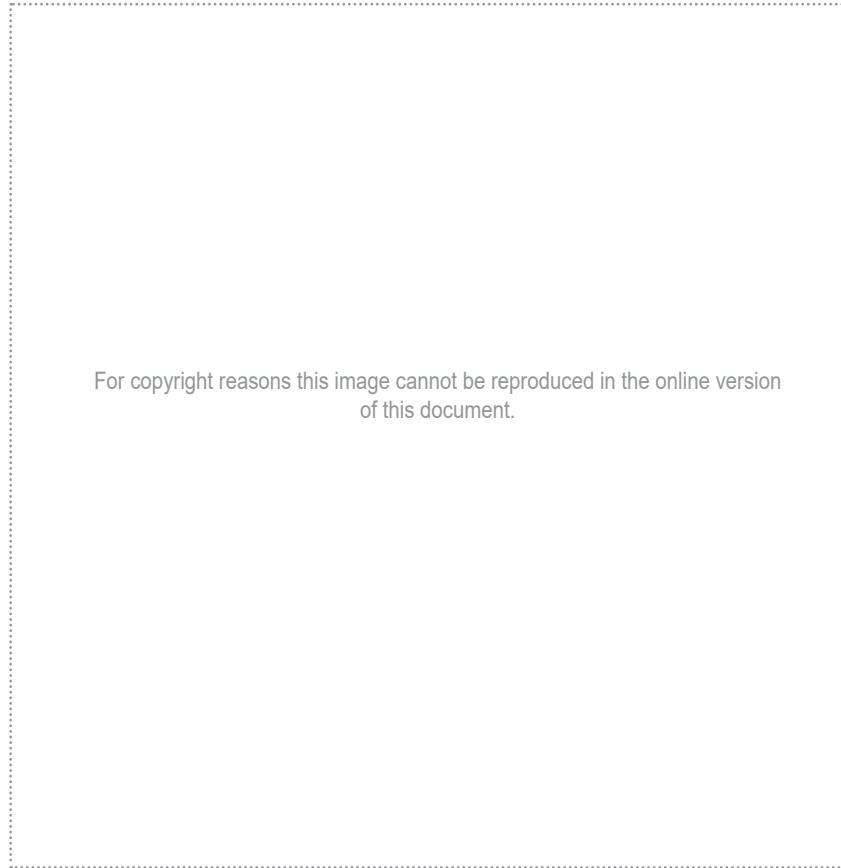
Some people join a religion in order to feel included in a smaller subsection of a larger society. It's not uncommon for Buddhists, Muslims or Christians to create their own fellowships for believers. This sense of community helps society because it helps its people to have a sense of belonging and to make sense of things when worldly events become dramatic. Some of the rituals associated with a certain religion appeal to people and help them feel closer to their god while others avoid the dictated rituals and choose to identify as a member of a religion without observing much or any of the traditions.

See next page

Question 3 Sources

Read Sources 3A and 3B and then answer Question 3 in the Question/Answer booklet.

Source 3A



Source 3B

In two episodes of the Star Trek series (stories based on the journeys of a starship whose purpose in the 24th century is to seek out new life), the following dialogues occur.

Episode 1 dialogue

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Episode 2 dialogue

A similar scenario occurs when some humans from the 21st century are brought aboard the Enterprise in the 24th century. A 21st century human is 'caught' trying to use the ship's equipment.

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Source 3B

In two episodes of the Star Trek series (stories based on the journeys of a starship whose purpose in the 24th century is to seek out new life), the following dialogues occur.

Episode 1 dialogue

The starship Enterprise and her crew travel back in time and a 21st century human is brought aboard. The 21st century person struggles to understand how a society can build a starship like the Enterprise ...

Person A: 'How much did this thing cost?'

Captain Picard: 'The economics of the future are somewhat different ... money doesn't exist in the 24th century.'

Person A: 'No money? Does that mean you don't get paid?'

Captain Picard: 'The acquisition of wealth is no longer the driving force in our lives. We work to better ourselves and the rest of humanity.'

Episode 2 dialogue

A similar scenario occurs when some humans from the 21st century are brought aboard the Enterprise in the 24th century. A 21st century human is 'caught' trying to use the ship's equipment.

Captain Picard: 'Those com panels are for official ship business.'

Person A: 'Well if they are so important why don't they need an executive key?'

Captain Picard: 'Aboard a starship we are all capable of exercising self discipline.'

The person Captain Picard is speaking to then explains that he is eager to return to Earth to access his vast accumulated wealth that had been invested in the 21st century.

Captain Picard: 'A lot has changed over the centuries. We are no longer obsessed with the accumulation of things. We have eliminated hunger, want, the need for possessions. We've grown out of our infancy.'

In a later scene another person finds out that all his wealth no longer exists.

Person B: 'There's no trace of my money. My office is gone. What will I do? How will I live?'

Captain Picard: 'This is the 24th century. Material needs no longer exist.'

Person B: 'Then what's the challenge?'

Captain Picard: 'The challenge is to improve yourself, to enrich yourself.'

Question 4 Sources

Read Sources 4A and 4B and then answer Question 4 in the Question/Answer booklet.

Source 4A

Human Trafficking



Child abduction



Human cage



Forced prostitution



Forced labour



Forced marriage



Organ theft



Selling baby



Forced child beggar



Trafficking boat

Source 4B

Slavery did not end with abolition in the 19th century. Slavery continues today and harms people in every country in the world.

Women forced into prostitution. People forced to work in agriculture, domestic work and factories. Children in sweatshops producing goods sold globally. Entire families forced to work for nothing to pay off generational debts. Girls forced to marry older men.

Someone is in slavery if they are:

- forced to work – through coercion, or mental or physical threat;
- owned or controlled by an 'employer', through mental or physical abuse or the threat of abuse;
- dehumanised, treated as a commodity or bought and sold as 'property';
- physically constrained or have restrictions placed on their freedom of movement.

Modern slavery can affect people of any age, gender or race. However, contrary to a common misconception that everyone can be a victim of slavery, some groups of people are much more vulnerable to slavery than others.

People who live in poverty and have limited opportunities for decent work are more vulnerable to accepting deceptive job offers that can turn exploitative. People who are discriminated against on the basis of race, caste, or gender are also more likely to be enslaved. Slavery is also more likely to occur where the rule of law is weaker and corruption is rife.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Source 1** Australian Bureau of Statistics. (2017, June 27). *2016 Census data reveals 'no religion' is rising fast* (Media release). Retrieved April, 2018, from http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/media_releasesbyReleaseDate/7E65A144540551D7CA258148000E2B85?OpenDocument
Used under Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International licence.
- Source 2A** Paragraphs 1 & 3: Bodenhamer, D. J. (1996, Fall). Religion and social capital. *Religion & Community*, 2(2). Retrieved April, 2018, from <http://www.polis.iupui.edu/RUC/Newsletters/Religion/default.htm>
Paragraph 2: *Bowling alone: The collapse and revival of American community* [Book summary]. (n.d.). Retrieved April, 2018, from https://books.google.com.au/books/about/Bowling_Alone.html?id=rd2ibodep7UC&redir_esc=y
- Source 2B** *Why is religion important to society and its people?* (2018). Retrieved April, 2018, from <https://www.reference.com/world-view/religion-important-society-c9325d786a1fbc0d>
- Source 3A** Adapted from: *The evolution of God (4/48)* [Adaptation of *Göttliche Evolution* cartoon by Teddy Tietz]. (n.d.). Retrieved May, 2018, from <https://www.boredpanda.com/the-evolution-of-god/>
- Source 3B** **Episode 1 dialogue**
Berman, R., Hornstein, M., & Lauritson, P. (Producers), & Frakes, J. (Director). (1996). *Star trek: First contact* [Motion picture] [Transcript]. Retrieved April, 2018, from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_H5uPyU2oKE
Episode 2 dialogue
McIntyre, D., & Clee, M. (Writers), & Conway, J. L. (Director). (1988). Neutral zone [Television series episode] [Transcript]. In G. Roddenberry & R. Berman (Executive producers), *Star trek: The next generation* (Season 1). USA: Paramount Domestic Television. Retrieved April, 2018, from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ui6g23ygov8>
- Source 4A** Leremy. (n.d.). *Human trafficking* [Graphic]. Retrieved April, 2018, from <https://www.shutterstock.com/image-vector/human-trafficking-stick-figure-pictogram-icons-288997844?src=b0M6nPXPrgJ80GEJ37BMvQ-1-23>
- Source 4B** Anti-Slavery International. (2018). *What is modern slavery?* Retrieved April, 2018, from <https://www.antislavery.org/slavery-today/modern-slavery/>

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