



To: Management Authorities of Second Level Schools

Leaving Certificate Religious Education 2008
Prescribed Titles for Practical Coursework

1. A new syllabus for Leaving Certificate Religious Education was introduced in September 2003 and was examined for the first time in 2005.
2. The syllabus indicates that the assessment of Religious Education will have two elements:
(1) a final written paper, and (2) coursework.
3. The subject will be assessed externally at Ordinary Level and at Higher Level. **At both levels, coursework will account for 20% of the marks.**
4. The titles for coursework for the Leaving Certificate examination 2008 are attached. These titles are common to Ordinary Level and Higher Level. Students are required to submit coursework on **one title only** taken from **either** Section G **or** Section J. Candidates should note that they will **not** be examined on these sections of the syllabus in the **written** examination in 2008.
5. Guidelines for undertaking coursework are included in *Religious Education Leaving Certificate Higher and Ordinary Level - Guidelines for Teachers* which was issued with the syllabus in June 2003.
6. The coursework must be submitted in a standard form in a booklet, which will be issued in due course for that purpose. The journal will be broken into two components, Part A and Part B.
 - Part A will request a summary of the student's investigation of the chosen title.
 - Part B will be for the student's personal reflection on the learning, skills and experience gained through undertaking coursework on the chosen title.
7. Please bring this circular and the attached list of coursework titles to the notice of the teachers concerned.
8. Please provide a copy of this circular to the appropriate representatives of parents and teachers for transmission to individual parents and teachers.

Edward Harte
Higher Executive Officer
December, 2006.

PRESCRIBED TITLES FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COURSEWORK

FOR LEAVING CERTIFICATE 2008

A choice of two titles is given in each of Sections G and J below. Students should base their coursework on **one** title only, taken from **either** Section G **or** Section J.

SECTION G: WORSHIP, PRAYER AND RITUAL

- Human beings have been described as ‘symbol makers’. Profile the importance of symbol making for people in secular and religious life today.
 - ◆ Buddhism ◆ Christianity ◆ Hinduism ◆ Islam ◆ Judaism
- An exploration of the features which mark a particular place as sacred for **one** of the above major world religions.

SECTION J: RELIGION AND SCIENCE

- The ‘God of the Gaps’ arises when God is inserted into a situation which seems to have no reasonable explanation. Research **one** such case and explore the implications of this understanding of God for the relationship between religion and science.
- Science and religion need each other as guides in their search for truth. An investigation of the evidence for this statement in the approach taken by science and religion to *either* the debate about origins *or* questions about the beginning and ending of life.