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91918



Draw a cross through the box (X) if you have NOT written in this booklet

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Mana Tohu Mātauranga o Aotearoa  
New Zealand Qualifications Authority

## Level 1 Religious Studies 2024

### 91918 Demonstrate understanding of a characteristic of religious or spiritual traditions

Credits: Five

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Demonstrate understanding of a characteristic of religious or spiritual traditions.	Explain a characteristic of religious or spiritual traditions.	Examine a characteristic of religious or spiritual traditions.

Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

**You should answer ONE of the questions in this booklet.**

If you need more room for any answer, use the extra space provided at the back of this booklet.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–8 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

Do not write in the margins (// // // //). This area will be cut off when the booklet is marked.

**YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.**

**Excellence**

**TOTAL 08**

## Page 1

### INSTRUCTIONS

Answer ONE of the questions below. Space for planning your answer is provided below.

### QUESTIONS (Choose ONE)

1. Ethical beliefs define what is good in religions. Explain what is good in two different religious or spiritual traditions you have studied.
2. Rituals often help to give meaning to people's lives. Explain the different ways in which a ritual gives meaning to people's lives in two different religious or spiritual traditions you have studied.
3. Religious or spiritual experiences can offer meaning and purpose. Explain how the experiences of two different religious or spiritual traditions offer meaning and purpose.

### SELECTED QUESTION

Copy and paste the question you have chosen into the space below.

1. Ethical beliefs define what is good in religions. Explain what is good in two different religious or spiritual traditions you have studied.

### PLANNING

**B I U**     

**What is good in both of these religions.**

#### Paragraph 1: *Catholicism*

- They have some teachings that help people with their life challenges and to also help other people such as the Ten Commandments and the Catholic Social Teaching like the concept of Human Dignity, Common Good, Solidarity, and Subsidiarity.

#### Paragraph 2: *Judaism*

- In Judaism, they also have some teachings and practices that help individuals like the concept of Tzedek (justice), Tzedakah (charity), and Tikkun Olam (repairing the world).

#### Paragraph 3: *Similarities and difference between Catholicism and Judaism*

- Catholicism and Judaism both respect human dignity.
- They both guide people to know what is good and to do the right thing.
- They have different focus.

#### Paragraph 4: *The Wider Application*

- Supporting organisations (caritas) and Tzedakah.
- Supporting local and global initiatives.

#### Verses:

- "God created mankind in his own image" (Genesis 1:27).
- Genesis 2:15
- Exodus 20:13
- "Justice, justice shall you pursue" (Deuteronomy 16:20)
- "Open your hand to the poor and need" (Deuteronomy 15:7).
- "When you reap the harvest of your land, do not leap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest." (Leviticus 19:9-10)

#### EXTENDED RESPONSE

Type your extended response in the space below. You should aim to write a concise answer of up to 800 words. You must answer using paragraphs. The quality of your writing is more important than the length of your answer. (The counter will change colour when you reach the recommended maximum word count.)

B I U

Religious and Spiritual traditions guide people's actions and decisions, in Catholicism and Judaism, key beliefs and moral and ethical teachings shape behaviour and shape how followers interact with the world and other people. Both of these religions inspire followers to do good things and live their faith in action. Catholicism emphasises love and forgiveness through teachings like the Ten Commandment and the Bible, while Judaism focuses on justice and fairness through laws and the Torah.

Catholicism moral and ethical teachings are connected to key beliefs, shaping the way Catholics live out their faith in the world. The Church teachings that human dignity is fundamental, as every person is made in the image of God. This idea is supported in the Bible: "God created mankind in his own image" (Genesis 1:27). Catholics are called to respect every person's inherent worth, no matter their situation, which influences their actions towards others, such as protecting the rights of those who are treated unfairly. Another core teaching is the Common Good, which focuses on creating social conditions where everyone can thrive. Catholics are encouraged to work towards this by supporting policies that promote justice and equality. This teaching is also related to solidarity, which emphasises the importance of caring for the welfare of others, particularly the poor and the needy. It also highlights the need for environmental care, as seen in *Genesis 2:15*, where humanity is called to protect the environment, showing the moral responsibility for sustainability. The Ten Commandments serve as an essential guide for personal behaviour, emphasising honesty, respect, and responsibility. The Commandment *Exodus 20:13* supports the Catholics focus on peace and justice. Another important idea is Subsidiarity, which says that problem should be solved at the local level, allowing communities to make decisions for their own well-being. Through these beliefs and ethical teachings, Catholics are encouraged to live lives full of love, service, and justice, impacting their personal and communal lives.

In Judaism, key beliefs and ethical teachings also shape behaviour and decision-making, providing a framework for moral living. Monotheism, the belief in one God is central to Jewish faith, it highlights the importance of justice and righteousness in human behaviour, as God commands in the Torah, "Justice, justice shall you pursue" (Deuteronomy 16:20). The practise of Tzedakah (charity) is essential in Judaism, emphasising the obligation to care for the poor and vulnerable. Tzedakah is not seen as voluntary but as an obligation, supported by the commandment in Deuteronomy, "Open your hand to the poor and need" (Deuteronomy 15:7). Tzedek is another core ethical value in Judaism, connected to the concept of Tikkun Olam (repairing the world). Jews are called to work toward societal justice and social responsibility, caring for the vulnerable and promoting equality. For Example, *Leviticus 19:9-10* teaches about gleaning, instructing farmers to leave some of their crops for the poor, "When you reap the harvest of your land, do not leap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest." The Torah also emphasises the importance of respect for human dignity and the idea of freedom and responsibility. Jewish traditions shows the value of learning and growth, with the 613 Commandment, providing a moral framework for daily living. Observing these Commandments helps Jews fulfill their duties to God and to their community.

Both Catholicism and Judaism emphasise key beliefs and moral and ethical teachings to help people know what is good and to promote ethical living. Catholicism focus on Human Dignity, the Common Good, and Solidarity. Catholicism teachings are similar to Judaism teachings on Justice, Charity, and the respect for Human Dignity. Both religions shows the need to care for the marginalised. Catholics through Caritas and Jewish through Tzedalah (charity). However, their focus differ. Catholicism highlights Subsidiarity encouraging decisions at the local level to engage communities, while Judaism emphasises on Tzedek and Tikkun Olam focuses on broader societal justice. Additionally, Catholic teachings on environmental care contrast to Jewish focus on following commandments and individual duties. Despite these differences, both religions inspire followers to care and love for others, making a positive impact on society.

In Catholicism these teachings encourage active community engagement, where Catholics actively contribute to support both local and global initiatives for justice and equality. These beliefs inspire spiritual growth, providing a moral framework for personal development and service. Similarly, in Judaism ethical living is demonstrated through ritual observance and commitment to social justice, such as supporting Tzedakah. Jewish teachings promote continual learning growth, motivating individuals to improve morally and spiritually. Catholic Church have some organisations to help people such as the Caritas, hospitals, as well as some Catholic Schools. By applying these teachings to their everyday lives, they are respecting God and human dignity. Both religions shape individuals to be more resilient, compassionate, and committed to the world around them.

To sum it up, both Catholicism and Judaism promote ethical living through key beliefs and moral and ethical teachings. These teachings guide people to act justly, care for others, to be more compassionate, while also creating a better and harmonious world for everyone to feel safe and respected.

849 WORDS / 800 RECOMMENDED

## Excellence

**Subject:** Religious Studies

**Standard:** 91918

**Total score:** 08

Q	Grade score	Marker commentary
One	E8	In answering Question 1, this response achieved the highest standard by consistently demonstrating comprehensive understanding, with detailed connections, and insightful conclusions.