

Examiners' Report  
June 2012

GCSE Religious Studies 5RS02 01

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## **Introduction**

This is the third year that the 5RS02 specification has been assessed. The specification continues to be a very popular course as teachers and schools recognise the benefits of an examinable course that both engages and educates young people. The variety of choice within this specification allows teachers to teach the course that most suits their candidates.

## Question 1 (a)

In Section 1 of the examination, question one was slightly more popular than question two.

Key words are given at the beginning of each section of the specification content. Candidates should be aware of the definitions of the key words in order to use them in their responses. The glossary is found in Appendix 4 of the specification.

Candidates who achieved 2 marks on this question were able to give the glossary definition confidently. Those who knew what natural evil was, but could not define it, gained 1 mark by giving an example such as volcanoes. There were some candidates who had not learned the definition and therefore gained no marks.

In this example the candidate indicates some understanding of the key term but does not give a fully accurate definition.

(a) Natural Evil means that something has happened naturally and humans have nothing to do with it.



**ResultsPlus**

**Examiner Comments**

The candidate achieves 1 mark for a partially correct response as there is no mention of evil or suffering.



**ResultsPlus**

**Examiner Tip**

In the definition of 'natural evil' we would expect to see some indication of suffering as well as it not being caused by humans.

(a) natural evil is: actions that cause suffering but have nothing to do with humans - for example: earthquakes



**ResultsPlus**

**Examiner Comments**

This example reflects the idea that suffering has been caused and it was nothing to do with humans. This is a fully correct definition according to the mark scheme and glossary and therefore gains 2 marks.



**ResultsPlus**

**Examiner Tip**

Candidates should be familiar with the glossary definition.

## Question 1 (b) (c) (d)

This section is Believing in God.

In this section question one was slightly more popular than question two.

Candidates are required to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the content; express their own responses to the issues and questions raised using reasons and evidence, whilst evaluating alternative points of view.

The examination paper requires the candidates to give reasoned opinions in (b) and (d)(i) responses. In (c) responses, the knowledge and understanding of the required content is assessed. In (d)(ii) the evaluation of the alternative point of view is assessed. All aspects require the study of Christian attitudes and teachings to the issues.

The specification requires the study of all bullet points. In this example we are assessing the bullet point:

- How two television and/or radio programmes and/or films about religion may affect a person's attitude to belief in God.

(b) I do think that TV or films can affect a persons attitude because in the programmefilm the issue could be the same as something someone experienced but be made better by belief in God - <sup>in the film</sup> causing them to believe.

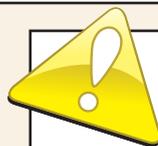


**ResultsPlus**

**Examiner Comments**

(b) The candidate gives a personal opinion supported by two reasons which are "something someone has experienced..." and "give you a reason not to believe".

The candidate is unsure which side of the argument they support and gives both alternatives. Two brief reasons = 2 marks



**ResultsPlus**

**Examiner Tip**

Candidates are advised to give two reasons to support one point of view. This supports them in exploring their own thoughts and developing answers, thus gaining the higher marks.

In (1)(c) the specification bullet point being assessed is:

- How Christians respond to the problem of unanswered prayers.

Candidates answered this question very well.

(c) Christians respond to the problem of unanswered prayers by consulting a member of their family or local church and ask them for help or advice.

By consulting a member of the church, a Christian can hope to be cleansed of their sins believing that, that is why their prayers have been left unanswered.

Other Christians may try harder to have themselves heard by praying for longer or more often. They believe that God may not have heard them instead of not answering them.

~~praying~~ Christians may also see this as a test on their faith or punishment for ~~sinning~~ a sin. Those who believe that it is a test on their faith will continue to pray whilst others may doubt their beliefs.



### ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

(c) The candidate gives one developed reason and two brief reasons coherently written; therefore the response can be awarded the higher mark for Quality of Written Communication.

Firstly "seek help" is developed by the idea of absolution, followed by the ideas of "test" and "for longer and more often".

Level 4, 8 marks



### ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Candidates should be told that they do not have to fill the space and that full marks can be achieved within the space given. They should avoid spending too long on these earlier questions to avoid running out of time in Section 4.

This question requires an evaluation of responses to why people should or should not believe in God, and requires a working use of the key term 'atheist'. Most candidates achieved good marks on this question.

(d)(i) I disagree with this statement as "its people own decision is they believe in God or not."  
~~Some people may~~ I disagree ~~because~~ because there's not enough evidence that God exists. I don't trust the bible 100%. Also I disagree because if God was everything they say he is there wouldn't be natural evil ~~in~~ in the world. They say God's Omnipotent all powerful, then he would have the power to stop all natural suffering.

(ii)  
Some people may disagree with me as they believe he created ~~the~~ us and we should be grateful and look up to him. People may also disagree with me as they believe they can feel an ~~exist~~ existence with them.



### ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

(d)(i) A personal opinion supported by three correct reasons = 3 marks

In this example the marks are gained at "their own decision",

"not enough evidence" and "Why is there evil in the world if God exists"

(d)(ii) Two correct reasons = 2 marks

The marks are gained at "created world... grateful" and "you can feel an existence with them."



### ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Candidates should be reminded to refer to Christianity in their answer to (d) questions.

## Question 2 (a)

This section is Believing in God.

In this section question one was slightly more popular than question two.

Key words are given at the beginning of each section of the specification content. Candidates should be aware of the definitions of the key words in order to use them in their responses. The glossary is found in Appendix 4 of the specification.

Candidates who achieved 2 marks on this question were able to give the glossary definition confidently. This question was answered exceptionally well by many candidates.

(a) Omni-benevolent means someone is all loving



**ResultsPlus**

**Examiner Comments**

The response reflects the definition from the mark scheme. Despite saying 'someone' the candidate still gains 2 marks for 'all - loving'.

(a) Omni-benevolent means the idea that God is all-good.



**ResultsPlus**

**Examiner Comments**

A different understanding but still accurate = 2 marks

## Question 2 (b) (c) (d)

This section is Believing in God.

In this section question one was slightly more popular than question two.

Candidates are required to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the content, express their own responses to the issues and questions raised using reasons and evidence, whilst evaluating alternative points of view.

The examination paper requires the candidates to give reasoned opinions of their study in (b) and (d)(i) responses. In (c) responses, the knowledge and understanding of the required content is assessed. In (d)(ii) the evaluation of the alternative point of view is assessed. All aspects require the study of Christian attitudes and teachings to the issues.

The specification requires the study of all bullet points. In this example we are assessing the bullet point:

- How religious experiences can lead to belief in God.

(b) I think it doesn't prove that God exists because why is there evil and suffering in the world if God exists and if he is the all loving and powerful man they say he is. Also when religious people pray, not many of the prayers get answered. If he existed, he wouldn't ignore your prayers.



### ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

(b) The candidate begins by not referring to any religious experience and writes about reasons why God does not exist. This does not answer the question and so was awarded no marks.



### ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Candidates must answer the question asked.

The specification requires the study of all bullet points. In this example we are assessing the bullet point:

- Why evil and suffering lead some people not to believe in God.

(d) (i) I believe that there are some solutions to evil and suffering. Firstly, moral evil is suffering caused by humans such as rape and murder which could be prevented by having stricter laws and perhaps longer prison sentences to prevent people committing these awful things. Secondly, some suffering, such as ~~tsunamis~~ <sup>flooding</sup>, can be caused by human impact on the environment therefore if we recycled etc. more then this could be partly prevented. I also think that some moral evil can be prevented by teaching better morals and values eg. Christian ones like "do not murder" to children. (Exodus 20)

(ii) Some people may think that it cannot be prevented. Firstly due to the fall of man where Adam and Eve sinned, causing the world to be full of evil, ~~the~~ the world will never be rid of evil and suffering. Also some <sup>Christians</sup> may believe that evil and suffering are a result of free will and we cannot take away <sup>evil and</sup> suffering without letting each of us make our own choices in life. Thirdly they may believe that some suffering eg. natural suffering like earthquakes will never be prevented as they are <sup>through</sup> no fault of humans.



### ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

(d)(i) A personal opinion supported by three simple reasons. The 3 marks are gained as follows: "stricter laws", "awful things" and "recycled etc"

(d)(ii) Two simple reasons with one developed. The 3 marks are gained at the following places: Firstly "evil and suffering" and secondly "choices" which is developed by "fault of humans".



### ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Candidates should be reminded to refer to Christianity in their answer.

The specification requires the study of all bullet points. In this example we are assessing the bullet point:

- The argument from design and how it may, or may not, lead to belief in God

(c) William Paley argued that if you stumble across a watch in a desert, it must have had a designer. It couldn't have just appeared out of nowhere. This argument

could be used to prove the existence of God. Something as complex as the Universe or <sup>even</sup> our own DNA couldn't have just happened by chance. Something must have ~~been~~ designed and created it - God. This also links in to religious experience. A numinous experience could lead someone to feel that something as miraculous as Niagra Falls had to be designed by someone. This designer must also be • omnipotent and omniscient to produce the ~~world's~~ Universe's wonders. God is the only possible answer to natural things happening. Some things which science can't explain, and are seemingly impossible must have derived from somewhere. An effect must always have a cause.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

(c) The candidate gives a fully developed response that answers the question, gaining Level 4, 8 marks; and retaining the mark for Quality of Written Communication.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Tip

It is important for candidates to show understanding of knowledge gained and to use it to explain how the knowledge leads to, or supports, belief in God.

### Question 3 (a)

This section is Matters of Life and Death.

In this section question four was slightly more popular than question three.

Key words are given at the beginning of each section of the specification content. Candidates should be aware of the definitions of the key words in order to use them in their responses. The glossary is found in Appendix 4 of the specification.

Candidates who achieved 2 marks on this question were able to give the glossary definition confidently. Candidates who knew what the idea was behind the key term gained 1 mark for a partially correct answer. The candidates often referred to a standard of living.

For full marks the mark scheme required: (The idea that) life must have some benefits for it to be worth living.

(a) quality of life - life must have benefits to be worth living.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

This candidate gained 2 marks for a fully correct definition.

(a) How good or bad a person's life is, dependant on several factors including health & poverty.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

The candidate describes a quality of life rather than defines it and gains 1 mark; partially correct.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Tip

It is always best to use the glossary definition.

### Question 3 (b) (c) (d)

This section is Matters of Life and Death.

In this section question four was slightly more popular than question three.

Candidates are required to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the content, express their own responses to the issues and questions raised using reasons and evidence, whilst evaluating alternative points of view.

The examination paper requires the candidates to give reasoned opinions in (b) and (d)(i) responses. In (c) responses the knowledge and understanding of the required content is assessed. In (d)(ii) the evaluation of the alternative point of view is assessed. All aspects require the study of Christian attitudes and teachings to the issues.

The specification requires the study of all bullet points. In this example we are assessing the bullet point:

- The causes of world poverty.

have a good quality life.

b) I don't think natural disasters are the cause of poverty as I believe the first reason for poverty is capitalism. In the world we live in the rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer. If ~~we~~ we lived in a communist society I feel there would be less poverty than there is today. My second reason behind not believing ~~world disasters are the~~ poverty is due to world disasters is that technology and equipment hasn't reached 3rd world countries yet. I feel that in decades to come technology will expand and create 3rd world countries come out of poverty. ~~Nothing~~ Nothing can happen quickly. I feel that in 50 years time there will be less poverty due to ~~the~~ technology.



#### ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

(b) The candidate gives a personal opinion supported by two developed reasons. Although these are not on the mark scheme they are an alternative approach and are rewarded as such.

"Capitalism" is given and developed as a reason for world poverty. The lack of technology in the third world is developed as a reason for world poverty.

Two developed reasons, 4 marks.



#### ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

The more successful candidates give two clear reasons. These are identified as reason one and reason two; or are divided into paragraphs.

The specification requires the study of all bullet points. In this example we are assessing the bullet point:

- Why abortion is a controversial issue.

(c) Abortion is a controversial issue because some people agree with it but some people don't for example Catholics don't agree with it because God taught us

'thou shall not kill'  
'Whereas some will allow it in some circumstances such as rape as it's not fair on the mother to carry on the pregnancy.

Christians ~~are~~ also don't agree with it because God said 'once conceived, life has already begun' which shows it is wrong to abort the child.

On the other hand it may have been brought so controversial because people believe if a woman was pregnant & the child would be born handicapped then it isn't fair on the child or mother.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

In this example the candidate clearly understands the different attitudes to abortion and why this might make abortion a controversial issue, therefore gaining full marks.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Tip

Many candidates did not understand the word 'controversial' and took to writing about attitudes for or against abortion, therefore not answering the question.

The specification requires the study of all bullet points. In this example we are assessing the bullet point:

- Christian attitudes to euthanasia and the reasons for them.

(d) (i) I disagree with the statement "Euthanasia is always murder" because God gave humans free will. Voluntary euthanasia when somebody asks for a gentle and easy death should be allowed. It's up to the person in question to decide. Non-voluntary euthanasia when someone isn't able to ask them self but you have good reason to believe they'd want to die is acceptable because it's the lesser of two evils. God wouldn't want his people to be in pain so under certain circumstances, I think euthanasia is right. Right to die.

(ii) Catholics would disagree with me any say that all life is precious and belongs to God. Humans shouldn't be able to choose when someone should die, only God can do that. 6<sup>th</sup> commandment states "thou shalt not kill". Evangelical Christians will accept no exceptions regardless of the quality of life of a person.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

In this example the candidate gives two fully correct answers gaining 3 marks for (d)(i) and (d)(ii).



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Tip

Candidates are advised to give three reasons.

## Question 4 (a)

This section is Matters of Life and Death.

In this section question four was slightly more popular than question three.

Key words are given at the beginning of each section of the specification content.

Candidates should be aware of the definitions of the key words in order to use them in their responses. The glossary is found in Appendix 4 of the specification.

Candidates who achieved 2 marks on this question were able to give the glossary definition confidently. This was answered particularly well.

The mark scheme required the idea that the soul lives on after the death of the body.

(a) Immortality of the soul is the idea that the soul lives on after death.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

This candidate gives a fully correct response in this example.

Write your answer here:

(a) Immortality of the soul means the soul is never ending, imortal.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

In this example the candidate gains full marks.

## Question 4 (b) (c) (d)

This section is Matters of Life and Death.

In this section question four was slightly more popular than question three.

Candidates are required to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the content, express their own responses to the issues and questions raised giving reasons and evidence, whilst evaluating alternative points of view.

The examination paper requires the candidates to give reasoned opinions in (b) and (d)(i) responses. In (c) responses the knowledge and understanding of the required content is assessed. In (d)(ii) the evaluation of the alternative point of view is assessed. All aspects require the study of Christian attitudes and teachings to the issues.

The specification requires the study of all bullet points. In this example we are assessing the bullet points:

- Christian attitudes to euthanasia and the reasons for them
- Why Christians believe in life after death and how beliefs about life after death affect their lives
- The nature of abortion

(b) Yes, I do think that everyone should have the right to die when they want as I think people should be able to die with dignity as they may lead on a painful life due to an illness therefore I believe that euthanasia should be allowed so that person can die with their dignity. Also I think people should have the right to die when they choose as we all have freedom of right so therefore we should be able to make choices as a person may be suffering in pain and also putting others through pain too so we should have to right.

(c) Christian beliefs about life after death affect the way Christians live their lives as the teachings of God say that if we do good then we will be saved and

go to ~~the~~ heaven so this will affect the way christians live as they will then do good in the lives so their soul will live on and they can then go to heaven & join God. It also affects the way christians live their life as they will want to follow in Jesus' footsteps in life and help those in need in order for them to be saved after death on judgement day. Christian beliefs of life after death also affect the way in which <sup>they</sup> lead their lives as God said to "treat others as you would want to be treated" so therefore they would want to follow what God said in order to have immortality of the soul as they are being good christians of Gods.

(d) (i) Yes, I do agree that abortion should always be allowed as I think that a woman should not have to have a child if she is in no mental state as then she would be of risk to both the child and herself. Also if the woman is pregnant through rape then I think abortions should be allowed as ~~it~~ I think that is mental torture to the mother and unborn. If the child is going to be born severely disabled then I also think abortions should be allowed as I do not think it is fair on the child or parents as the child may be in pain in life.

(ii) Some people may disagree with me as they may see abortion as murder and that it goes against the 10 commandments of "Thou shalt not kill." Also some people may only think abortion is right in certain circumstances like - rape where the mental health of the woman is at risk, other wise people may disagree with abortion. Some people may see birth as a miracle from God and that abortion is wrong as it is what God wants as we were "all made in the image and likeness of God" and God only gives life so he should be the only one to take it.



## ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

(b) The candidate gives a personal opinion supported by two brief reasons which are "with dignity" and "freedom of choice"

(c) The candidate gives a comprehensive explanation coherently written; therefore is awarded the higher mark for Quality of Written Communication. Level 4, 8 marks

(d)(i) The candidate gives a personal opinion supported by a fully developed reason, gaining 3 marks for "rape", "un-Christian" and "pain in life".

(d)(ii) One fully developed reason which gains 3 marks as follows: The reason is that some people think abortion is murder which is developed at the points "shall not kill" and "only one to take life".



## ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Candidates responded well to this question. It is important that candidates give evidence that they understand the term 'right to die' connected to euthanasia.

The specification requires the study of all bullet points. In this example we are assessing the bullet points:

- Christian attitudes to euthanasia and the reasons for them
- Why Christians believe in life after death and how beliefs about life after death affect their lives
- The nature of euthanasia

(b) I don't think everyone should have the right to die when they want because if someone helps you then it counts as murder, which breaks the ten commandment "thou shalt not kill." so it must be wrong. Another reason I think this is because it is playing God which is wrong. "He sets the time for birth and the time for death." By taking your own life you are deciding the time of your death which goes against God, so it is wrong.

(c) All Christians believe in heaven, some believe in hell and Roman Catholics believe in purgatory. This affects their life as they lead a good life to ensure.

they enter heaven and not hell.  
It also affects their life as they attend church, ~~and~~ pray and worship God which means they have to take time out of their life to do these things.  
Another reason it affects their life is that they follow the teachings of Jesus. This includes following the parable of the sheep

and the goat by housing the homeless and feeding the hungry to ensure they gain entry into heaven like the sheep did.

Lastly, they live a sin free life by following the 10 commandments, the golden rule and love thy neighbour etc to ensure they gain entry into heaven.

(d) (i) I do think abortion should always be allowed as it is the woman's body so it should be her choice what she does. Also I think it should be allowed because if the mother's life is at risk then she should have an abortion to spare her life. Lastly, I think abortion should always be allowed as if the baby is expected to have disabilities and the mother can't cope then it should be aborted as it won't have a high quality of life.

(ii) I think someone may disagree with me as it breaks the 10 commandment "thou shalt not kill."

Also the fetus is made in the image of God therefore it should not be destroyed.

Lastly, I think someone may disagree with me as it is playing God "He sets the time for birth and the time for death." so

it should not be allowed.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

This is an example of a candidate who gained full marks on this question.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Tip

It is at this point in the examination that candidates begin to make mistakes when answering questions. They complete (a), (b) and (c) from one question and (d) from another. This means they lose a significant number of marks.

Ask candidates to cross out the question they are not answering to avoid this.

## Question 5 (a)

This section is Marriage and family life.

In this section question five was significantly more popular than question six.

Key words are given at the beginning of each section of the specification content. Candidates should be aware of the definitions of the key words in order to use them in their responses. The glossary is found in Appendix 4 of the specification.

Candidates who achieved 2 marks on this question were able to give the glossary definition confidently.

The mark scheme is looking for definitions which say '(Sexual) attraction to the same sex.' The majority of candidates answered this question well.

The mark scheme defines the acceptable definition as (Sexual) attraction to the same sex:

- Same sex attraction
- Having (sexual) feelings towards people of the same sex
- Being (sexually) attracted to members of the same gender
- Being gay/lesbian

(a) homosexuality means that the same sex falls in love with the other and becomes a couple.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

This example reflects the definition from the mark scheme and is awarded 2 marks.

write your answer here.

(a) Homosexuality is a person who is sexually attracted to a person of the same sex.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

An example of a response gaining full marks.

## Question 5 (b) (c) (d)

This section is Marriage and the family.

This year question five was significantly more popular than question six.

Candidates are required to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the content, express their own responses to the issues and questions raised using reasons and evidence, whilst evaluating alternative points of view.

The examination paper requires the candidates to give reasoned opinions in (b) and (d)(i) responses. In (c) responses the knowledge and understanding of the required content is assessed. In (d)(ii) the evaluation of the alternative point of view is assessed. All aspects require the study of Christian attitudes and teachings to the issues.

The specification requires the study of all bullet points. In this example we are assessing the bullet points:

- Christian attitudes to contraception and the reasons for them
- How Christian Churches help with the upbringing of children.

(b) I think that all Christians should accept the use of contraception because their methods are unreliable. ~~They~~ One method they use is the withdrawal method. This method may not always work if the male doesn't withdraw in time. Also, the method where they have sex at the time of the month where the woman is unlikely to fall pregnant is just based down to luck.

Another reason is because they don't agree with abortion. If the woman falls pregnant then they will be forced to keep the baby. This is bad as they might not be ready for a baby and might not have enough money to raise a child.

(c) Christian churches help with the upbringing of children by baptising them. Baptising a child cleanses their sins which had been passed to them by Adam and Eve when they

ate food from the snake at the Garden of Eden. This brings the child into the

church as a Christian.

Another way Christian churches help with the upbringing of children is by Sunday school. If a child attends Sunday school then they will learn about God, pray and read the bible. They will constantly be around other Christians which is a good influence.

Christian churches also offer confirmation where a Christian can be confirmed once they get older and understand ~~what they~~ that they are giving themselves to God. This helps Christian children to grow up and understand what they are doing and allow them to grow up in a Christian environment.

Finally, Christian churches offer services on Sundays where they read from the bible and sing. This helps with the upbringing of children as they are influenced by other Christians around them. The children learn and take an interest to God here and learn right from wrong.



### ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

(b) Candidates did well at this question overall. There was a good understanding of Christian attitudes towards contraception. In this example of a candidate's response the candidate gives one developed reason.

(c) The candidate gains full marks for their response which links the ways churches help to provide a Christian upbringing.



### ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Many candidates answered this question with an explanation of how a religious upbringing leads to belief in God. This response is from a different section of the examination and, although some marks could be awarded, overall this did not answer the question.

## Question 6 (a)

This section is Marriage and the family.

In this section question five was significantly more popular than question six.

Key words are given at the beginning of each section of the specification content. Candidates should be aware of the definitions of the key words in order to use them in their responses. The glossary is found in Appendix 4 of the specification.

Candidates who achieved 2 marks on this question were able to give the glossary definition confidently.

The mark scheme required the following response:

Where two sets of children (stepbrothers and stepsisters) become one family when their (divorced) parents marry each other.

(a) A re-constituted family is a family that consists of one or both adults being previously married with children, and then marry each other.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

This candidate gains 2 marks for a fully correct answer.

(a) A family which involves both step-brothers and step-sisters from a step-parent.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

A concise definition but still fully correct, 2 marks.

## Question 6 (b) (c) (d)

This section is Marriage and the family.

This year question five was significantly more popular than question six.

Candidates are required to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the content, express their own responses to the issues and questions raised using reasons and evidence, whilst evaluating alternative points of view.

The examination paper requires the candidates to give reasoned opinions in (b) and (d)(i) responses. In (c) responses the knowledge and understanding of the required content is assessed. In (d)(ii) the evaluation of the alternative point of view is assessed. All aspects require the study of Christian attitudes and teachings to the issues.

The specification requires the study of all bullet points. In this example we are assessing the bullet points:

- The purpose of marriage
- Different Christian attitudes to divorce and the reasons for them
- Christian attitudes to homosexuality and the reasons for them.

children have stepbrothers and stepsisters.

(b) yes, I think faithfulness in a marriage is extremely important. The bible teaches Christians that "you shall not commit adultery"-Exodus. The vows in a marriage ceremony also state that you must remain faithful "to one and to cherish". A wedding is in the eyes of God and to disobey these rules is very bad.

Also if within the marriage there are children being brought up it is very difficult for them to cope and it could lead them to continue your ways, as you are setting a bad example toward them. Unfaithfulness within a marriage can also lead to divorce which is against many Christian beliefs and is very unsettling for children:

(c) Some Christians allow divorce and others do not. Catholics believe that marriage is a sacrament and to break it is a bad

gesture toward God. They believe their marriage

is a life long commitment and it should never be broken.

However some protestants and Church of England Christians, allow divorce in certain situations. They believe and understand that some marriages do not work and therefore are best to be broken. They also feel that if there are children involved it is best to do the nicest and most beneficial thing for them.

In many situations divorce can be recommended by priests and churches - for example if one of the ~~partners~~ couple is abusive toward the other or toward any children they may have.

However divorce's or annulments are only allowed or accepted in these extreme cases, as the bible teaches that "holy matrimony is life long" and "the bonds shall never be broken".

Many Christian churches try to help people having marital problems by helping with counselling so that the ~~divorce~~ marriage survives and does not end in divorce, but some Christians also understand that some marriages were never meant to be.

(d) (ii) I agree with this statement as everyone is an equal in the eyes of God and everyone should get along with everyone no matter who they are - "love thy neighbour", "God created man and woman in the image of himself". Also people cannot help being homosexual, it's the way they were born

and the bible teaches that "God knew you before you were in the womb" showing that God created you to be who you are for a reason - "God created everyone an individual". This means that people should accept other people no matter what their preferences are as God meant for them to be that way.

(iii) Many Christians may disagree with me, this is because of their personal views and beliefs. Catholics agree with people being homosexual however they are extremely against homosexual relationships. The bible teaches Christians that "thou shall not lie with another man as you would with a woman" showing that ~~that~~ people were not created to be with the same sex. Christians also believe that male and female were created to be together and relationships and marriage were made so they could have a family and sex should be used for procreational purposes only, which cannot happen between two people of the same sex.



## ResultsPlus

### Examiner Comments

(b) The candidate gives a personal opinion supported by one brief reason and one developed reason and obtains 3 marks. The first brief reason is "adultery is a sin".

The sentence about faithfulness does not develop the reason; it is a second reason but is not credited as the candidate goes on to give a third reason which is developed. The reason "vows" is developed by "God and each other happy".

(c) The candidate gives one developed reason and one brief reason coherently written therefore is awarded the higher mark for Quality of Written Communication. The reason "lesser of two evils" is developed by an example of violence. This is followed by a brief reason "in the case of adultery". Level three, 6 marks.

(d)(i) The candidate provides a personal opinion supported by three simple reasons, obtaining 3 marks. These are "love your neighbour", "all be equal" and "freewill".

(d)(ii) The candidate gives three simple reasons, obtaining 3 marks. These are: "he wants", "procreation" and "Homosexuality".

Candidates have very strong opinions about faithfulness in marriage but often did not have supporting reasons.

(b) Faithfulness is important within marriage because, within Christianity, adultery is a sin, you also say an oath at the wedding as well. It can also effect family life as a whole.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

(b) the candidate gives two simple reasons and gains 2 marks.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Tip

All topics/key words should be studied to provide time for candidates to reflect on why they hold the views, values, opinions they do.

## Question 7 (a)

This section is Religion and community cohesion.

Question seven was significantly more popular than question eight.

Key words are given at the beginning of each section of the specification content. Candidates should be aware of the definitions of the key words in order to use them in their responses. The glossary is found in Appendix 4 of the specification.

The mark scheme required:

- a common vision and shared sense of belonging for all groups in a society - a society where different groups of people get on well with each other
- the aspect of bonding and togetherness exhibited by races and religions in a community.

Write your answer here:

(a) a common vision <sup>and a</sup> shared sense of belonging for all groups in society.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

This candidate gave a glossary definition mentioning all groups and a common vision.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Tip

Look for the two parts of the definition which will make up the two mark answer.

(a) Where people have a vision and a sense of belonging to a society.

(b) yes because by people living with lots of different colours/races it shows people that everyone is equal. God created everyone to be equal and "treat others how you would like



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

This candidate does not give a sense of all people/all groups in society; therefore is only partially correct.

## Question 7 (b) (c) (d)

This section was Religion and community cohesion.

Question seven was significantly more popular than question eight.

Candidates are required to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the content, express their own responses to the issues and questions raised using reasons and evidence, whilst evaluating alternative points of view.

The examination paper requires the candidates to give reasoned opinions of in (b) and (d) (i) responses. In (c) responses the knowledge and understanding of the required content is assessed. In (d)(ii) the evaluation of the alternative point of view is assessed. All aspects require the study of Christian attitudes and teachings to the issues.

The specification requires the study of all bullet points. In this example we are assessing the bullet points:

- The nature of the UK as a multi-ethnic society
- The work of a Christian Church to help asylum seekers and/or immigrant workers in the UK
- Issues raised for religion in a multi-faith society.

living together.

(b) Yes, because that way people are more likely to learn & understand the cultures of other races. Also, the living in a multi-ethnic society shows diversity, & it is proven to show that despite the person has a different race, religion, background, that they're all human beings & just the same.

(c) ~~Christians~~ Some Christians may work to help people, as it's following what Jesus has done on several occasions.

Helping others find work or help those seeking asylum is marked as a good deed, helping the Christians doing this closer to their reward of Heaven.

Some Christians may also do this because helping others is a Christian teaching, & doing so would help them live a good Christian life.

(d) (i) I agree, because interfaith marriages aren't a bad thing, in the respect of it being a sin. In fact, it shouldn't matter to a Christian of interfaith marriage, as they would be living by their faith anyway, in living a fulfilling Christian life & getting married in the first place. God has also taught to be accepting of other people, & so, in a diverse world, interfaith marriage should naturally be accepted anyway.

(ii) Some people may disagree with me, in saying that a married couple with a different set of faiths each could cause complications between the two & going on to say that because of this, they wouldn't be compatible, making it to be unaccepted by some, simply because of the conflicts.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

(b) The candidate gives a personal opinion supported by two simple reasons. The reasons are "cultures of other races" and "all human beings just the same". Two simple reasons, 2 marks. (c) The candidate gives two brief reasons coherently written therefore is awarded the higher mark for Quality of Written Communication. The levels are reached at "Jesus has done on several occasions" and "closer to their reward in heaven" Level 2, 4 marks. (d)(i) The candidate gives a personal opinion supported by three simple reasons, obtaining 3 marks. The three reasons are "being a sin", "first place" and "naturally accepted anyway" (a slightly different approach but still appropriate). (d)(ii) The candidate gives two simple reasons, obtaining 2 marks. The reason are "complications between the two" and "simply because of conflicts".

together happily.

(b) living in a multi-ethnic society will help someone to learn more about other races and they will learn how to respect the beliefs and life styles of others.

Also if you are used to seeing different coloured people living around you, you're likely to be more accepting and understanding, and you'll learn to follow the ~~the~~ Golden rule.

(c) Christians are taught to "love thy neighbour" and "treat others how you wish to be treated" this would make some Christians want to help

others. Also Christians believe that on "judgement day" your life will be judged by God on whether you've been a good person or not. Being selfless and helping others, they believe will help them through this.

everybody wants a chance to have a good quality of life and by helping somebody else achieve this would be ~~as~~ a very rewarding thing.

We are all humans after all and God teaches we should all love and help one another.

Being selfless and helping others is a key part of religion as it works towards world peace and stability

(d) (i) I agree that interfaith marriages should be accepted because God's teaching says "love thy neighbor" and who says this can't ~~mean~~ mean in an intimate way? we are also taught by the bible humans have free will and so should be able to decide who they want to spend the rest of their life with regardless of faith it also helps to bring religions closer and more people will understand religions so there'd be less racism

(ii) people may disagree and say marriage is a gift from the god of their chosen religion and to combine the two faiths would be a contradiction ~~and~~ Also as Christmas is a Christian celebration, a Jehovah's witness wouldn't be able to celebrate as they do not celebrate Christmas. they say it would cause conflict between marriages and also here the decision of what faith to bring their children

up as. All the conflict could end up  
in divorce.

**TOTAL FOR PAPER = 80 MARKS**



**ResultsPlus**

**Examiner Comments**

An example of a near to fully correct response: (b) gained 2 marks.

The candidate has a clear religious basis for the knowledge given and understands how religious teachings encourage believers to act in life.

## Question 8 (a)

This section was Religion and community cohesion.

Question seven was significantly more popular than question eight.

Key words are given at the beginning of each section of the specification content. Candidates should be aware of the definitions of the key words in order to use them in their responses. The glossary is found in Appendix 4 of the specification.

Many candidates confused this key term with 'discrimination'.

The mark scheme requires: believing some people are inferior or superior without even knowing them.

(a) *believing people are superior or inferior without even knowing them*



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

This candidate gives a fully correct definition.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Tip

Candidates' understanding of the key terms is helped by use of them in the classroom everyday.

## Question 8 (b) (c) (d)

This section is Religion and community cohesion.

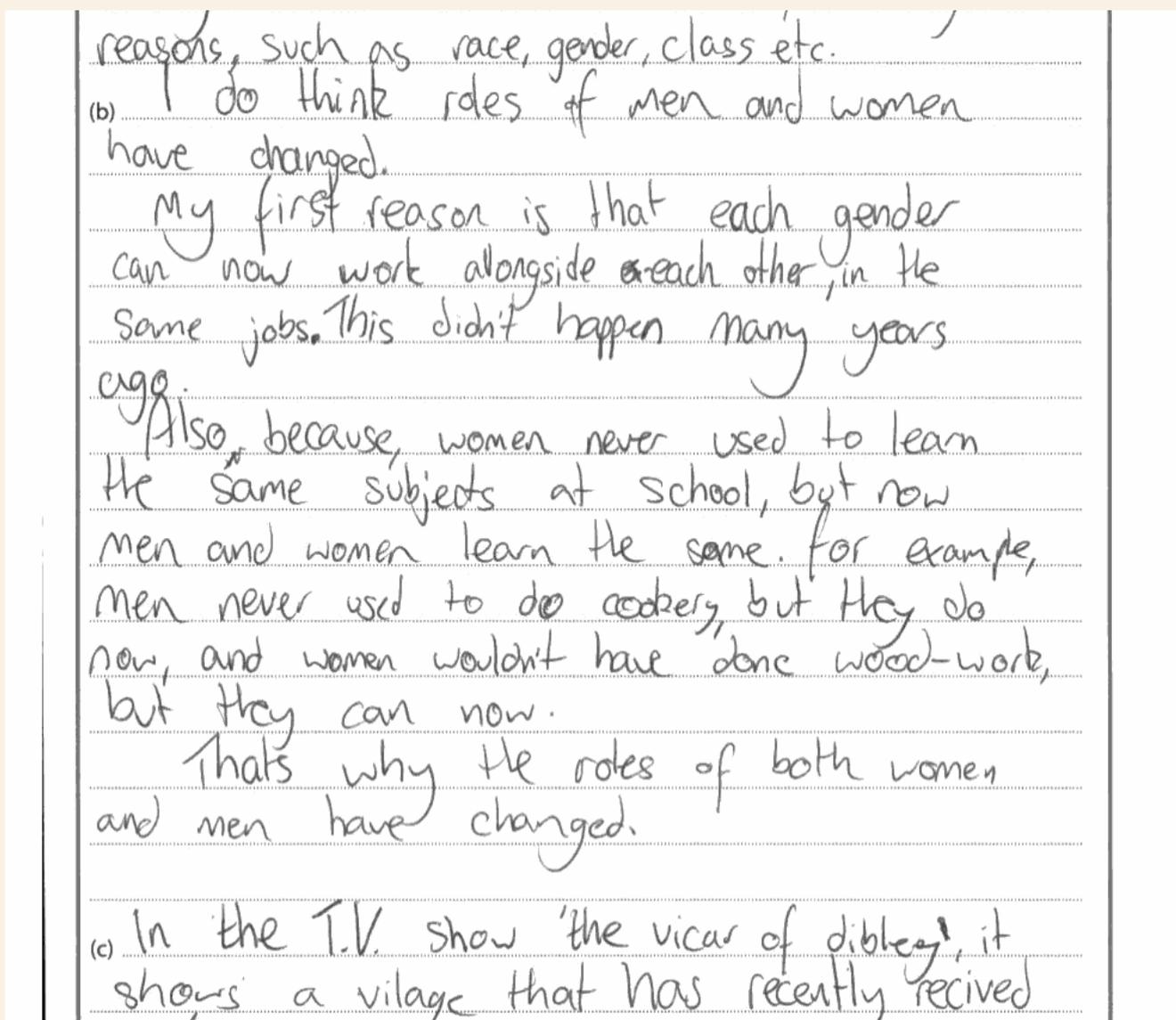
Question seven was significantly more popular than question eight.

Candidates are required to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the content, express their own responses to the issues and questions raised using reasons and evidence, whilst evaluating alternative points of view.

The examination paper requires the candidates to give reasoned opinions in (b) and (d)(i) responses. In (c) responses the knowledge and understanding of the required content is assessed. In (d)(ii) the evaluation of the alternative point of view is assessed. All aspects require the study of Christian attitudes and teachings to the issues.

The specification requires the study of all bullet points. In this example we are assessing the bullet points:

- How and why attitudes to the roles of men and women have changed in the UK
- How an issue arising from religion and community cohesion has been presented in one form of the media
- Issues raised for religion by living in a multi-faith society.



a female vicar.

The program shows different people's views

on this issue.

For example, the head of the ~~village~~ village council says 'it's a disgrace' and says that it is not a women's job. This shows that some people may be against equality for women, if they're not allowed to work in jobs like this.

Also, it shows an old man who says 'treat every body equal' which sums up God's golden rule and shows viewers that, even though she is a woman, she should still be given the chance to be a vicar.

The programme showed how the rights for women within the church ~~haven't~~ hadn't changed all that much, however tried to show people that she (the vicar) could do a good job. Therefore trying to change people's ~~own~~ opinion of women working in the church.

(d) (i) I do not think multi-faith societies cause issues for families, as people should be able to have free-will over which religion they want to be and shouldn't let their views change because of their friends and family.

Also, people from different religions should

be allowed' to marry, therefore not creating ~~an~~ an issue when starting a new family.

(iii) Christians may disagree as they feel they should raise their children as Christians. They believe living and other religions could pollute the child's view and therefore cause issues and arguments in the family.

Also, Christians believe they should marry Christians, or they will not achieve the perfect family life. This tells us that if there is a danger of a Christian marrying another religion, it will cause arguments with the parents of both people, ~~as~~ as they will see it as 'against God's will'!



## ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

(b) The candidate gives a personal opinion supported by one simple reason and one developed reason. These were awarded at: "same jobs" and "learn the same subjects at school" developed by an example of "wood work".

One simple reason and one developed reason, 3 marks.

(c) The candidate gives four ways: 'an issue' was covered in an example from 'one form of media'. It is coherently written therefore is awarded the higher mark for Quality of Written Communication.

The issue is the ordination of women/women priests. The four ways are: "different people's views on this issue", "allowed to work in jobs like this", "says treat everybody equal" and "change people's opinion of women working in the church".

Four ways coherently written, Level 4, 8 marks.

(d)(i) A personal opinion supported by two simple reasons, 2 marks. The reasons are "friends and family" and "a new family".

(d)(ii) Two simple reasons, 2 marks. The reasons are "pollute the child's view and therefore cause arguments" and "against God's will".

The candidate refers to Christian teaching, therefore is awarded more than the 3 marks overall.



## ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

(c) The question asks for 'an issue' and one form of media. Therefore a candidate who gives several issues, or several examples of media, can only be credited for one of them.

Some candidates used homosexuality or adultery as the issue. These are not in this section of the examination and could not be rewarded.

(b) I think attitudes towards men and women have changed in society before the 1950s women rarely worked and weren't allowed to work, where as now a lot more women work and do have the same role as men, ~~I think~~ Before women were deemed inferior to men where as now we are equal, however the Roman Catholic church have not changed there views and women still have no place in the church. Women have a lot more respect in modern society and we aren't looked at ~~based~~ <sup>Solely</sup> on the purpose to reproduce.

(c) Roles of men and women has been presented in the media, the most sexist programme I have seen was the vicar of Dibley where they hired a

a female priest to be the new head of the church and people didn't react very well. Firstly because she was a women they thought she wouldn't be able to make good choices of decisions because of her gender. Secondly because she was a women and she played a high role in the church they didn't think God would want this and would punish them. Thirdly because the programme was aired on the television it

caused some controversy among members of the Roman Catholic church who didn't agree with this at all as they believe women should have no place in the church. Finally this was very prejudice as they assumed because she was a female she was inferior to the rest and she wouldn't be able to make clear decisions. This proves that although society has changed there are still minorities of people who still believe men are still the leading sex.

(d)(ii) I agree that living in a multi faith society does cause problems for religious families because the children might have to attend mixed-faith schools which may dispute over certain beliefs. It causes issues for the family as a whole as there may be racist people in the society who don't agree with that families choice of religion

(iii) However religious pluralism suggests that this isn't an issue, Christians follow the bible and the bible teaches to love thy neighbour regardless of what religion they are. The government want to promote religious harmony which is a way of getting mixing different religions to try stop the dispute between

them. Christians ~~believe in~~ don't believe in discrimination because of the parable of the good samaritanes as an living in a mixed faith society should promote religious and racial harmony.



**ResultsPlus**

**Examiner Comments**

This is an example of a full mark response.



**ResultsPlus**

**Examiner Tip**

The more able candidates this year lost marks by writing too much in Sections 1 to 3 and running out of time in Section 4.

Teachers should prepare candidates for the examination by encouraging them to write concisely and to the point and not at length. Using extra sheets may gain candidates no marks and risks them losing 20 marks because they have run out of time.

## **Paper Summary**

Unit 2 covers Christianity. This unit continues to be increasingly popular. Many candidates sit this unit as a short course because it engages the interest of young people; it addresses many moral and spiritual issues affecting young people today and, importantly, it fulfils all the requirements for statutory Key Stage 4 Religious Education.

The unit requires candidates to study the relationship between Christianity and life in the UK. There are four sections: Believing in God, Matters of life and death, Marriage and the family, and Religion and community cohesion.

## **Grade Boundaries**

Grade boundaries for this, and all other papers, can be found on the website on this link:

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