

Examiners' Report

June 2013

GCSE Religious Studies 5RS03 01

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Introduction

The Edexcel GCSE Religious Studies specification continues to be a very popular course as teachers and schools recognise the benefits of an examinable course that both interests and educates young people. The variety of choice within the new specification allows the course to be taught that most suits candidates.

Unit 3 covers Roman Catholic Christianity, and this unit continues to be popular, addressing many moral and spiritual issues affecting young people today. The introduction of linearisation for all GCSE Specifications has meant that only Year 11 candidates will have sat the exam this year. Inevitably this has resulted in a sizeable fall in numbers sitting Unit 3 this year, but numbers are expected to return to their previous levels next year.

This year has also seen the addition of 4 marks being awarded for Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPG). This has been assessed in candidate responses in Section 1 (questions 1 and 2).

Question 1 (a) (b) (c) (d)

For the first time this year marks were awarded for SPG on question 1. These marks are in addition to the marks awarded for the Religious Studies content of the candidate's responses.

Part (a) most candidates were able to give a correct definition of what is meant by 'miracle'.

Part (b) focused on unanswered prayers and whether they proved God does not exist. Whilst many candidates were able to give two reasons to support their opinion, a significant number found it difficult to develop their reasons. Many gave reasons for and against, and this is acceptable provided they make it clear that they are unsure about what they think and then explain their reasons why. As usual, the best answers gave well-developed reasons, often using specific examples for development.

Part (c) was well answered by many candidates, who recognised that the question was about the causation argument and were able to give a clear outline of how it may lead to belief in God. However, a minority confused the causation argument with the design argument, thus gaining no marks.

Part (d) asked candidates to evaluate a statement about natural evil proving that God does not exist. Some candidates confused natural and moral evil, but most were able to give reasons to support both sides of the issue, referring to God's omnipotence, omnibenevolence and omniscience in arguing against the statement.

- (a) Something which seems to break a law of science and makes you think only God could have done it.
- (b) No I don't think unanswered prayers proves that God doesn't exist as some people may pray for selfish things such as praying to do well on a test when you haven't even revised. If you haven't put hardwork and effort then you can't possibly wish to pass a test. Also God gives you what you need, not what you want. This means some unanswered prayers may be left as God hasn't planned for you to have that wish. Furthermore unanswered prayers doesn't mean God doesn't exist, you can't always look for God's help, it's unfair and you should make something occur yourself. God may wish for you to act upon your own actions, so he doesn't wish to answer your prayers for a purpose, it's for the best of thee you.

(c) The causation argument may ^{lead to} ~~prove that~~ God belief in God because if everything that has a cause must have an effect. For example, if I do my homework ~~God will~~ it will please my teachers.

The first cause states that there must be a creator that has made the beautiful world that we live in today. The only logical explanation ^{for} this would be God. He is the only one who is omnipotent ^(all-powerful) and omnibenevolent (all-good) enough to have created the world. God is the lawful creator. Only God could have made the mountains and lakes as they ~~contain~~ ^{very difficult} must have been ~~the only thing~~ for anyone else to create. ~~Also~~ So, this must mean that God exists. Furthermore, people may believe ~~that~~ the cause and effect argument as the Bible rightfully says "Let there be light". This indicates that God is the creator of the world and the effect is ~~us~~ us humans and how we have been created. Also, God is omniscient meaning he knows everything that has happened and everything that is going to happen, therefore God knew what the world would be like. ~~Another~~ Another reason for why the cause and effect argument may lead to belief in God is because the world had to be created by someone, it couldn't have been an accident, there must have been a deliberate cause, to why we exist today. ~~The only~~ God is the only one responsible, he is the creator as he is the cause to the whole universe. He has the power ~~to~~ to have created the world at the correct microsecond. Therefore the cause and effect argument proves God exists.

(d) (i) No, natural evil isn't proof that God didn't create the world, because ~~nature~~ as ^{Roman} Catholics would say God isn't entirely responsible for things such as volcano eruptions or ~~tsunamis~~ tsunamis. Volcano eruptions may have been caused to erupt due to ~~toxic~~ toxic fumes in the air, which are done by humans in their own free will. Also, ~~the~~ Catholics would say that natural evil may have been a test to ~~show~~ take the good people who have sadly died with him in heaven. Furthermore natural evil may not have been caused by God, he ~~is~~ doesn't wish evil upon anyone. He loves everyone equally, so, how can he kill the people he created?

(ii) Some people may disagree with me because there is no direct evidence that God created the world ~~if~~ ~~that~~ ~~A~~ There may have been an evil creator who created the world or many other Gods and created natural evil for a ~~pe~~ purpose such as death. ~~or~~ Natural evil proves that God didn't create the world because if God was truly omnipotent and omnibenevolent then how can he let his people suffer? Therefore God mustn't have created the world. If God was truly omniscient then he would have known when things like volcanoes are about to erupt and stop this from occurring, but he doesn't therefore he didn't create the world.



This is an example of a clear, well-written answer.

(a) the candidate has gained full marks by giving the glossary definition of 'miracle'.

2 marks

(b) the candidate has given two developed reasons:

- Some prayers may be selfish...(developed by) the example of the test
- God gives you what you need...(developed by) it might not be part of God's plan for you.

4 marks

(c) the candidate has reached Level 4 by giving 3 correct ways, with one of them developed:

- Every effect has a cause ... (developed by) so the world must have a creator
- God is the only logical explanation
- Only God is powerful enough

8 marks

d(i) the candidate has given 3 correct simple reasons:

- God is not entirely responsible for events
- It may be a test
- God does not wish evil on anyone

3 marks

d(ii) the candidate has given 2 correct simple reasons:

- An omnibenevolent God would not let people suffer
- An omniscient God would know when these events are going to happen and would stop them from occurring

2 marks

NOTE: the first part of the response does not answer the question set therefore is not awarded any mark.

SPG High performance – 4 marks. This candidate's response shows they effectively understand the question and make just a few odd errors. The spelling, punctuation and grammar are almost perfect. They fulfil all of the criteria for High Performance – spelling, punctuation and grammar consistently accurate; effective control of meaning within the context of the question; a wide range of specialist terms used adeptly and with precision.

Total 23 marks



The easiest way to get full marks for the (a) questions is to learn the glossary definitions.

In (b) questions, starting your second reason on a separate line makes it easier to identify where your second reason begins.

Question 2 (a) (b) (c) (d)

For the first time this year marks were awarded for SPG on question 2. These marks are in addition to the marks awarded for the Religious Studies content of the Candidate's responses.

Part (a) was answered with varying degrees of success. To be fully correct candidates needed to mention both that moral evil is caused by humans and that it causes suffering. Many responses only mentioned one aspect, not both, and therefore were only partially correct.

Part (b) was well answered by most candidates, who successfully gave reasons for thinking that miracles have happened. Some simply referred to an unusual event, whilst there are still those who give the birth of a child as a miracle, which it is not, being a natural event.

Many candidates coped well with Part (c), giving balanced, well argued responses. However, a number of candidates were unable to speak in detail about the scientific explanations of how the world began, while others simply talked about the existence of God and did not relate their answer to how the world began.

The responses to Part (d) varied from those who answered the question as set and gave well thought out reasons for and against the statement, to those that simply referred to an example of a film or television programme they had seen (too often the ubiquitous 'Bruce Almighty') whilst not getting to grips fully with the question.

(a) Moral evil is an evil that has been caused by humans.

(b) I think that miracles ~~has~~ have happened because in the bible is a story of Jesus when he helped a blind person, to see again. This proves that miracle have happened because bible is based on a true stories. ~~The~~ The other reason why I think miracles have ~~happened~~ happened is when the Pope John, Paul II have helped also a blind girl. This proves that miracles exist because there aren't such a power, that could help a blind person to see, than God. Finally, miracles might exist because it ~~is~~ says in the bible when Jesus helped a paralised man. ~~The~~ Bible is based on true storks. Therefore miracles must exist.

(c) Scientific explanations of how the world began may lead some people not to believe in God because as the scientific say, they have got a better explanation of how the world has become. Christians say that the world has been designed by God. However, scientific says that it has been caused by a big bang theory. This makes to lead some people not to believe in God because the big bang might ~~not~~ be true.

The other reason why ~~people~~ the world causation might lead people not to believe in God is because, they are saying if world has been made by God, therefore there must be God. But they have been in the space and there wasn't any sign of God. Therefore God doesn't exist. There is a provement and thats why people ^{might stop} ~~don't~~ believe in God.

(d) (i) media does help people to believe in God because ~~or~~ on the radio stations you can find a station which is based on Catholic churches and God. This helps people to believe in God because when people are ~~are~~ listening to the talk through the radio, they start to think that it might be true of what they are saying, God might exist. The other reason why media help people to believe in God is ~~is~~ when people are watching different tv programmes such as the soaps. This helps people to believe in God because they think if there are

that many people who believe in God." Therefore he must exist.

(ii) Some people might disagree with my opinion because there are ~~such~~ ^{different} television programmes such as "father Ted". This makes people not to believe in God because this programme makes bad attitude & towards the Catholics. It makes fun of the priests. The other reason why ~~the~~ people might disagree with me is ~~some~~ ^{of} when some radio stations ~~might~~ are commenting towards Catholic churches. They make fun of them by saying bad comments. This might ~~at~~ help people not to believe in God because they think, if people are making fun of him, and nothing happens, therefore he does not exist.

Part (a) This is a partially correct answer as there is no mention of causing harm/suffering.

1 mark

Part (b) The candidate has given two developed reasons:

- The Bible has the story of Jesus curing the blind person...(developed by) the bible is based on true stories
- Pope John Paul II helped a blind girl...(developed by) proves it was a miracle because only God could have done this.

4 marks

Part (c) The candidate has given one correct reason, developed it and has therefore reached Level 2:

- Science has better explanations ...(developed by) Big Bang theory.

NOTE: The second paragraph is not about how the world began and so cannot be credited.

2 marks

Part (d)(i) The candidate has given two reasons with the first developed:

- Programmes based on Catholic churches and God...(developed by) listening to the radio might make people think God exists
- TV programmes showing a lot of people who believe might lead someone to believe in God.

2 marks

Part (d)(ii) The candidate has given two correct reasons with the first developed:

- A TV programme might make fun of religion...(developed by) the example given from Father Ted
- A radio programme might say bad things about a religion which could lead people to not believe in God

3 marks

NOTE: In this example the development comes before the reason. Markers are aware of this possibility and will credit development in these cases.

SPG 2 marks

Intermediate performance - 2 marks

This candidate is above threshold but spelling is poor. There are many mistakes, including some in the specialist vocabulary. Grammar is poor in places (eg sentences are written when they should not be a sentence).



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

By starting your answer with 'I think/I agree' or 'I do not think/I disagree' in Part (d)(i) is the best way to show that you are giving your opinion.

Question 3 (a)

Part (a) was answered correctly by the majority of candidates.

- (a) Abortion is the killing of a fetus inside a woman's womb.
- (b) I do not think life after death is impossible because in the Bible, Jesus rises from the dead after he is crucified so he can be raised up to Heaven.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

This candidate has given a correct definition - 'inside a woman's womb' clearly indicates that it is before the foetus can survive. 2 marks



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

The easiest way to get full marks for the (a) questions is to learn the glossary definitions.

Question 3 (b) (c) (d)

Part (b) asked the question of whether life after death is impossible, and valid reasons were given for both agreeing and disagreeing. Those who agreed frequently used the Bible to support their point of view, with a large number also giving the paranormal as one of their reasons.

Part (c) was well answered by the majority of the candidates, who were able to give reasons why euthanasia is a controversial issue. There are still some candidates who are confusing euthanasia and abortion, some referring to both within the same response. Candidates must be clear which they are referring to and take extra care over issues such as these where the arguments on both sides of the issue are similar.

In Part (d) better candidates were able to present both sides of the argument effectively, giving freedom of speech as the main reason in support of the media. However, many candidates interpreted 'criticise' in purely negative terms, and struggled to give reasons to support the media being allowed to criticise what religions say about matters of life and death.

(b) I don't think life after death is impossible because my first reason is there is evidence when Jesus died and resurrected that is an example of life after death therefore life after death is possible. My second reason is there is evidence of ghosts and poltergeists therefore there must be life after death.

(c) Euthanasia is a controversial issue because my first reason is there could be doubt if there is a cure for the disease and if the person is already dead they could have survived. My second reason is the person may have wanted to live therefore euthanasia is controversial.

My third reason is only God can take away life because life is sacred and only belongs to God therefore you are disobeying God and Catholics shouldn't accept euthanasia.

My fourth reason is some people want to live and others want to die but it can cause conflict.

as life should be a good thing because
God created it, God is omnipotent so he
disease could be taken away by God because he is
all powerful.

(d) (i) I agree because my first reason is matters
of life is a sensitive topic as people
could have lost loved ones.

My second reason is some Roman Catholics believe
that the media shouldn't be able to criticise
religions because as it is the person's choice whether
they want to die the media doesn't
have what the person has gone through therefore
they shouldn't be allowed to criticise it. +
My third reason is the media doesn't know
the situation of that specific religion or person
they could be in a right place and should criticise them

(ii)
Some people may disagree with me because
the media has free will therefore they should
be allowed to criticise matters of life and death

My second reason is the media can decide
what they want to publish as they have freedom
of speech in the UK.

My third reason is the media is all opinions
none of it is factual so whatever they
say it's all opinions trying to get attention



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Examiner Comments

In Part (b) there are two correct reasons, but neither have been developed:

- Jesus rose from the dead
- Evidence of ghosts and poltergeists

2 marks

In Part (c) the candidate has given three correct reasons and therefore reaches Level 3:

- There could be a cure
- The person may have wanted to live
- Life is sacred therefore Catholics could not accept euthanasia

The final paragraph simply says that some want to live, others to die, and that God could find a cure, and therefore does not address the question. 6 marks

Part (d)(i) contains two correct reasons:

- it is a sensitive topic (therefore the media should not criticise what religions say)
- they do not know a person's situation

1 mark

Part (d)(ii) also contains two correct reasons:

- the media have 'free will'
- freedom of speech

NOTE: although these are very similar reasons, the first is a moral issue, the second is legal, and therefore both can be credited. 1 mark

Total marks 10



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Examiner Tip

Read questions carefully to make sure your answer is about the issue the question asks about.

Question 4 (a)

Part (a) asked what is meant by paranormal, and to be fully correct, responses had to mention both elements of being 'unexplained things' and 'having spiritual causes'. Many candidates did not include both and therefore gave only partially correct responses. Others simply gave an example, eg hosts and again were only partially correct.

(a) Paranormal is the activity of ~~a~~ ~~ghosts~~ Ghosts from another place. When Ghosts appear in our world.



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Examiner Comments

This response gives the example of ghosts and so is only partially correct. 1 mark



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Examiner Tip

Remember, in an (a) question an example will only gain full marks if it is asked for by the question.

Question 4 (b) (c) (d)

Part (b) caused problems for those candidates who saw this as a general question about life after death, and therefore did not link it with how this should affect the way Roman Catholics live their lives. A minority of candidates were able to give reasons why it should not affect their lives and it is pleasing to see that these candidates are able to think beyond the obvious.

Part (c) was well answered by most candidates, although it is disappointing to note that many gave largely secular reasons, without a great deal of reference to Christian teachings or beliefs.

In Part (d) it was clear that most candidates had the arguments for and against euthanasia, although some did not refer to Catholic Christianity and therefore needlessly lost valuable marks.

(b) Yes I do think life after death affect the way Roman Catholics live their lives because, when we die we are going to be in the purgatory to be judged as a person therefore ~~the~~ Roman

Catholic would want to live a religious life in order to have a good judgement by God.

I also think because it because, to be able to get to heaven you have to be a good person ~~with~~ ^{therefore} Roman Catholics would live their life as God would want them as they are scared to end up in hell.

(c) Some Christians accept abortion because firstly, if ~~some~~ a woman has been raped they may be affected mentally in a negative so the Church of England says that abortion may be the most loving thing to do.

Secondly, liberals says that abortion may be ~~the~~ a good choice if ~~it~~ is two lesser evil for example if a woman cannot afford to have ~~another~~ another child the best thing to is to abort because it may affect the quality of ~~the~~ ^{the lives} other children.

Thirdly, some Christians says that we all have a free will given by God therefore it is the woman's choice wheather to abort her baby or not.

It is no-one's decisions other than herself. Finally, ~~this is the woman's~~ ~~it is the~~ ~~the~~ ~~bad~~ if ~~the~~ a young person gets pregnant they may ruin their life if they keep

the baby because they will be out of education meaning they may lead a poor standard of living for her and the baby in the future.

(d) (i) I disagree to euthanasia should never be allowed because if someone is painfully dying from a serious disease we should allow them to end their suffering as this is a loving thing to do.

Also, it saves the family and person who has to be in pain to be emotionally stress from the situation they are in.

furthermore, the family may not be able to afford to keep the medication to keep their love one to survive.

(ii) Some may disagree with me because, in the bible god commanded is not to kill and euthanasia is the same thing as killing someone meaning, that we are ~~committing~~ going against god and committing a sin.

Also, ^{Roman} catholic teaches as that, life is a gift from god.

Therefore he should be the only one whether to end our ~~lives~~ lives.

Committing suicide would then be seen as mocking god.

This is a good example of a full marks answer in which the candidate has written more than was needed.

In Part (b) there are two correct developed reasons therefore 4 marks:

- They would want to live a religious life ...(developed by) to have a good judgment by God.
- Roman Catholics would want to live their life as God would want them to... (developed by) as they are scared to go to hell

NOTE: because you have to be good to go to heaven would be an alternative development, but only 2 marks can be given for each developed reason

In Part (c) the candidate gives two correct reasons, both developed, and therefore reaches Level 4:

- The Church of England says it is the most loving thing to do...(developed by) example of a woman who has been raped
- It may be the lesser of two evils...(developed by) example of effect on other children

This candidate gives two further reasons, but Level 4 has already been reached by the end of the second paragraph and so no further marks can be awarded. 8 marks

In Part (d)(i) there are two correct reasons, with the first developed:

- They should be allowed to end their suffering ...(developed by) as this is a loving thing to do
 - It prevents emotional stress
- 3 marks

In Part (d)(ii) there are two correct reasons with the first developed:

- In the Bible God commanded us not to kill...(developed by) meaning we are committing a sin.
 - Life is a gift from God so only he should end it
- 3 marks



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Examiner Tip

In (b) questions, starting your second reason on a separate line makes it easier to identify where your second reason begins.

Question 5 (a)

This question caused problems for a minority of candidates who did not answer it within the context of Marriage and the Family. Candidates need to be made aware that answers to Part (a) questions must refer to the key word within the context of the relevant section in order to gain any marks.

(a) committing yourself to something and only that something, not being tempted by anything else.



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Examiner Comments

This question asked 'What is faithfulness?' within the context of marriage and the family. This response talks about commitment to something and does not imply a human relationship. It is therefore an incorrect answer. No marks.

Question 5 (b) (c) (d)

This question was generally well answered by many candidates.

Responses to Part (b) showed that many candidates were well versed about the importance of marriage, supporting their reasons with references to the Bible and Church teachings.

Part (c) responses again showed wide knowledge about the ways in which parishes help to keep families together. Some candidates made the mistake of referring more generally to aspects of Catholic upbringing, rather than specifically to the role of the parish. Careful reading of the question would help to avoid this.

Part (d) was the most successfully answered, with most candidates seemingly finding it easy to apply Catholic teachings in support of their reasons. A significant minority stated, incorrectly, that sex before marriage was adultery, clearly reading the question as sex 'outside' marriage. Again, careful reading of the question would help to avoid this.

(b) I think marriage is important as in marriage you create life which is known as procreation, and encourages us to make life as it is his plan for us and keeps society going and creates new generations. another reason why I think marriage is important as it is a beautiful way to show love and holy values such as trust respect and faithfulness all values I believe in as a Christian so I think

Marriage is good as it supports my values and values on life.

(c) Roman Catholic Parishes help to keep families together as they offer Sunday Schools where they help to learn children Christian values and good morals they also help to ~~keep~~ put children on the right path this helps to keep families together as it helps out with parenting.

another way they help is they offer relationship advice for example if a couple were going through a bad patch in their relationship they would offer counselling and ~~help~~ blessings from god to help them all to prevent divorce which breaks

family up. this helps them to stay together

another way they help keep families together is they welcome them to confessions this is where they ask for forgiveness of god this would help keep a family together ~~and~~ as they would find peace with in them selves which would lead to a better

family environment. my last reason how they help is ~~they~~ ~~help~~ ~~that~~ ~~they~~ ~~will~~ ~~stay~~ ~~together~~ ~~because~~ ~~they~~ ~~welcome~~ ~~families~~ ~~to~~ ~~masses~~ ~~on~~ ~~a~~ ~~Sunday~~ ~~where~~ ~~they~~ ~~are~~ ~~surrounded~~ ~~by~~ ~~positive~~ ~~thought~~ ~~biblical~~ ~~teachings~~ ~~and~~ ~~strong~~ ~~families~~ ~~this~~ ~~helps~~ ~~as~~ ~~they~~ ~~can~~ ~~ask~~ ~~for~~ ~~advice~~ ~~but~~ ~~it~~ ~~also~~ ~~helps~~ ~~as~~ ~~it~~ ~~teaches~~ ~~you~~ ~~it~~ ~~is~~ ~~right~~ ~~to~~ ~~keep~~ ~~your~~ ~~families~~

they welcome families to masses on a Sunday where they are surrounded by positive thought biblical teachings and strong families this helps as they can ask for advice but it also helps as it teaches you it is right to keep ^{your} families

together which encourages them to work hard.

(d) (i) ~~I~~ I disagree Sex before marriage is not always wrong as sometimes people can not afford to get ~~married~~ ^{married} but they still love and honour each other so it is wrong and unfair to take away sex as it is a token of love.

Another reason why I disagree is god ~~is~~ gave us free will why would he give us the freedom to do what we wanted but then tell us we can't have sex.

~~I~~ I think the bible is just guidelines but we make the overall decision to choose what action we take.

(ii) Some people may disagree and say you should not have sex before marriage as it leads to promiscuity which is a sin and is morally wrong. Another reason people may disagree ~~is~~ ~~that~~ ~~sex~~ ~~is~~ ~~is~~ ~~sex~~ ~~is~~ because in the bible it says sex is to create life and not ~~be~~ to be seen as pleasure, so sex should be saved till marriage to be used for the correct purpose.

In Part b) the candidate gives two developed reasons:

- Marriage is where you create new life ...(developed by) this is God's plan for us
 - Supports Christian values ...(developed by) examples of values eg love and faithfulness
- 4 marks

In Part (c) there are two developed reasons, and the response therefore reaches Level 4:

- Sunday schools help children learn values ... (developed by) put children on the right path
 - Offer relationship advice...(developed by) example
- 8 marks

Part (d)(i) has three correct reasons:

- People cannot afford to get married
 - God gave us freewill to have sex if we want
 - The Bible is just a guideline
- 3 marks

In Part (d)(ii) there are two correct reasons with one developed:

- It leads to promiscuity ...(developed by) which is a sin and morally wrong
 - Sex is to create life... so should be in marriage
- 3 marks



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Examiner Tip

Make sure that you read the questions carefully, so that you answer what the question is asking you, not what you think the question is asking.

Question 6 (a)

Part (a) was generally well answered, although some candidates did not gain full marks by not saying that they lived together as a unit.

(a) A nuclear family is a mother, father and children living together as a unit.



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Examiner Comments

This candidate gave the glossary definition. 2 marks

(a) A family with a mother, father and children.



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Examiner Comments

This response did not include 'as a unit' and so was only partially correct.



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Examiner Tip

The easiest way to get full marks for the (a) questions is to learn the glossary definitions.

Question 6 (b) (c) (d)

Most candidates were able to answer Part (b) with at least one reason and many gave very good answers that referred to genetic make-up, God's love, and how we are all made in God's image.

Part (c) proved to be the question that caused difficulty for many candidates, with few gaining full marks. The question asked for one issue from Section 3 (Marriage and the Family) and how it had been presented in one form of the media. Consequently, some candidates lost marks for different reasons; referring to more than one issue, referring to an issue from a different section, referring to more than one form of the media and this despite a similar question being asked in Section 4 last year. Candidates need to be made fully aware that if they do not read the question and therefore do not answer the question asked, they will lose marks.

Part (d), by contrast, was generally well answered with many candidates being able to give good reasons either way.

(b) All Christians should accept homosexuality as it is the way someone is born, God made them that way, so if God made a person homosexual we should not argue with it. Also people argue the main purpose of a relationship is to have children and homosexuals cannot. Well children in the adoption system need homes and alot of couples who cannot naturally have children adopt, so they could become parents and give a child who needs it, a better life.

(c) In my Big Fat Greek wedding it showed how the Greek orthodox family had wanted their daughter to marry within their community.

In another piece of media we saw how the priest thoroughly made sure the couple was right for each other before he would marry them. The priest performed marriage classes to make the couple understand each other in a better way, see each others faults and saw each others good qualities. Also he expressed the views of the church on marriage and made the couple try at being a family before he would marry them. He also asked about sex before marriage as Catholics don't believe in it. The priest counselled the couple and made them see that the task of marriage is not so simple and it needs real consideration. In the end the priest helped them realise that they were right for each other and they would always be together (as Catholics don't accept divorce. *)

(d) (i) I disagree as many years ago divorce was not allowed where as now if you have good reason you can give for divorce. Also it isn't as frowned upon it is more socially acceptable, people no longer have to stay in loveless or abusive marriages. Also Catholics

will Annul your marriage if one person was not fully aware of the vows they were saying eg being intoxicated.

- (iii) Roman Catholics still believe however that ~~a~~ you can never be divorced as in the eyes of God you are always married to the person, so they would agree with the statement. Also they believe that if you get married again it cannot be in a catholic church as it would be bigamy. Some people may think that the vows you said can never be broken and therefore you cannot get divorced.

In part (b) there is one developed reason

- It is the way someone is born...(developed by) God made them that way.

Note: The other reason given begins 'people argue that' and so is not the candidate's opinion therefore cannot be credited. 2 marks

Part (c) is an example of a comprehensive explanation using one way only, which therefore reaches Level 4

Note: The issue chosen by the candidate is 'the purposes of marriage'. The example given is 'Licence to Wed' which is identifiable from the response given. The candidate does not have to name the example as long as it can be identified from what they have written.

The first paragraph of the response, giving the example of 'My Big Fat Greek Wedding' is about inter-faith marriage, which is not in this section. 8 marks

Part (d)(i) gives one developed reason:

- Divorce is more socially acceptable...(developed by) people no longer have to stay in loveless marriages

Note: the rest of the response is about annulment not divorce. 2 marks

Part (d)(ii) gives two correct reasons with the first developed:

- Roman Catholics still believe that you can never be divorced ...(developed by) in the eyes of God you are always married.
- Some people think the vows can never be broken

2 marks

Total 14 marks



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Remember that if a question asks for an issue from a particular section your answer must refer to that section and not to an issue from a different section.

Question 7 (a)

7(a) was generally well answered with the glossary definition, although a number of candidates simply stated that it was thinking women/men are less important, which is only partially correct. To be fully correct the response must refer to an action eg discriminating against or treating badly.

(a) Belief that one gender is superior to another.
This can be held by males or females.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

This response is only partially correct as it says that it is a belief not an action.
1 mark

Question 7 (b) (c) (d)

In Part (b) many candidates were able to provide one or two simple reasons for or against the government being able to prevent discrimination, but few were able to give a response with fully developed reasons.

Part (c) was answered with varying degrees of success. The most effective answers were able to give accounts of different ways that religions work to promote community cohesion, but many answers were too vague and struggled to get beyond Level 2. Others missed the point of the question and explained why, rather than how. Candidates must be reminded to read questions carefully, as this is a recurring problem each year, and some good answers score few marks because of it.

In Part (d) there was the usual confusion between religious and racial harmony. Many candidates put forward good reasons supporting both sides of the question, but some clearly found it difficult to include a reference to Roman Catholic Christianity. Candidates need to be aware of this when preparing for the exam.

(b) I don't think the government can prevent discrimination because laws will not stop people holding prejudiced views and acting upon their prejudiced views. Also, people have the right to freedom of speech and so a law saying that you can't say something bad about someone contradicts this right. Also, people break laws anyway so not everybody would abide by the rules.

(c) Religions work to promote community cohesion by teaching that everyone is equal and God created everyone in his image ~~also~~. Also, for example, Christianity promotes the Golden Rule, which says you should treat others how you want to be treated.

There are also many religious buildings usually situated in close proximity to each other which means religions are more accepting of each other. There is also the idea of religious pluralism - every religion is valid and accepted.

Religions also teach others the importance of community cohesion by promoting the idea of equality. Most religions accept anybody into their religion of any age, race, gender etc.

Religions teach that women and men are equal. Some by allowing women priests and giving equal roles to men and women.

(d) (i) I agree that racial harmony is possible in the UK because people are working together more and more to promote community cohesion and in future generations people will be more accepting of other races. Roman Catholic Christianity teaches that God created everyone in his image and everyone is equal. Also, there are laws stating that it is illegal to discriminate against anyone because of their race. Finally, multi-ethnic societies are becoming increasingly popular so

Racial harmony is more likely

- (iii) Others may disagree with me because racism has always been a massive issue within the UK, and despite the laws put in place about it being illegal to discriminate, people still do. Also, there are wars always going on so people are ~~more~~ less likely to accept other races if they are at war with them. ~~Because~~^Y you cannot force anyone to stop having prejudiced views against someone. Finally, there are areas of the UK with more of one ethnicity and less of another so they are not as tolerant of each other.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

Part (b) has one correct developed reason:

- Laws will not stop people holding prejudiced views ...(developed by) people will break the laws anyway

Note: The middle sentence is about freedom of speech not discrimination. 2 marks

In Part (c) there are three correct ways, with the first one developed, therefore reaching Level 4:

- By teaching everyone is equal ...(developed by) the Golden Rule
- They accept anyone into their religion
- Some give equal roles to men and women

8 marks

Part (d)(i) has three simple reasons:

- People are working together
- The Church teaches that God created everyone in his image and everyone is equal
- Multi-ethnic societies are becoming increasingly popular

3 marks

Part (d)(ii) also has three simple reasons:

- Despite laws it is still going on
- Wars always going on
- You can't force people not to be prejudiced

3 marks. Total 16



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Make sure you have read the question carefully, and in Part (c) questions always check whether the question is asking how or why.

Question 8 (a)

Part 8(a) was answered correctly by most candidates who clearly knew the meaning of interfaith marriage.

(a) This is when two people of different religions get married.



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Examiner Comments

A correct response using alternative wording. 2 marks

Question 8 (b) (c) (d)

Part (b) was well answered by many candidates, who gave good, developed reasons both for and against religious people trying to convert others to their religion. It was encouraging to see a number of candidates making good use of Biblical teaching in support of their point of view, particularly with reference to the commissioning by Jesus to 'baptise all nations'.

Part (c) again saw many good answers, with well presented reasons to explain why the Church works to help asylum seekers and/or immigrant workers. Again, there was good use of Biblical references, but candidates should know that 'Love your neighbour' is not one of the ten Commandments, and such a basic error will not gain any marks. As in 7(c), there were those candidates who confused why and how. Again, this is a basic error, and candidates should know that if they make this mistake in the exam then they cannot go beyond Level 1 for their answer. They could potentially lose 6 marks for this part of the question.

Part (d) was generally not answered well, with many responses being vague and not referring to Roman Catholic Christianity.

(b) No I don't think religious should try and convert other people to their religion because all religions are the same, it is just different paths to God. God wouldn't want conflicts to break out due to this, he is fine with whatever religion you believe in. God is the unity. (his way of being one) Also, converting other people may result in pressure or forcing others, this is incorrect as God has his doors open for all religions. Pressuring others is a deliberate intention and can be considered

a sin. As long as you believe in God what difference does it make? None. God is the same for everyone but sadly people do not seem to understand this and converting others is wrong. Religious people should stick to their own beliefs.

(c) Roman Catholic Churches works to help people who are asylum seekers or immigrant workers because in the Ten Commandments God said to "love thy neighbour". This means that you should love everyone, especially those who are in need of it. Also Jesus when Jesus fed thousands of people with just a loaf of bread and a bottle of wine, it makes Catholics understand that they should do the same. Asylum seekers and ~~immigrant~~ immigrant workers need someone to give them a helping hand. Also, the Catechism teaches that you should love one another and the Bible says that you should help those in need. Helping others proves to God how loving and devoted you are. It symbolises your true love and passion for others. Roman Catholic Churches listen to the teachings of Jesus and reflect Jesus's behaviour upon themselves. Jesus also said that we should help those who need it the most, immigrant workers need this so that's why Roman Catholic Churches abide by the teachings. If they do so, they will prove themselves that they are worthy of going to heaven as they have helped others by giving funding and expressing their love for the less needy.

people. The Roman Catholic Church needs to provide ^{an} example to others, they help because of pure love and God always said "Treat others as you would want to be treated". This is the Golden rule as Catholics abide by it.

(d) (i) Yes I agree because Catholics ~~said~~ would say that we should all have a common vision and shared sense of belonging for all groups in society. Catholics say that God would want everyone to live in religious harmony and that everyone should be accepted. ~~to~~ ~~Common~~ Religious people can achieve community cohesion as they can put aside their differences and focus more on the similarities between each other. Furthermore ~~can~~ religious people can understand how other groups live, making life more interesting and open to them.

(ii) People may disagree with me because they believe ~~that~~ have & physically seen religious people ~~bring~~ not living in community cohesion. As it leads to many conflicts and they cannot put aside their differences, making matters much more worse. Also, community cohesion just leads to religious people wishing to convert others in their religion as they can't open their minds and accept other groups in society. They believe they are correct and that there is no possible explanation. Furthermore ~~can~~ they believe it's impossible as religious people cannot put ~~there~~ ^{their} minds aside.



In Part (b) there are two correct developed reasons:

- All religions are different paths to God ...(developed by) God would not want conflicts due to this
- It may result in pressure or forcing others ...(developed by) God has his doors open for all religions

4 marks

In Part (c) the candidate has given three correct reasons, with one developed therefore reaching Level 4:

- We should love everyone
- We should help people as Jesus did ...(developed by) asylum seekers/immigrant workers need someone to help them
- The Catechism teaches we should love one another

Note: there are other further reasons but these cannot be credited as Level 4 has already been reached. 8 marks

In Part (d)(i) there are three correct reasons:

- We should all have a common vision and shared sense of belonging for all groups
- Religious people can put aside their differences
- Religious people can understand how other groups live

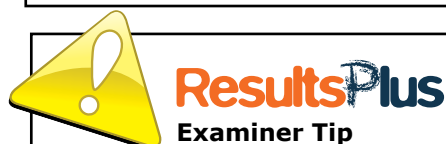
3 marks

In Part (d)(ii) there are two correct reasons with the first developed:

- They have seen religious people not living in community cohesion ...(developed by) it leads to many conflicts
- They want to convert others

3 marks

Total 18 marks



In (d) questions, remember that you must refer to Roman Catholic Christianity in either (d)(i) or (d)(ii) to go beyond 3 marks for the whole of Part (d).

Make sure you read through your work after you have completed it to check that you have written what you meant to write and that you cannot add anything else to your answers.

Paper Summary

Based on their performance on this paper, candidates are offered the following advice:

- Candidates should continue to link topics to their everyday lives and the society around them, as was seen in some interesting answers produced for this paper.
- There is a choice of two questions per section and each of these has four sub-questions. Candidates can either attempt the sub-questions in the top questions - odd numbers - or the sub-questions in the bottom question - even numbers. Candidates who choose questions from a mixture of the top and bottom questions will not receive marks for all their responses and as such are at a clear disadvantage.
- Candidates are asked to indicate which question they have answered by putting a cross in the appropriate box at the top of the paper. Some candidates did not do this and they should do this as part of examination preparation.
- The number of lines on the question paper are more than adequate for candidates to achieve maximum marks. There is no need for candidates to write more than this. Any candidate who needs extra space can use that space allocated to other questions as long as they clearly indicate on their paper that this is what they have done.
- A number of candidates did not complete the final section due to timing difficulties. Candidates should spend about twenty minutes per question, leaving ten minutes to check through work at the end of the paper.

In addition, some general points can be made on how best to answer the various question types:

- Maximum marks on the Part (a) questions are easily gained by learning the Edexcel glossary definitions and this is a constant feature throughout the paper.
- Only the candidate's own point of view can be credited in Part (b) questions. Candidates should concentrate on stating their opinion and writing two separate reasons for it, each in a distinct paragraph. They should then develop each of the reasons with an example or a quotation.
- Candidates can gain the higher mark within the level in Part (c) by writing coherently as outlined in the Quality of Written Communication descriptor in the Mark Scheme.
- Many of the Part (d) questions produced interesting answers. However, candidates should ensure that they start by stating their own view and reasons for it in Part (d) (i) and state reasons why someone might hold a different view in Part d(ii), rather than confusing the two halves. At least one of the reasons given in either Part d(i) or Part d(ii) must refer in some way to Roman Catholic Christianity to go beyond 3 marks.

Grade Boundaries

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

<http://www.edexcel.com/iwantto/Pages/grade-boundaries.aspx>

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