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91918



Draw a cross through the box (☒) 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 2025

### 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.**

**Achievement**

**TOTAL 04**

# Page 1

## INSTRUCTIONS

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

## QUESTIONS (Choose ONE)

### 1. Beliefs

Practising religious beliefs requires dedication and time. Explain the religious beliefs that shape the way people organise their lives in two religious or spiritual traditions you have studied.

### 2. Material expression

Objects are often used in religious and spiritual traditions for prayer and worship. Explain why specific objects are used, for and during, religious practices in two religious or spiritual traditions you have studied.

### 3. Social organisation

Religions are often involved in social action. Explain how social action is used by two religious or spiritual traditions you have studied to bring about change to society.

*Note: 'Social action' refers to people coming together to bring about change. Social action can include education, political lobbying, protests, or charity.*

## SELECTED QUESTION

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

Material expression

Objects are often used in religious and spiritual traditions for prayer and worship. Explain why specific objects are used, for and during, religious practices in two religious or spiritual traditions you have studied.

## PLANNING

islam:material espression, hijabs, quarn, mecca,prayer matts, mosques  
catholismism: bible, crosses,dove,stautes,

## 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   ↶ ↷ ?

Islamic faith uses many material objects in their religion, this is to help with worship, prayer or to live out what Allah has wanted for them. An example of this is the hijab. The hijab is worn by muslim women to strengthen their relationship with Allah. The Hijab can be seen to just cover their hair or some cover their entire body and face. Muslim women wear the hijab as a way to strengthen their faith. many women have said it makes them feel closer with Allah because it was he who has intended for the women to wear it. it also brings women modesty. Modesty is very important in islamic faith, covering the hair or entire body allows them to be perceived in the way they are intending rather than letting the eyes of others roam free. It is not until marriage that the husband is allowed to see the women without her hijab. it makes women feel stronger to Allah by actively listening and choosing to follow Allah everyday. It shows to the public their religion and shows they are proud of it. Another object used by islamic faith is prayer mats, prayer mats are used by men and women during prayer which is 5 times a day. These mats help muslims in prayer by giving them a clean ground to pray on and aswell as showing respect towards Allah. Because muslims must be clean before they pray, including washing their hands and feet before every prayer, praying on the mats separates them from the ground making it more respectful to themselves as well as Allah. it also strengthens their faith because Allah has intended for them to pray this way. this makes them feel closer to Allah because by doing what Allah wants and has intended for them shows that they respect Allah and believe in following him. Another example is the quran, this is a book in arabic, of the lessons and words straight from Allah to Muhammad to everyone. it has been unchanged as its wanted to be as authentic as possible. It is used in every prayer to read from and is taught to children from an early age to read. it is very important for muslims to learn it read it so they to, can lead in prayer. it helps grow a stronger relationship with Allah as its the words straight from him. this helps muslims to listen and live out their lives as Allah wants, bringing them closer to him.

Catholicism also uses many material objects in their religion for worship, prayer, or to strengthen their faith. An example of this would be rosary beads. rosary beads are a necklace with beads and a cross on it. it is used during prayer as a guide for praying the hail mary. The rosary is a symbol of Mary and a sacred object that is to be looked after. many get their rosary beads blessed by a priest before using in prayer. this helps strengthen their faith by actively believing and praying with the necklace. because prayer is so important in faith this object becomes important to by helping catholics pray to god. another object catholics use are bibles. bibles is the word from god, its used during prayer, study and used at basically every ritual, prayer, mass ect. it has scriptures, and the word of god on how we should treat people and ourselves, as well as explaining truths of the world and that of other people. its helps catholics to feel closer to god by giving them a helping hand into being the best person they can be through, prayer, community, self love and many more. Another example is sculptures and statues. sculptures and statues of Jesus, Mary, Joseph and saints are very prominent in the catholic faith. this is for reminders of them and their love and importance in the world. they are also used to pray to, to be able to visualize the individual you are trying to pray to. It helps with prayer and strengthens their ability to do so. this brings them closer to god by helping their prayer as well as strengthening their relationships with saints like Mary, Joseph ect. it gives catholics support in hard times and reminds them to pray during these times.

In conclusion, material objects are used in religion for worship, prayer, or to strengthen their faith. both Islam and Catholicism use these objects a lot during prayer as a way to listen to their god and help their faith journey. there are some similarities in the objects between these two religions such as the bible and the Quran, which are both books with the words of their gods. the biggest difference in the objects would be how Catholics make it a priority to draw Jesus, Mary ect. with statues, paintings and more. while Islamic faith doesn't allow its followers to draw faces, this is because they believe only Allah can create and humans can't. Both religions have a strong connection to its sacred objects which ties into community, self respect and respect for their god and religion as a whole.

859 WORDS / 800 RECOMMENDED

## Achievement

**Subject:** Religious Studies

**Standard:** 91918

**Total score:** 04

Q	Grade score	Marker commentary
Two	A4	<p>The candidate has met the Achievement criteria by describing the characteristic of material expression in both Islam and Catholicism, and by outlining the meaning and basic purpose of several religious objects within each tradition.</p> <p>The response demonstrated an understanding of the characteristic at a descriptive level by explaining, for example, that hijabs show modesty and respect toward Allah and that rosary beads help Catholics pray and feel closer to God. However, the explanation remained largely descriptive and did not consistently show how the characteristic is applied in practice, which is required for higher grades.</p>