

Answers to the essay questions are to be written in the separate essay booklet.

In developing your answer to Part II, be sure to keep these general definitions in mind:

- (a) **explain** means "to make plain or understandable; to give reasons for or causes of; to show the logical development or relationships of"
- (b) **discuss** means "to make observations about something using facts, reasoning, and argument; to present in some detail"

## Part II

### THEMATIC ESSAY QUESTION

**Directions:** Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs addressing the task below, and a conclusion.

**Theme:** Belief Systems

The world has many different belief systems. Each is distinctive, but all greatly influenced the lives of their followers and the society in which the belief system was practiced.

**Task:**

Choose *two* major belief systems and for *each*

- Explain key beliefs *and/or* practices
- Discuss an influence the belief system had on the lives of its followers or the society in which it was practiced

You may use any example from your study of global history. Some suggestions you might wish to consider include animism, Buddhism, Christianity, Confucianism, Daoism, Islam, Judaism, legalism, and Shinto.

You are *not* limited to these suggestions.

Do *not* use the United States as the focus of your answer.

**Guidelines:**

In your essay, be sure to

- Develop all aspects of the task
- Support the theme with relevant facts, examples, and details
- Use a logical and clear plan of organization, including an introduction and a conclusion that are beyond a restatement of the theme