# STUDIES OF RELIGION (SOR) II RELIGION & NON-RELIGION PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

## STUDY GUIDE



## SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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# Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

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# How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

### 1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

### 2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 – 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

### 3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

### 4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

### 5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

### 6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

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# Questions

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**1. Which belief system recognises life in all natural things?**

A. Theism

B. Animism

C. Totemism

D. Shamanism

**2. What is a consequence of understanding karma in relation to actions?**

A. It diminishes the importance of ethics

B. It emphasizes the impact of one's current actions on future experiences

C. It ignores the value of personal responsibility

D. It suggests a fixed fate

**3. Which of the following religions has the smallest number of adherents world-wide?**

A. Islam

B. Judaism

C. Hinduism

D. Buddhism

**4. How does Diwali relate to ethical themes in Hinduism?**

A. It is solely a festival of family gatherings

B. It celebrates moral victories over evil and ignorance

C. It focuses on economic prosperity

D. It has no moral significance

**5. How does faith affect one's decision-making process?**

A. By requiring strict logical reasoning

B. By providing a sense of trust in beliefs

C. By minimizing emotional considerations

D. By focusing on material outcomes

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**6. Which of the following statements about agnosticism and atheism is correct?**

A. Both statements are true.

B. Both statements are false.

C. Statement 1 is false and Statement 2 is true.

D. Statement 1 is true and Statement 2 is false.

**7. How does the concept of 'original sin' influence Christian theology?**

A. It determines dietary laws for followers

B. It suggests that humanity inherits a fallen nature

C. It necessitates strict ethical codes for believers

D. It emphasizes the importance of rituals in worship

**8. What is the significance of the Ten Commandments in Judaism and Christianity?**

A. They represent historical events

B. They are a doctrine of worship

C. They serve as foundational ethical guidelines

D. They are myths with no practical importance

**9. Which of the following is a characteristic of a secular worldview?**

A. Emphasis on tradition and rituals.

B. Focus on human reason and empirical evidence.

C. Belief in multiple divine beings.

D. Reliance on revelation from sacred texts.

**10. On which issue are Ashley and Andy most likely to disagree?**

A. The problems caused for society by economic exploitation of natural resources

B. The ability of mainstream religious authorities to provide guidance to society

C. The value of alternative medicine

D. The dangers of global warming

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# Answers

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1. B
2. B
3. B
4. B
5. B
6. C
7. B
8. C
9. B
10. C

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# Explanations

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## 1. Which belief system recognises life in all natural things?

A. Theism

B. Animism

C. Totemism

D. Shamanism

*The recognition of life in all natural things is a core tenet of animism. This belief system views not just people and animals, but also plants, rocks, rivers, and other elements of nature as having spiritual essence or life force. Followers of animism believe that these entities can engage in relationships with humans, communicate, and have their own spirits or consciousness. This worldview fosters a deep respect for nature and the environment, as everything is interconnected. In contrast, theism is centered around belief in a singular or multiple gods, but does not necessarily attribute life or consciousness to non-human entities in nature. Totemism involves associating groups or individuals with a particular animal or plant that serves as a symbol of that group, emphasizing identity rather than a recognition of life in all natural things. Shamanism is often linked to specific practices for healing or communicating with spirits, but it does not broadly encompass the belief that all aspects of nature possess life. Thus, animism stands out as the belief system that universally acknowledges life in all natural things.*

## 2. What is a consequence of understanding karma in relation to actions?

A. It diminishes the importance of ethics

B. It emphasizes the impact of one's current actions on future experiences

C. It ignores the value of personal responsibility

D. It suggests a fixed fate

*Understanding karma in relation to actions primarily emphasizes the impact of one's current actions on future experiences. In many religious and philosophical contexts, particularly within Hinduism and Buddhism, karma is viewed as a fundamental principle that links actions with their consequences. This understanding encourages individuals to consider how their present behavior will influence their future circumstances, both in this life and potentially in subsequent lives. By recognizing that every action has moral weight and creates repercussions, this perspective promotes ethical behavior and mindful decision-making. It instills a sense of agency and encourages individuals to take responsibility for their choices, fostering a proactive attitude toward living a virtuous life. Thus, the concept of karma is intrinsically tied to the notion of personal growth, accountability, and the continuous development of one's character through the choices they make.*

## 3. Which of the following religions has the smallest number of adherents world-wide?

A. Islam

B. Judaism

C. Hinduism

D. Buddhism

*Judaism has the smallest number of adherents worldwide compared to the other religions listed. Estimates suggest that there are approximately 14 to 15 million Jews globally, which is significantly lower than the populations of Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism. Islam, with over 1.9 billion followers, is one of the largest religions in the world. Hinduism also has a substantial following, with over 1.2 billion adherents, primarily in India and Nepal. Buddhism, while smaller than the first two, still boasts around half a billion followers globally. These population figures highlight the relatively small size of the Jewish community in comparison to the larger religious traditions, clarifying why Judaism is the correct answer in this context.*

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## 4. How does Diwali relate to ethical themes in Hinduism?

A. It is solely a festival of family gatherings

B. It celebrates moral victories over evil and ignorance

C. It focuses on economic prosperity

D. It has no moral significance

*Diwali is deeply connected to ethical themes in Hinduism, particularly through its celebration of moral victories over evil and ignorance. This festival, also known as the Festival of Lights, commemorates the triumph of Lord Rama over the demon king Ravana, symbolizing the victory of good over evil. This narrative serves as an ethical framework in Hindu teachings, reinforcing the idea that righteousness and moral integrity prevail against malevolence. Additionally, Diwali embodies the pursuit of knowledge and the dispelling of ignorance, which are vital principles in Hindu philosophy. The lighting of lamps during Diwali not only signifies the return of light but also represents enlightenment, wisdom, and the guiding values that help individuals navigate moral dilemmas in life. In contrast, the focus on family gatherings, economic prosperity, or the notion that the festival has no moral significance do not capture the core ethical dimensions inherent in the celebration of Diwali. While family and wealth might play roles in the festival's practice and societal context, they do not reflect the foundational ethical lessons that the festival imparts, which are centered on the importance of good prevailing over evil and the illumination of knowledge over ignorance.*

## 5. How does faith affect one's decision-making process?

A. By requiring strict logical reasoning

B. By providing a sense of trust in beliefs

C. By minimizing emotional considerations

D. By focusing on material outcomes

*Faith significantly influences decision-making by instilling a sense of trust in one's beliefs. When individuals possess faith, they often rely on their values, principles, and convictions to guide their choices, even in uncertain or challenging circumstances. This trust can serve as a foundation for decisions, prompting individuals to act in alignment with their spiritual or moral beliefs rather than purely on empirical evidence or logical reasoning. In many cases, faith provides comfort and reassurance, enabling individuals to navigate complex situations with confidence that their beliefs will guide them appropriately. This impact is particularly significant in areas where answers may not come as clearly through logic or scientific reasoning alone, showcasing the role of personal and communal beliefs in shaping choices and actions.*

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## 6. Which of the following statements about agnosticism and atheism is correct?

A. Both statements are true.

B. Both statements are false.

C. Statement 1 is false and Statement 2 is true.

D. Statement 1 is true and Statement 2 is false.

*The correct choice highlights the nuanced understanding of the concepts of agnosticism and atheism. Agnosticism generally refers to a position of uncertainty or the belief that the existence or non-existence of a deity is unknown or unknowable. This reflects a philosophical stance where individuals may feel that definitive answers are beyond human understanding. Atheism, on the other hand, is often characterized by a lack of belief in deities or gods. Atheists can range from those who simply lack belief (weak atheism) to those who assert that gods do not exist (strong atheism). Understanding these definitions, if one statement is true regarding the nature of one of these terms, it may suggest that not all characteristics or beliefs attributed to either agnosticism or atheism are accurate in the context presented in the question. Therefore, identifying one statement as false while confirming the other as true leads to a clearer comprehension of these distinct positions on belief and knowledge regarding deities.*

## 7. How does the concept of 'original sin' influence Christian theology?

A. It determines dietary laws for followers

B. It suggests that humanity inherits a fallen nature

C. It necessitates strict ethical codes for believers

D. It emphasizes the importance of rituals in worship

*The concept of 'original sin' significantly influences Christian theology by suggesting that humanity inherits a fallen nature due to the sin of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. This doctrine posits that all human beings are born with a predisposition to sin, which fundamentally impacts the understanding of human nature, moral responsibility, and the need for salvation. This theological perspective emphasizes the necessity of divine grace and redemption, which Christians believe is made possible through the sacrificial death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Consequently, original sin shapes doctrines regarding baptism, salvation, and the relationship between humanity and God. It leads to the understanding that all individuals require salvation to overcome their inherent sinful nature and to be reconciled with God. In this context, other options do not directly relate to the primary implications of original sin. For example, dietary laws, strict ethical codes, or rituals, while important aspects of Christian practice and tradition, do not stem specifically from the doctrine of original sin. Instead, these practices are more related to religious observance, moral teachings, and the community's cultural expressions rather than the foundational aspect of humanity's sinful condition as defined by original sin.*

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## 8. What is the significance of the Ten Commandments in Judaism and Christianity?

A. They represent historical events

B. They are a doctrine of worship

C. They serve as foundational ethical guidelines

D. They are myths with no practical importance

*The Ten Commandments hold great significance in both Judaism and Christianity as foundational ethical guidelines that shape moral conduct and societal values. These commandments encompass core principles such as the prohibition of murder, theft, and false witness, establishing a framework for ethical behavior that emphasizes the importance of justice, respect for others, and accountability to God. In Judaism, the Ten Commandments are viewed as a covenant between God and the Israelites, serving as a guide for both personal morality and community laws. They form a crucial part of the Torah, which is central to Jewish identity and practice. In Christianity, the Ten Commandments are often interpreted as reflecting God's moral law, and they continue to inform Christian ethics and teachings. Jesus himself referenced the commandments in his teachings, highlighting their enduring relevance and importance. Overall, the emphasis on the Ten Commandments as ethical guidelines underscores their role in shaping individual behavior and promoting social harmony within both religious traditions, making this answer the most fitting choice.*

## 9. Which of the following is a characteristic of a secular worldview?

A. Emphasis on tradition and rituals.

B. Focus on human reason and empirical evidence.

C. Belief in multiple divine beings.

D. Reliance on revelation from sacred texts.

*A secular worldview centers around human reason and empirical evidence as the primary means of understanding the world and making sense of human existence. This perspective emphasizes critical thinking, scientific inquiry, and observable phenomena rather than relying on faith, spiritual beliefs, or traditional religious frameworks. In a secular context, beliefs and values are typically shaped by rational thought and the accumulation of knowledge derived from the sciences and the humanities. This approach enables individuals to explore ethical and philosophical questions without the constraints of religious doctrines or divine authority, promoting a more individualistic exploration of meaning and purpose. The other options reflect characteristics commonly associated with religious worldviews, which prioritize tradition, rituals, divine beings, and revelations from sacred texts—elements that are not fitting within the secular framework. This distinction is fundamental in understanding how secularism contrasts with religious belief systems, highlighting the focus on reasoned inquiry and evidence as foundational to secular thought.*

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**10. On which issue are Ashley and Andy most likely to disagree?**

A. The problems caused for society by economic exploitation of natural resources

B. The ability of mainstream religious authorities to provide guidance to society

C. The value of alternative medicine

D. The dangers of global warming

*The emphasis on the value of alternative medicine as the issue on which Ashley and Andy are most likely to disagree suggests that their perspectives on health, wellness, and the efficacy of different medical practices diverge significantly. This kind of disagreement often stems from foundational beliefs about science, tradition, and personal experiences with health care. In discussions about alternative medicine, individuals may have vastly different views based on their reliance on conventional medicine versus holistic or non-conventional approaches. One person may advocate for alternative medicine due to personal or anecdotal successes, whereas the other might prefer evidence-based practices and thus be skeptical of alternatives that lack rigorous scientific validation. This disagreement can be particularly pronounced because it touches on deeper values, such as trust in medical institutions, beliefs about health and well-being, and varying definitions of what constitutes effective treatment. Other issues listed, while significant, tend to have more consensus within societal discussions, as they are often informed by broader social, environmental, and economic understandings that transcend personal health beliefs.*

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# Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

https://sor2religionnonreligion.examzify.com

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!

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