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இலங்கைப் பரீட்சைத் திணைக்களம்
Department of Examinations, Sri Lanka

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අධ්‍යයන පොදු සහතික පත්‍ර (සාමාන්‍ය පෙළ) විභාගය, 2025(2026)
கல்விப் பொதுத் தராதரப் பத்திர (சாதாரண தர)ப் பரீட்சை, 2025(2026)
General Certificate of Education (Ord. Level) Examination, 2025(2026)

බුද්ධ ධර්මය I, II
பௌத்தம் I, II
Buddhism I, II

පැය තුනයි
மூன்று மணித்தியாலம்
Three hours

අමතර කියවීම් කාලය - මිනිත්තු 10 යි
மேலதிக வாசிப்பு நேரம் - 10 நிமிடங்கள்
Additional Reading Time - 10 minutes

Use additional reading time to go through the question paper, select the questions and decide on the questions that you give priority in answering.

Buddhism I

Instructions:

- *Answer* **all** *the questions.*
- *In each of the questions* **1** *to* **40**, *pick one of the alternatives* (1), (2), (3), (4) *which is* **correct or most appropriate**.
- ***Mark a cross*** **(×)** ***on the number corresponding to your choice in the answer sheet provided.***
- *Further instructions are given on the back of the answer sheet. Follow them carefully.*

1. Among the challenges faced by Siddhārtha bodhisatva, the most difficult was
   (1) defeating ten Māras.
   (2) avoiding being seduced by the daughters of the Māra.
   (3) renouncing the household life by abandoning the kingdom, wife and children.
   (4) transcending the worldly nature attaining enlightenment.

2. Although a young man who had lived amidst all the glory and pleasures, due to his inquisitiveness, Prince Siddhārtha realized that the reality of life was not the life he was experiencing by
   (1) seeing the antics of the actresses.
   (2) hearing that princess Yaśodharā given birth to a son.
   (3) seeing the four omens.
   (4) living in three palaces; Ramya, Suramya and Subha.

3. The greatest challenge that the Budhha faced when he was about to preach the Dhamma he had realized was that
   (1) the ascetic Ālārakālāma was reborn in the formless brahma world.
   (2) the five ascetics were reluctant to accept His enlightenment.
   (3) to make understandable the profound Dhamma to the worldly human society.
   (4) a large number of devās and brahmas came to hear the Dhamma.

4. Which option correctly expresses the qualities of the Saṅgha?
   (1) opanayiko, āhuneyyo, pāhuneyyo, dakkhiṇeyyo
   (2) āhuneyyo, pāhuneyyo, dakkhiṇeyyo, akāliko
   (3) āhuneyyo, pāhuneyyo, dakkhiṇeyyo, añjalikaraṇīyo
   (4) āhuneyyo, pāhuneyyo, añjalikaraṇīyo, sandiṭṭhiko

5. What is the name of the basic quality that a Buddhist who strives to cross the ocean of saṃsāra should possess?
   (1) bhakti (devotion)
   (2) buddhi (intelligence)
   (3) vīrya (effort)
   (4) śraddhā (faith)

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6. 'Sammā vāyāma' is right effort. The fact which does **not** belong to its fourfold elements is
(1) the generation of unborn wholesome.
(2) the generation of unborn unwholesome.
(3) the development of born wholesome.
(4) the non-generation of unborn unwholesome.

7. Which sutta preaches that neglecting one's parents in old age despite one's ability, and wasting wealth acquired through infatuation with women, alcohol, and gambling, leads to failure in one's life?
(1) Vasala sutta (2) Parābhava sutta
(3) Maṅgala sutta (4) Sigālovāda sutta

8. Knowing of objectives such as forms through the senses like eyes are known in the Dhamma as
(1) ñāṇa. (2) cetanā. (3) parideva. (4) viññāṇa.

9. The mental constructs or signs etc. that arise in the mind as forms, sounds and so on known in the Dhamma are called as
(1) rūpa skandha. (2) vedanā skandha.
(3) saññā skandha. (4) saṅkhāra skandha.

10. According to the formula 'When this exists, this exists. When this is not exists, this is not exists.' which sutta explained the cause and effect relationship 'When there is wood, fire is there. When there is no wood, fire is not there?'
(1) Dhammacakkappavattana sutta. (2) Aggikabhāradvāja sutta.
(3) Aggikkhandhopama sutta. (4) Aggivacchagotta sutta.

11. In the theory of direct order of Dependent Origination (anuloma paticca samuppāda), 'due to the contact (sparśa), feelings such as pleasant or unpleasant arise' is expressed by
(1) "Saḷāyatanapaccayā phasso". (2) "Phassapaccayā vedanā".
(3) "Vedanāpaccayā taṇhā". (4) "Taṇhāpaccayā upādānaṃ"

12. According to the theory of Dependent Origination (paticca samuppāda) the sutta that illustrates how the quarrels arise in society due to craving (taṇhā) is
(1) Aggañña sutta. (2) Vāseṭṭha sutta.
(3) Brahmajāla sutta. (4) Mahānidāna sutta.

13. What is the name given in the Dhamma to incomplete wholesome and unwholesome actions that are performed without strong intention?
(1) Garuka kamma. (2) Āsanna kamma.
(3) Āciṇṇa kamma. (4) Kaṭattā kamma.

14. According to the aggregates that are obtained in accordance with the wholesome and unwholesome deeds performed by an individual cycle of the birth and death are called in the Dhamma as
(1) saṃsāra. (2) birth. (3) cuti. (4) niyāma.

15. The Buddhist teaching that helps to eliminate the concepts that there is an almighty creator God and an eternal soul is
(1) the Dependent Origination (Paṭicca samuppāda).
(2) the Threefold Insight (Trividyā).
(3) the Four Bases of Spiritual Power (Cattāro iddhipādā).
(4) the Eight Worldly Conditions (Aṣṭa - loka - dharma).

16. According to Buddhist interpretation, the person who has good understanding of the causes of personal differences such as living a short life and living a long life is
(1) who thinks only about the next life.
(2) who thinks about victory and defeat.
(3) who thinks only about this life.
(4) who has an understanding of kamma and its consequences.

[see page three

17. A person who has the knowledge of the passing away and reappearance of beings (cutūpapāta ñāṇa) or the knowledge that sees the future existence of beings
(1) can know the minds of others.
(2) rebecoming (punabbhava) can be known through experience.
(3) various miracles of psychic power (ṛddhi prātihārya) can be shown.
(4) divine sounds can be heard.

18. Five facts are mentioned in the Dhamma that hinder the control of the mind and obstruct the path to Nibbāna. They are known as
(1) the Five Strengths (pañca bala).
(2) the Five Hindrances (Pañca nīvaraṇa).
(3) the Fivefold Universal Order (Pañca niyāma).
(4) the Five Aggregates of Attachment (Pañca upādāna).

19. The first two lines of the Dhammapada verse, which emphasizes that "He scolded me, he hit me, he defeated me etc..." the enmity of those who are not harbouring such thoughts can be appeased are
(1) "Akkocchi maṃ avadhi maṃ – ajini maṃ ahāsi me".
(2) "Sukarāni asādhūni – attano ahitāni ca".
(3) "Attanāva kataṃ pāpaṃ – attanā saṃkilissati".
(4) "Taṃ ca kammaṃ kataṃ sādhu – yaṃ katvā nānutappati".

20. During the Buddha's time, who was the person spent all the wealth he had earned due to serving sinful friends and not adhering to the precepts and became poor?
(1) Millionaire's son Ugga
(2) Millionaire's son Kāla
(3) Millionaire's son Mahadhana
(4) Millionaire's son Migāra

21. The fact that is **not** included in the Sigālovāda sutta that leads to loss of wealth is
(1) untimely wandering in streets.
(2) association with sinful friends.
(3) frequent sleep.
(4) spending time in idleness.

22. "Son, this Cakkavatti kinship (Universal Monarch) is not something that comes to you by paternal inheritance. One must become worthy of it by fulfilling the proper discipline and conduct." This advice was given to his son by
(1) King Bimbisāra.
(2) King Bindusāra.
(3) King Udeni.
(4) King Dalhanemi.

23. "Govern the country by seeking counsel and guidance from virtuous, morally disciplined, and learned monks and Brahmins" The Buddhist principle of state governance that includes this advice is
(1) the ten royal virtues (dasa rāja dharma).
(2) the seven conditions for non-decline (sapta aparihāniya dharma).
(3) the ten duties of a Universal Monarch (dasa sakviti vata).
(4) the four entities of treatment (cattāro saṅgahavatthu).

24. "When a ruler acts contrary to law, justice, and Dhamma, his glory and reputation decline just as the waning moon." This is due to
(1) acting according to the Four Biases (agati).
(2) acting according to Four Entities of Treatment.
(3) acting according to Four Sublime abodes (brahma viharaṇa).
(4) acting according to Four Defilements of Action (karma-kleśa).

25. Which of the following is the correct option for the monarch and the state who ruled maintaining close relationships with the Buddha?
(1) King Bimbisāra – Kosala state
(2) King Kosala Vatsa state
(3) King Udena – Magadha state
(4) King Caṇḍapajjota – Avanti state

[see page four

26. What is the discourse that explains the freedom of thought in accordance with Buddhism, which has attracted the attention and praise of scholars of both the East and the West, and which is not found anywhere else in the history of religions of the world?
(1) Anaṇa sutta (2) Vasala sutta
(3) Pattakamma sutta (4) Kālāma sutta

27. Among the factors mentioned in the Maṅgala sutta, the option that does **not** belong to the auspicious qualities is
(1) associating with the foolish. (2) associating with the wise.
(3) honouring those worthy of honour. (4) living in a suitable place.

28. Which of the following is **not** among the causes that led to affect diseases that the Buddha preached to Girimānanda thera?
(1) Diseases arise from the aggravation of the bile element (pitta).
(2) Diseases arise from the aggravation of the phlegm element (kapha).
(3) Diseases arise in accordance with the consequences of kamma.
(4) Diseases arise from engagement in immoral or unwholesome conduct.

29. The place where the Buddha preached Mahā Moggallāna sutta is
(1) In a forest in the city of Vesāli.
(2) Near the Gaggarā pond.
(3) At Kalandakanivāpa.
(4) Near the bank of the river Mahī.

30. The collective recitation by the Bhikkhus, the Dhamma preached and the Vinaya enacted by the Buddha is known as
(1) the observance of the uposatha.
(2) the preaching of the Dhamma.
(3) the chanting of Paritta.
(4) the Recitation of the Dhamma (Dhamma Saṅgāyanā).

31. What is the name given to the collection that was compiled by arranging the suttas preached in a numerically increasing order, from one item to the next at the First Buddhist Council?
(1) Dīgha Nikāya. (2) Majjhima Nikāya.
(3) Aṅguttara Nikāya. (4) Saṃyutta Nikāya.

32. "Ānanda, the Dhamma and the Vinaya which have been taught and laid down by me will be your teacher after my demise" This statement, preached by the Buddha during final period of His life, is included in
(1) Mahāparinibbāna sutta. (2) Mahāsīhanāda sutta.
(3) Mahāsatipaṭṭhāna sutta. (4) Mahāsudassana sutta.

33. The compilation of the Aṭṭhakathā texts on the Tipiṭaka under the name Vibhāṣā, inscribing them on copper plates and depositing them in stone caskets, and the constructing a stūpa by enshrining them were carried out by
(1) King Kālāśoka. (2) King Candragupta.
(3) King Dharmāśoka. (4) King Kaṇiṣka.

34. The convention that "Buddhism should be the state religion of Sri Lanka and the king should be a Buddhist" arose due to
(1) the accession of non-Buddhist kings to the throne.
(2) the foreign invasions.
(3) the strengthening of the relationship between Buddhism and society.
(4) the suppression of Buddhism and the emergence of other religions.

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35. Which of the following does **not** represent the change that occurred among Sri Lankans with the introduction of Buddhism and Buddhist culture by Arahant Mahinda?
(1) Veneration of the Bodhi tree instead of the of tree worship.
(2) Transfer (sharing) of merits to the dead instead of the worship of the dead.
(3) Veneration of stūpas instead of paying homage and offerings to rocks and mountains.
(4) Performance of offerings and rituals instead of transfering merits to the deities.

36. What is the literary work which produced during the Dambadeniya literary period through the translation of the Pāli Dhammapadaṭṭhakathā into Sinhala?
(1) Sinhala Bodhivaṃsa
(2) Saddharma Ratnāvaliya
(3) Pansiya Panas Jathakaya
(4) Pūjāvaliya.

37. The statement, "This attempt of mine to recount the infinite virtues of the Buddha is like an effort to string together dewdrops with a lotus fiber and wear them" is found in which of the following text?
(1) Pūjāvaliya. (2) Sasadāvata. (3) Muvadevdāvata. (4) Amāvatura.

38. In a social environment shaped by diverse cultures, where people of different ethnicities and religions live, the set of moral qualities that enables one to live without creating ideological conflicts with others is known in Dhamma as
(1) the five precepts (Pañca-sīla).
(2) refrain from the four biases (cattāro agati).
(3) the seven conditions for non-decline (sapta aparihāniya dharma).
(4) the four sublime abodes (cattāro brahmavihārā).

39. The origin of Buddhist paintings goes back to the Anurādhapura period. Which of the following are two sites where ancient paintings from the Anurādhapura period can be found?
(1) Mahiyangana, Dimbulāgala (2) Sīgiriya, Hindagala.
(3) Mahiyangana, Tivaṃka Piḷimage (4) Gal Vihāra, Medawala Vihāra

40. What is the **incorrect** option regarding Sandakaḍapahaṇa, which considered as a unique work among buddhist artistic creations?
(1) It is a semi-circular stone slab seen at the beginning of the stairway.
(2) The foremost artistic Sandakaḍapahaṇa is located near the Biso Maligaya in Anurādhapura.
(3) The figure of cow has been removed from the Sandakaḍapahaṇa of the Anurādhapura period.
(4) According to Senarath Paranavithana, the Sandakaḍapahaṇa depicts the cycle of Samsara (bhava cakra).

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General Certificate of Education (Ord. Level) Examination, 2025(2026)

බුද්ධ ධර්මය I, II
பௌத்தம் I, II
Buddhism I, II

Buddhism II

* *Answer only **five** questions, including **first one** and **four** other questions.*
* *The first question carries **20** marks and **10** marks each for other questions.*

1. (i) Who declared, upon seeing the incomparable physical beauty of the Bodhisatta, that "the mother and father who have begotten such a son are indeed appeased"?
   (ii) Which quality of the Buddha is expressed in the verse, "*Rahasat paw no koṭa - kelesarayanut duru koṭa...*"?
   (iii) Write the meaning of the term 'svākkhāta', which is considered a quality of the Dhamma.
   (iv) What is the name of the artist who painted the murals at Borella Gotamī Vihāra?
   (v) Write the meaning of the phrase '*Nibbānaṃ paramaṃ sukhaṃ*'.
   (vi) Explain the concept of '*anavajja sukha*' (blameless happiness).
   (vii) By whom, and to whom, was the statement "Samaṇāmayaṃ mahārāja - dhammarājassa sāvakā" made?
   (viii) Write the names of the chief monks who found Vidyodaya Pirivena at Maligākanda and Vidyālaṅkāra Pirivena at Peliyagoda?
   (ix) Mention **two** legacies received by the Sri Lankans as a result of the Dumindāgamana.
   (x) Write the names of **two** literary works composed by Venerable Toṭagamuve Śri Rāhula Thera.

2. (i) Name any **two** of the Ten Pāramitās (Perfections).
   (ii) Briefly explain **one** of the Pāramitās named in (i) above.
   (iii) Explain how the cultivation of virtues taught in the Ten Pāramitās contributes to the welfare of others (altruistic service).

3. (i) Write the complete Dhammapada verse beginning with "Attanāva kataṃ pāpaṃ".
   (ii) Write the meaning of that verse.
   (iii) Show how actions performed by an individual contribute to that person's progress or decline.

4. (i) Write any **two** of the six architectural forms used in the construction of stūpas.
   (ii) Name **two** structural components of a stūpa and explain **one** of them.
   (iii) Make an evaluation of the legacies inherited by the Sri Lankans as a result of the Mahindāgamana.

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5. (i) Write any **two** of the reasons that led to the convening of the First Buddhist Council.
   (ii) State the venue at which that Council was held, the duration taken to conduct it, and the number of Arahants who participated.
   (iii) Explain how the decisions taken at the First Buddhist Council contributed to the long-term preservation and continuity of the Buddha's Dispensation (sāsana).

6. (i) Explain the meaning of the statement "Jigacchā paramā rogā".
   (ii) According to the Bhaddāli sutta, write **three** beneficial results obtained by consuming food with moderation and mindful restraint.
   (iii) Evaluate the teachings found in Buddhism regarding the importance of maintaining physical and mental well-being.

7. Write short notes on any **two** of the following topics.
   (i) Vyāpāda Nīvaraṇa
   (ii) Pratimāghara
   (iii) The Alu Vihāra Council
   (iv) The duties of parents and children

* * *