



OUNDL

School

2021 Academic Scholarship

**Theology, Philosophy
and Religion paper**

Time allowed: 1 hour and 30 minutes

Instructions

- Answer Section 1, and then **two** questions from Section 2

Section 1: Comprehension 20 marks

Read the following article and answer the questions that follow.

In my late teens I was conscripted [forced to join the army and fight for one's country], and my gut feeling was to refuse to serve. I did not want to kill other people. This seemed to me wrong, if not in principle, so at least in practice. There were no serious military threats facing my country, and if the situation would change there was no guarantee that I would serve among the good guys rather than among the bad ones. Moreover, the kind of values for which I was supposed to kill, such as democracy and national independence were better served, I thought, through non-violent action. My arguments were met with no sympathy from the military authorities. They threatened me with jail if I was not prepared to serve.

Taken from 'Understanding Ethics' by T. Tannsjo (Swedish Philosophy Professor)

- a) Give an account of the ethical reasons Tannsjo gives for not wanting to join the Swedish Army
6 marks
- b) Explain two reasons why conscription (everyone being forced to join their country's army) could be considered ethically good
7 marks
- c) "Killing someone in a war is exactly the same as killing someone in peacetime". Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer.
7 marks

Section 2: Essay writing – 10 marks each

Choose 2 questions from the following choice of 4:

1. Religious Texts

With reference to any biblical passages you have studied, explain the role of a prophet. (10)

2. Religion in the modern world

“The biblical creation stories should be rejected in our modern, scientific age”. Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion. (10)

3. Worship

With reference to a religion you have studied, describe and explain the practices that are used to initiate new entrants into the religion. (10)

4. Ethics

‘Everyone should be free to say what they want’. Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion. (10)

Section 1: 20 marks

Section 2: 20 marks (10 marks for each of the two essay questions)

Total: 40 marks