

1.1 Contextual definitions: supported rehearsal

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 6 marks

Objective

Supported preparation: Explain why definitions of religion are contextual; Distinguish academic and devotional approaches. This is original rehearsal, not completion of the assessed task.

1 Key knowledge and worked examples

This is preparation linked to the recorded first-assessment-2029 brief, not the current World Religions qualification. Definitions of religion emphasize different features and can include or exclude different practices. State the criterion and test its implications; distinguish academic description from devotional commitment.

Original source / task evidence

Task: one definition requires a deity; another emphasizes practices and community. Explain why they may classify the same activity differently.

Separate what is stated from the interpretation.
Contextual definitions

Task: one definition requires a deity; another emphasizes practices and community. Explain why they may classify the same activity differently.

The criteria differ, so classification can differ without either account having described the activity fully. Examine context, participant meanings and the purpose of classification; avoid declaring one universal definition from an invented example.

2 Practice

2.1 For the worked case, identify the evidence and a conclusion it can support. Explain one material limit. [3]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Test the deity-only definition with a hypothetical meaningful communal practice whose participants make no deity claim. Give a reasoned answer, evidence or method, and a relevant qualification. [3]

Solutions

2.1 The criteria differ, so classification can differ without either account having described the activity fully. Examine context, participant meanings and the purpose of classification; avoid declaring one universal definition from an invented example. Authored points for identifying relevant evidence, explaining a supported inference and a material limit.

3.1 The definition excludes the practice by its stated criterion, while a practice/community definition might include it. This tests consequences and purpose of classification; it does not settle a universal definition or classify a real tradition without evidence. Authored points for a relevant judgement, reason tied to the case and justified qualification or method. Accept a supported alternative.