

Examiners' Report

June 2013

GCSE Religious Studies 5RS04 01

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Introduction

The 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 teachers to teach the course that most suits their students and, as such, the examination is unique. This year, the option of doing the GCSE via a modular route was removed.

Unit 4 covers issues from religion and life from an Islamic perspective and is popular with students from a variety of mainstream schools, faith schools and private entries. The course engages the interest of young people, it addresses many moral and spiritual issues affecting young people today and, importantly, it fulfils all of the requirements all the requirements for the present Key Stage 4 statutory Religious Education.

The candidates have achieved a wide range of performance levels, as would be expected from an examination with mainly whole cohort entry.

The availability of marks for *Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar* (SPaG) may have increased candidates' marks overall.

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

All (a) questions ask for either a definition or examples. 1 (a) asks for a definition of 'miracle'. However, the wording of this question (*What is a miracle?*) could have been understood to be asking for an example, so examples were credited.

Part (b) questions ask for the candidate's opinion, with reasons. Here, the question asks whether unanswered prayers mean that Allah does not exist. Many candidates gave very good answers, using reasons such as 'life is a test', and that 'prayers may not be answered immediately'.

Part (c) asks about how the causation argument could lead to belief in Allah. This was poorly-answered by some candidates, who confused causation with design, or who only answered whether Allah created the world, using examples from the Qur'an. The candidates who did answer correctly often achieved full marks.

Part (d) questions give a stimulus statement and required candidates to look at both sides of the argument. 1 (d) was asking whether the presence of natural evil proves that Allah did not create the world. Most candidates answered this well, using key words in their answers.

Write your answer here:

- (a) A Miracle is something that breaks the law of Science and make you feel that God is the only one who could of done it.
- (b) I think unanswered prayers ~~prove~~ it does not prove Allah doesn't exist because Allah ~~has to think about what good for the world not an individual~~ know what best and the ~~answer~~ ^{answer} something must be no. Another reason is Allah can't answer all prayers because this is a test and you can't just get what ~~ever~~ ^{every} you want on a test. My last reason is that Allah must think about the world not just one person.
- (c) The causation argument may lead to belief in Allah because ~~the~~ ^{the} world when you where made your body works well so that mean they was someone who ~~was~~ made you and the only one who is powerful enough is Allah.
- (d) (i) I disagree with the statement because ~~this life is a test~~ ^{and} Allah is all-knowing, ~~my second reason is~~ and he knows what going to happen and what he's doing. My second reason is that ~~Allah~~ this life is a test and it can't be good all the way.

(ii) Some people might disagree with me because they would say if Allah is all-powerful he would stop natural evil. My second reason is if Allah is all-good Allah ^{evil} would not make natural. My last reason is that if Allah is All knowing he would know that natural evil make people suffer.



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Examiner Comments

(a) This candidate gave a correct definition.

2 points

(b) One brief reason and one developed reason

- Allah knows what is best for us
- Life is a test; you cannot always get what you want in a test

3 marks

(c) This candidate does not answer the question about causation.

0 marks

(d) (i) Two brief reasons

- Allah knows what is going to happen
- This world is a test

(d) (ii) A fully-developed answer, based on the attributes of Allah.

SPaG: The candidate has made many errors in spelling and punctuation, although these do not hinder the response.

SPaG + 1



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Learn the definitions. Candidates who paraphrase definitions often achieve fewer marks.

Make sure that candidates are taught to choose questions based on their understanding of the (c) and (d) parts because these carry more marks.

Many candidates choose 1 (a) (b) (c) (d), but do not know what the causation argument is.

This example shows that candidates may answer questions from a variety of angles and will achieve the marks.

The (d) part was not in the mark scheme but is a valid answer.

Write your answer here:

(a) Miracle is something that breaks the law of science and makes you think that only Allah could have done it.

(b) I don't think unanswered prayers prove that Allah does not exist because he is omnibenevolent, so he knows what's good for us. If he does not answer our prayer it could mean that the thing we asked for is not good for us, Allah might be testing us on how much believe and faith we have on him. It maybe that it is not the right time for you to have that thing. Allah might want to see how strong your faith or Iman is. Just because your prayers are not answered doesn't mean Allah does not exist.

(c) The Causation argument may lead to belief in Allah because the argument explains that everything has a cause. Some people believe in the 'big bang'

to be the cause of the universe, but muslims say that if the big bang has caused the world then there must be someone much more powerful who caused the big bang, ~~the~~ and there is no one powerful enough to cause this than Allah. The Evolution theory show that humans were ^{evolved} ~~created~~ by from apes. Charles Darwin explains how animals and plants change but he does not explain that what causes them to change. The causation argument clearly shows that nothing can be caused by itself there must be something else that causes it to happen.

(d) (i) I disagree with the statement because the design and causation argument show that Allah has created the world. In the Quran it is stated that Allah is the creator of this universe. If Natural evil is caused it might be because Allah is testing our faith and Iman. Allah has created the world so he has the right to do whatever he wants. Allah might cause natural evil to punish us in this world or make us suffer so that in the next world ^{we} will get rewarded for it.

(ii) Some people might disagree with me and say that Natural evil does prove that Allah does not exist. They might say that if Allah was omniscient then he would have not created the world knowing that there will be suffering. If he is omnipotent then he would have stopped the suffering, and if he is omnibenevolent then he would have not created the world knowing that his people will suffer. So the world is not created by Allah because if it was then he would have had the power to stop Natural evil.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

(a) A correct definition

(b) Two reasons with one developed

3 marks

- Allah is omnibenevolent: what you have prayed for might not be for the best.
- Allah might be testing our faith (this is repeated but is not developed).

(c) One fully-developed reason, which is coherent.

- The Big Bang caused the universe
- Only someone powerful could have caused the Big Bang
- There is no-one more powerful than Allah

The rest of the answer (evolution) does not add any more, because it is not answering the question.

6 marks

(d) (i) The candidate has answered this in a different way but it is valid. They argue that the design and causation arguments prove that Allah did create the world. They then go on to explain why natural evil was created.

(d) (ii) The candidate uses the arguments that Allah cannot be omnibenevolent, omnipotent and omniscient, and still have created the world with natural evil in it.

SPaG: The candidate receives the upper mark of intermediate because there are some errors but there is a good use of specialist vocabulary.

3 marks

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

This question is based on section one in the specification: each of the sub-questions covers a different bullet point within the specification.

Part (a) asked for a definition of 'moral evil'. Most candidates knew what moral evil was, although some lost marks by not saying that it was suffering caused by humans.

Part (b) asked candidates whether they believed miracles have happened. Many candidates answered this well, using examples from the Qur'an and from everyday life. Candidates should be discouraged from saying that the birth of a baby is a miracle because it does not fit the definition and cannot be credited.

Part (c) asked about scientific explanations of how the world began and how they could lead people away from belief in Allah. Many candidates did this well, writing about the Big Bang theory, and Charles Darwin and evolution.

Part (d) did not ask for specific programmes and the candidates answered it in a variety of ways.

Write your answer here:

(a) moral evil is when evil is caused by humans.

(b) Miracles have happened because Allah is Omnipotent and Omniscient. Secondly, ~~miracles~~ miracles have happened because of near death experiences dieing and then waking up is a miracle from Allah.

Thirdly, miracles have happened because people have experienced it wether their muslim or not it can happen anytime if Allah wills it to happen. It also states in the Quran.

(c) Scientific explanations can affect the way some people believe Allah because they question the existance of Allah and put ideas

In their head and people start questioning themselves.

Secondly, Science can affect the belief in Allah because they have researched the "big bang theory" but it hasn't 100% been proven.

~~Therefore, this~~ This makes people think Allah didn't do it but Allah is Omnipotent.

It also affects the belief in Allah because they believe it was chemicals and substances created the world but the world is too complex however people start to believe in things like this and start to question. But this clearly shows that the person does not have a strong faith.

(d) (i) I agree, because on the media there are Islamic channels this helps the person's faith and teaches the person.

Secondly, I agree because some of the channels teach you the teachings of the Quran and the prophet Muhammad (pbuh).

I also think it's good because it teaches you things that you don't know and the person would not start doing it. Also Islamic channels answer the questions you were unsure of.

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I also think its good because it teaches you thing that you dont know and the person would might start doing it. Also Islamic channels answer the questions you were unsure off.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

- (a) Partially-correct because the candidate has not defined 'evil'.
- (b) The candidate makes a number of points that do not answer the question adequately. A mark was given because there are miracles in the Qur'an.
- 1 mark
- (c) One developed reason
- The candidate has made the point that scientific explanations make people question their belief, giving the example of the 'Big Bang'.
- 4 marks
- (d) (i) The candidate talks about Islamic channels and how they can give you information and teach about the Qur'an. The candidate does not show how this helps belief in Allah.
- (d) (ii) The candidate writes about negative stereotypes and uses the example of terrorists.
- SPaG: This is a threshold performance because there are a lot of spelling and grammar mistakes. These do not hinder the meaning.



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Candidates should be taught to give reasons for their opinions, rather than write what they think on (b) and (d) questions.

Write your answer here:

(a) Moral evil means something bad ~~happening~~ caused by a human.

(b) Yes, I do think miracles have happened. This is because things have happened which break the ~~these~~ laws of science. For example, the girl who cried crystals was a miracle because no one could explain how it ~~appeared~~ happened which means it must be by Allah.

Also, in Islam, Muslims are taught about the miracles ~~per~~ that have occurred during the time of the Prophets. This is why I think miracles have happened.

(c) The scientific explanations of ~~why~~ how the world began may lead to some people not ~~to~~ believe in Allah because, they may believe that there is no evidence that Allah has created the world.

They may think that nothing has happened in the world that can prove Allah exists so they believe in Evolution.

Also, some may believe ~~that~~ in the Big Bang theory which is why they do not believe in Allah. They may think that there was this explosion that led to the world being created.

Furthermore, people may believe these scientific explanations because someone may have brainwashed these people ~~that~~ which is why they believe that Allah does not exist.

(d) (i) I agree with this statement because ~~in the~~ on the television there are many channels that are based on Islam, and anyone has access to these channels. On these channels there are various ~~the~~ Islamic programmes about believing in Allah, but also comparing Islam to other religions. This may lead to people believing in Allah and reverting to Islam.

(iii) Some people may disagree with me because the media sometimes portrays ~~the~~ Islam in a bad way. ~~For~~ For example, the 9/11 bombings. After this terrorist attack ~~many~~ muslims were being called terrorists. This meant that people ~~the~~ thought that Islam was not a good religion. This lead to people not ~~before~~ believing in Allah.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

(a) Partially-correct

There is no mention of suffering.

(b) One developed reason and one brief reason

- The candidate gives an example of a miracle and shows that only Allah could have done it
- The candidate says Muslims are taught that miracles happened in the times of the Prophets

3 marks

(c) Two brief reasons

The writing is coherent

- The candidate writes about the Big Bang and the theory of evolution but does not develop either of these, to explain adequately why these may lead people not to believe in Allah

4 marks

(d) (i) The candidate makes three simple points

- Islamic channels are available to everyone
- They teach about Allah
- They compare religions that may lead people to revert to Islam

(d) (ii) The candidate writes a developed answer, showing that negative portrayals of Islam, for example the 9/11 bombings, may lead people to think Islam is not a good religion and lead them away from Islam.

SPaG: The candidate has used a good range of specialist terms and has made few errors in spelling and punctuation.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Use the correct definitions for (a) questions.

Question 3(a)

Most candidates knew the glossary definition for 'abortion'.

This candidate knew the definition.

(a)

Abortion is the termination of a foetus before it has developed in the womb.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This is a correct definition.

2 marks

This is another correct answer, although not the definition in the specification.

(a) Abortion is removal of the fetus before it can survive.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

Correct answer

2 marks



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

The use of the word 'foetus' is good. When candidates write about a foetus or an embryo, it is clear that they know what it means. Some candidates used the word *baby* and this made some answers incorrect - it was not clear that it was during pregnancy eg a woman killing her baby because she does not want it.

Question 3(b),(c),(d)

This question was not as popular as Q4, possibly because candidates did not understand the word *controversial*, or because the media questions are not popular.

Part (b): Most candidates did well on this question. Confusion in previous years - where some candidates equated life-after-death with reincarnation - was not seen this year.

Part (c): This question was answered well by those who did it. They knew both sides of the issue and could show why it was a controversial issue.

Part (d): This question was not answered well. Some candidates did not talk clearly about the matters of life and death, and others did not refer to Islam.

This is an example of a candidate who does not refer to Islam in the (d) part, and therefore cannot obtain all of the marks available.

(b) I think it is impossible because after death the body decomposes as well as the brain and after the brain dies the body at can not function.

Also, I think life after death is impossible because there is no proof that it exist because no-one has come back to talk about it and it is only a comforting idea to stop the blow of death to some.

Euthanasia is a controversial idea because there is to many arguments and counter arguments to euthanasia. one of

one of these could be that someone is in extreme pain from a de disease and it would be better of to ~~kitt~~ end their pain.

But muslims believe in the sanctity of life, that life is precious and belongs to god so people have no right to take it away.

Also, involuntary euthanasia, where some can not talk or communicate clearly but ~~is~~ is in serious pain and it would be better to kill them.

But some people believe this would be bad because people can go around killing these types of people claiming it was for their own benefit, but it was actually for property and money.

(d) (i) I believe the media should not be allowed to criticise what religion say about matters of life and death because religions have their own guidelines to follow for certain matters.

Also if these were given to the media to deal with, the media would twist it to make it more interesting for people to read or watch.

(iii) Some people may disagree with me because the media can put to light some important issues that religion aren't dealing with.

Also, if the media don't interfere with some things religions may take it out of hand like, claiming somebody is a witch.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

(b) Two clearly-developed reasons
4 marks

(c) A comprehensive answer: the candidate addresses the question in the first paragraph and then goes on to give reasons.

8 marks

(d) (i) The candidate makes two points
2 marks

(d) (ii) The candidate has made two points again but unfortunately has not referred to Islam, so they can only receive 1 more mark.

1 mark



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

It is helpful to the examiner if candidates leave a line between their two reasons. This also helps to organise the candidate's thoughts.

Often candidates write one very well-developed reason on (b) questions, and this limits them to 2 marks.

This candidate makes a rubric offence by answering 3 (b), (c) and 4 (d).

(b) I disagree because I am a muslim and the Quran states "paradise you cannot imagine" this is evidence that there is life after death.

Secondly, many people have had near death experiences not only a few people but people from around the world so this can be evidence. Also paranormal ghosts, this is can be provided for evidence because it does happen and people have had experience.

(c) Euthanasia is a controversial issue because ~~most~~ people accept it under

any circumstances. Euthanasia is a controversial issue because in some countries it's banned and some people cross euthanasia as murder. Muslims believe that euthanasia should be banned because Allah "only" gives and takes a life so who are you to take life away.

Also it's an issue because some people don't want to live or see their loved ones suffering.

(d) (i) I strongly agree because, Only Allah gives and takes away life so who are you to take away life. Also, I agree because if Allah wills you to die you will die but if he doesn't you will be fine. Also I agree because you are interfering with Allah's will and Al-Qadar. However Allah is merciful and can forgive. I also agree because of "miracle" Allah is Omniscient and Omni-benevolent.

(ii) Some people may disagree because they don't want to see the person suffering, they want to end the person's ~~miserable~~ misery. The person is sick of living and it's too painful.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

(b) There is a developed reason about near-death experiences. The candidate then uses a number of other reasons but does not develop them.

3 marks

(c) The candidate does not write in an eloquent way but does give four brief reasons citing why euthanasia is controversial.

- In some countries it is banned
- Some people see it as murder
- Only Allah can give and take life
- Some people do not want to see their loved ones suffering

8 marks

(d) (i) Unfortunately, this is a rubric offence because the candidate has answered 4 (d) instead of 3 (d).



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Candidates who draw a line through the question they are not answering are less likely to make a rubric offence.

Question 4(a)

Many candidates gave examples of, rather than defined, the paranormal.

2 marks

(a) Paranormal is unexplained things that are thought to have spiritual causes.
Example ghosts or mediums.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This is a correct definition.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

If the question asks *what is meant by*, the candidate should define the word.

This candidate gives an example, although it is clear they know what the word means. Unfortunately, it is not a definition.

(a) Paranormal means spirits such as Ghosts.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This is an example of paranormal activity and is partially-correct.

1 mark



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Learn the definitions.

Question 4(b),(c),(d)

This question was more popular than Q3.

Part (b): This question often received 2 marks rather than 4, because many candidates wrote one very detailed reason based on preparation for the afterlife. The best answers gave one reason, based on preparation for Judgement Day and a second reason, based on knowing that they will see loved ones again. Candidates understood, therefore, that death is not the end.

Part (c): This question was answered well by the majority of candidates, who used a variety of reasons why some Muslims would accept abortion. However, there were some answers that gave one reason, followed by all the reasons why Muslims should not accept abortion.

Part(d): This was often a full-mark answer. Candidates understood both sides of this issue.

This is a good example of a candidate who loses 2 marks because of exam technique, rather than a lack of religious knowledge.

(b) I think the belief in life after death should affect the way muslims live their lives because believing in life after death gives a purpose and sense of life. Muslims will know that they will be questioned about every deed they do so they will try and follow the guidelines of the Quran and teaching of hadith. The belief in Al-jannah will make muslims to be good practising muslims so that they go to Heaven.

(c) Some muslims accept abortion because they say that Allah has said if the mothers life is at risk then she is allowed to have an abortion.

because the mother's life is more important as she might have other children to look after. Muslims believe that the child is born after 120 days so they believe that you are allowed to have an abortion before 120 days. Some scholars say that if a girl is raped then she is allowed to have an abortion as it might remind her of the incident and Allah does not want his people to suffer. Some Muslims say that Allah is not completely against abortion.

(d) (i) I agree to the statement because euthanasia is haram and forbidden by Allah. The Quran says suicide is haram and euthanasia is like suicide. If euthanasia was allowed then there would be a lot of problems and many deaths. If Allah has given life then only he should have the right to take it away. By ending your life you are going against Allah's plans and will. Life is a gift from Allah so we should not take that gift away.

(ii) Some people may disagree and say that euthanasia should be allowed because if life is a gift then only we are allowed to take that gift away. We have a free will so we get to choose whether we want to live or die. It is better to die than to suffer or see others sufferings. We have a right on ourselves and no one should take that right away from us.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

(b) One very developed reason

2 marks

(c) One developed reason and two brief reasons

8 marks

- If the mother's life is at risk, developed by saying her life is more important, especially if she has other children to look after.
- If it is before 120 days
- If a girl is raped.

(d) (i) The candidate has given many simple reasons and achieves the maximum marks.

(d) (ii) The candidate has given three reasons.

3 marks



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

This candidate has made the error of not separating their reasons in (b).

This reads as one very detailed reason and therefore receives 2 marks.

(b) Yes, I believe that the belief of life after death should affect the way Muslims live their lives because, when they die they would want to go to heaven which is why they try to do as many good deeds as possible to go to heaven.

I also think that it should affect the way they live because there is a description of heaven and hell in the Quran. This is the Muslims who have heard the description would not like to go to hell as it's fire is 70,000 times hotter than the fire on earth. This is why it would affect the way they live their lives.

(c) Some Muslims accept abortion because of certain reasons. One reason to accept abortion would be if the mother's life is at risk if she has this baby. Also, if the female was raped which lead to her being pregnant, the choice of abortion would be allowed.

Also some Muslims may allow abortion due to the way they interpret certain hadiths. Some may fully allow abortion before the foetus is given a soul at 120 days. Some may only accept abortion if the reason for abortion aborting the foetus is valid.

(d) (i) I agree with the statement. Euthanasia should not be allowed here because it is committing suicide, and suicide is haram in Islam. Muslims believe in the sanctity of life. This means life is holy and precious and it belongs to Allah. There for only Allah can take it away.

Also, ~~about~~ Euthanasia ^{is} being a painless killing of a person suffering from a ^{Painful} disease. This does not mean a person can die, only ~~on~~ ~~can~~ committing suicide is an unforgivable sin, therefore ~~no~~ it should not be allowed.

(ii) Some may disagree with me ~~because they~~ by bringing up the argument of free will. Some may believe in free will, this means they can make their own choices and ~~its~~ their life so they can do whatever they like. Therefore, ~~they~~ Euthanasia should be allowed.

Also, they may say that, if a person is suffering from a ~~painful~~ ^{painful} disease, euthanasia should be allowed. ~~Therefore~~

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Examiner Comments

(b) Two developed, separate reasons

4 marks

(c) The candidate has given three brief reasons

- If the mother's life is in danger
- If the woman has been raped
- Before 120 days

It must be remembered that the question refers to some Muslims, not Islam as a religion. Candidates do not have to give specifically religious reasons.

6 marks

(d) (i) The candidate starts well with two reasons – suicide is haram and the sanctity of life. The third point however, repeats the first.

2 marks (d) (ii) Two reasons

- Freewill
- Suffering

2 marks



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Examiner Tip

(b) This candidate shows how to use the same information as the previous candidate but receives all of the marks by separating the reasons into two – the aim to get to heaven and the fear of hell.

Question 5(a)

This question was answered correctly by most candidates. Very few had partially-correct answers because they either knew what it meant or they did not.

This candidate receives 2 marks.

(a) mahr is when the ~~man~~ husband gives the money to ~~th~~ the bride on the wedding day.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This is a correct answer, with alternative wording.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Use the specification definitions.

This student receives 2 marks.

(a) The Mahr is the money placed in trust for the bride by her husband at the wedding.



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Examiner Comments

This is a correct definition.

Question 5(b),(c),(d)

This question was more popular than Q6.

Part (b): This question asked whether all Muslims should get married. Some candidates wrote many brief reasons and only achieved two marks.

Part (c): This question was answered well by some candidate. They wrote detailed answers about all of the activities that take place in a mosque, showing clearly how they help with the upbringing of children.

However, some candidates concentrated solely on what children are taught, without showing how this helps with upbringing. These candidates often achieved four marks for a development of the teaching. Without addressing the point of upbringing, they could not receive more.

Part (d): This question was answered well by most candidates, who gave the Islamic teaching and contrasted this with the secular view in the UK.

This candidate shows that they have a lot of knowledge but lack exam technique on the (b) question.

the wedding.

(b) I think all Muslims should get married because it is a sunnah of the prophet and it is said in the Quran that Allah all muslims are to get married. By getting we get to increase the muslim ummah and follow the commands and will of Allah. The whole purpose of marriage in Islam is to have children and increase the ummah. Getting married as a muslim will complete the iman of a muslim.

(c) Mosques help with the upbringing of children because at the age of 4 children are sent to mosque to learn about their religion. In the mosque children

are taught their beliefs and responsibilities as Muslims. Mosques have Jumah prayers for fathers and sons, this will help the children understand the importance and benefits of Jumah prayer. Also standing all together at prayer time will show the children the unity of the Ummah and make them feel that they are part of Ummah. The Imam of the Masjid gives Islamic advice and help solve problems within the Muslim family. Festivals in the mosque, example Eid ul Fitr will help the children learn more about Islam and the importance of these festivals. Some mosques also help Muslim families financially.

(d) (i) I agree with the statement because Allah says in the Quran that Adultery is worse than shirk, and sex before marriage is like committing adultery. Allah says that you are only allowed to have sex once you are married and only with your partner. Allah gives a punishment for the people who have sex before marriage, so we as Muslims should try to stay away from this sin.

(ii) Some people might disagree and say that we have a Free Will so we can do whatever we want. The Islamic law is out of date and now attitude



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

(b) One developed reason – have children and increase the ummah, plus any one of the brief reasons

(c) A fully comprehensive answer, showing how the activities in the mosque help with the upbringing of children

8 marks

(d)(i) Three reasons

3 marks

(d)(ii) Two reasons

2 marks



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Candidates need to connect their reasons in the (c) question with the upbringing of children.

This candidate has done this and receives all of the marks available.

This is an example of a candidate who does not link the education of the child with how this helps upbringing.

(b) I think muslims should get married because they would live happy have a family. Also have a nice time commit less sins wont be punished In the quran ^{it states} ~~say~~ every women and man should be married. ~~with~~ The proph Muhammad (S.A.W) got married. In Islam eve muslim should follow the ~~sun~~ ~~sun~~ ~~sun~~ Sunnah of the prophet.

(c) It helps the child learn more about his religion. Follows what his parents do also the upbringing child would learn a more about Islam ~~he~~ he would ^{come} ~~coming~~ in to Islam.

The child ~~would~~ would learn how to Prayer his Salah and Quran which it would help him commit less Sins and know more about the prophet. ~~The it states~~ that ~~every~~ In the quran it states every muslim should read the ~~quran~~ holy book of Islam. Also when the child grows up ~~and~~ gets he will teach his child. and get reward.

(d) (i) I agree that Sex before marriage ^{is} ~~it is~~ ~~haram~~ not allowed ~~its haram~~ to because In Islam the Quran ^{its states} that Sex ~~who~~ would be allowed only if they are married. 'Sex ~~is haram~~ ~~beco~~ having Sexs before marriage you would ~~not~~ be ~~Forgiven~~ forgiven and. would be punished in the hereafter.

(ii) People may disagree to this statement because they think it's ^{right} right & let's just have sex before marriage no ~~was~~ ones watching but they don't know Allah is omniscient he knows everything that is happening and he is counting every bad ~~did~~ deed we do.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

(b) The candidate receives 2 marks for saying that Muhammad got married and to be a good Muslim you should follow his example.

They receive a further mark for any of the other brief reasons.

(c) One developed reason, based on educating the child
4 marks

(d) (i) It is against the Qur'an

It will lead to punishment in the hereafter

(d) (ii) No-one is watching, so they can get away with it



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Candidates should be discouraged from giving reasons such as 'it is in the Qur'an' and 'it follows the example of Muhammad', without going on to develop these points.

The reasons alone are not enough to receive all of the marks available: they must be developed, either by saying what it says in the Qur'an or by giving an example of what Muhammad did.

Question 6(a)

Many candidates knew what a nuclear family is. Some lost a mark by not indicating that such families live together, or as a unit.

This is an example of a partially-correct answer.

(a) Nuclear family is used to describe a family with a mother, father and children of their own.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate has not indicated that the family lives together.

1 mark



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Learn the specification definitions.

(a) A nuclear family is parents (mum and dad) and children living as a unit.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This is fully-correct.

Question 6(b),(c),(d)

This question was less popular than Q5.

Part (b): The best answers to this question separated the reasons why homosexuality should or should not be accepted, using reasons such as the teaching of the Qur'an with the:

- example of the people of Lut
- punishments given out for homosexuality
- belief that Allah created everyone and only He can judge.

Part (c): This question was not answered well by many candidates. Some did not use any specific knowledge on the teachings on family life and others concentrated on the reasons for marriage, rather than the family. Candidates who answered well, used teachings from the Qur'an, along with the family being the cornerstone of society.

Part(d): Candidates often achieved three marks for the reasons why attitudes have changed. Many candidates did not refer to Islam and consequently lost the rest of the marks. The best candidates contrasted the attitudes in society with the attitudes in the Muslim community.

This is an example to show positive marking.

(b)

In my opinion, Muslims should not accept homosexuality because as muslims we are taught to follow the teaching that allah created man and woman for a reason and we should not go against his wishes.

Although I myself do not hate homosexuals, I would not embrace it because I myself believe

(c)

Family life is very important for Muslims as it the foundation of the rest of their lives.

In muslim families, people believe that rules should be set adhering to the quran and the faith. Muslims should not allow their children to sin in their home, or anywhere else because before the age of puberty all sins ~~are~~ ~~bad~~ are transferred to your parents because they are accountable for your actions as you have not yet matured.

Family is also very important because they keep you grounded and remind you of who you are instead of leading you astray because they always want the best for you.

Additionally, family is crucial in Islam because getting married and having your own family is considered as fulfilling half of your faith.

Also, in the quran it says that after Allah, the next two people you should love most are your mother and father.

(d) (i) I agree that attitudes to divorce in the UK haven't really changed.

In the UK, ~~as taking a divorce is seen as a small~~ divorce is very common because there is always one partner who isn't happy with their relationship and wants to leave.

This want for divorce is commonly recognised as normal and as ~~well~~ their personal choice where as in certain countries and certain cultures it ~~is~~ brings shame on families and so the two people are stuck in a hopeless relationship.

(ii) However some people may disagree because divorce has not always held the same social stigma that it ~~is~~ does today. Previously, divorce may have been frowned upon but in Islam it is ~~highly~~ seen as to be avoided if the couple already have children because it may affect their lives.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

(b) Two reasons or one developed reason will receive 2 marks.

This candidate has made a number of statements - the response can be read as one developed reason or two separate brief reasons.

2 marks

(c) Although this response looks confused, it makes four good points, so receives all 8 marks.

It is the foundation of the rest of their lives

- It is where parents teach their children the rules of Islamic behaviour
- It fulfils half your deen
- The Qur'an instructs you to love your parents

(d) (i) and (d) (ii) This answer is very confused. It was given one mark for saying that it is common, and another mark for saying that in Islamic communities it is still frowned upon.

There are two sides to the candidate's answer and this is marked positively.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Candidates can be confused by a negative statement in (d) questions. It needs to be clear to the examiner which side of the argument they agree with and the reasons why some people would disagree.

(b) In my point of view no. The reason for this is that it does not fulfill the purpose of marriage which is procreation. Also according to Muslims homosexuality is more worst sin than adultery. This emphasises on my reason that they should not accept homosexuality.

My other point of view is that the story of Lut (Lot) whose people were homosexuals. They were all punished except Lut and his family because he was a righteous man.

In conclusion I think that Muslims should not accept homosexuality.

(c) Family life is very important in Islam. Muslims believe that if the family is good then the whole society will be good as the family is the foundation. It is also important for Muslims because they are

Following the example of prophet Muhammad who married and had a family. Also the purpose of marrying is to have children and Muslims believe that bringing the child up as good Muslims and making a good family is the way Allah intended for them to live.

(d) (i) I disagree. I think that attitudes have changed towards divorce. People do not put up with bad treatment from their partners, therefore divorce is very common. Muhammad said that 'divorce is the most detestable act god has permitted'. However people do not still keep their marriage vows. Attitudes to divorce have changed because it is quick to get a divorce and inexpensive. And finally divorce does not carry the social stigma which it carried in the past.

(ii) People may disagree with me because they may say divorce was the best choice in their situation. Also they may say that they knew that the marriage was not going to last hence they got the divorce. Also they may say marriage is a contract and we broke the contract with a divorce.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

(b) One developed reason = 2 marks (the people of Lut) and one brief reason = 1 mark (homosexuals cannot procreate)

3 marks

(c) Three brief reasons

- It is the cornerstone of society
- It is what Muhammad did
- Bringing up good Muslims is the purpose of marriage

6 marks

(d) (i) Three reasons

3 marks

(d) (ii) The candidate has not given any reasons why some people might think attitudes to divorce have not changed. They have said why some people do divorce.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Remember, part (d) (ii) should be the other side of the stimulus question.

Question 7(a)

The majority of candidates knew what 'sexism' means.

(a) ~~Be~~ ~~Discriminating~~ Discriminating people because of their gender.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

A fully-correct answer



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Although the paper allows 3 lines for (a) questions, the candidates do not need to write more than the definition.

(a) Sexism is descriminating peopled people because of their gender (being male or female).



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

A fully-correct answer

Question 7(b),(c),(d)

This question was not as popular as Q8.

Part (b): This question was best-answered when candidates answered in relation to laws. Some candidates did not address the question about the government preventing discrimination, and gave answers that could not receive all of the marks available.

Part (c): Candidates were not penalised for not naming an organisation. Many achieved full marks for saying that Muslim organisations help with English classes, shelter and help with the immigration process.

Part (d): Some candidates answered this question well, by:

- talking about the teachings of the Qur'an regarding racial harmony
- giving the example of the areas where they live
- contrasting this with organisations such as the EDL.

However, some candidates confused race and religion and lost marks.

This is an example of where a lack of Islam in the final part loses the candidate the full range of marks.

(b) I do think the government can prevent discrimination of skin colour which occurs at football matches. The government can place police around and surround them so if they have anything they get banned for life.

I also think the government can cut it down by sending messages out to everyone to treat them the same as different groups of people are treated differently.

(c) Organisations help muslim seekers by giving them jobs and housing to keep them safe. They also help immigrant workers by giving them

jobs which are work.
Asylum seekers are looked after if in danger and are placed under surveillance. They begin a new life and are helped with new identities.
Feel safe. Security. Given houses. Provided with everything.

- (d) (i) I agree because if you have different races in an area and they all get along it's possible.
I also agree because if they share and teach about their culture they will feel happy.
Lastly I agree because if some areas racism is not accepted meaning all different races would be happy.
- (ii) Someone would disagree because they would feel too much racism occurs in the country.
Someone would also disagree as they feel too many people are discriminated for their skin colour.
Lastly someone would disagree as groups such as BNP try to change areas.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

(b) A developed reason about discrimination of skin colour at football matches and what the government can do.

A brief reason about 'sending messages out'.

(c) 2 marks given for *providing shelter* and 2 marks given for the general point about making people feel secure.

This is not specific enough to attract any more marks.

4 marks

(d) (i) If people teach each other they will get on = 1 mark

If racism is not accepted people will be happy = 1 mark

2 marks



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Timing - many candidates ran out of time on this section.

(b) I don't think that the government can prevent discrimination as there will always be a small amount of people who hate another kind of people for some reason.

Also, Not everyone will be willing to take on the government's advice what the government says because they or does because they may not be happy with other parts of government work, like education, work, medical and say that they should pay more attention to them.

(c) Muslim Organisations do many things to help asylum seekers and/or immigrants who are in the UK. They range from giving them food to giving them a place to live. One Muslim Organisation is Muslim Aid.

it ~~has~~ tries to help people by providing them with food if they can't afford it, they also try to educate people without education so they ~~can~~ could get a job. They also provide jobs for the jobless so they are able to earn an income to support their families.

(d) (i) ~~No~~ Yes, I think racial harmony is possible in the UK because if people start to ~~judge~~ judge people by their character rather than by the colour of the skin, as this was the character quality of the Holy Prophet (Saw),

Also Allch (swt) says in the Quran all humans are equal in his eye, wheater he is black or white, he also says that ~~he looks at~~ the things that matter are what is in your heart and your good achais.

(ii) Some people may say that there are many people in our community that have a firm ~~be~~ belief in the heart for other colored people and it would be hard to change this attitude of theirs.

They may also say that the UK has many other, worse problems to worry about like murder, suicides, rapes and that trying to stop make peace among ~~these~~ is the least of their problems.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

(b) One brief reason (there will always be some people who hate) and one developed reason (some people are not happy with other aspects of the government and feel other things are more important).

(c) Three brief reasons: food - education - place to live - Muslim Aid do not provide jobs for immigrants/ asylum seekers.

6 marks

(d)(i) A full answer based on the teachings of Islam

(d)(ii) There are too many people who hate = 1 mark
There are more important things to worry about = 1 mark

2 marks



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Leaving a line between the reasons in parts (b) and (c) makes them clear to the examiner and also helps the candidate to organise their thoughts.

Question 8(a)

Most candidates knew what 'inter-faith marriage' means, although a few thought that it related to marriage between people of the same faith.

(a) interfaith marriages mean two people
for different religion get married.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This is fully-correct
2 marks

(a) Interaith marriage is marriage where the
husband and wife are from different
religions.
(b) I think religious people should try
to convert other people to their
religion. As muslims we it is our
responsibility to invite other people to
our religion and show them the right



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

Another correct answer
2 marks

Question 8(b)(c)(d)

This question was more popular than Q7.

Part (b): Many candidates answered this question by saying that converting others gives positive rewards in Islam and helps people to the right faith. Others wrote that the Qur'an says that there is no compulsion in religion and that it may cause conflict in society.

Part (c): This was very well-answered, with many candidates getting full marks. Common answers talked about:

- less discrimination
- an increase in knowledge
- a more stable society.

Part (d): Some candidates did not really address the issue of community cohesion and wrote about different races within Islam at the Hajj. Many candidates used teachings of the Qur'an to show that Muslims should support community cohesion.

(b) I think religious should try to convert people into other religions because that person may thank you in the future and if you converted people to Islam Allah gives a big reward to that person also to the person who re-converted.

I also agree because Islam teaches us to guide people to be right path and show them the way to paradise.

(c) There are benefits of living in a multi faith society because it could prevent

racism against religions.

Secondly, it's a benefit because everyone can explore each others religion and understand different types of religions.

Thirdly, if you are an agnostic and you are not sure you can ask people around you and question them and hopefully you will find the right religion for you.

Also preventing racism everyone can get along and understand our religions. Also it's good to live in a multi ethnic society because there are negative stereotypes about religions but however you can see the actual religion reaches you rather than listening to the media and other people.

(d) (i) ^{Allah's} I agree because ~~many~~ eyes everyone is equal and everyone is the same.

religious people can achieve Community cohesion because Islam teaches us about free will and to respect everyone around you.

I also agree because ~~there are~~ it also stated in the Quran "respect your community and neighbours"

(ii) Some people may disagree because it can cause hatred and racism towards each other. Also some would say we can't do our religious practices with a community cohesion. ~~it also states in~~



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

(b) One brief reason

- A person may thank you in the future (this is not linked clearly to Allah giving rewards, which looks like a separate reason)

One developed reason

- Islam teaches you to guide people to the right path and show them the way to paradise

(c) Three brief reasons

- You can understand different religions
- You can investigate other religions and perhaps convert
- It can stop stereotypes about religions

6 marks

(d) (i) Three simple reasons

- Everyone is equal
- Islam teaches about freewill
- It states in the Qur'an to respect your neighbours

3 marks

(d) (ii) 1 mark given for *causing hatred*



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Reasons need to be developed in (b) questions. This can be done by giving examples.

A good example of how to answer a (b) question.

(b) I think ~~the~~ religious people should try to convert people to their religion, to a certain extent. If someone ~~is~~ believes that their religion is the right one, I do not see why they should not try to convert someone, however they should not be unpleasantly persistent because it may annoy people.

Another reason why I think they should try to convert people is because if two people are getting married and have children. They need their children to be of one proper faith and not torn between mother and father.

(c) There are many benefits to living in ~~an~~ a multi-faith society.

Firstly, living in a multi-faith society allows you to ~~then~~ gain knowledge of other religions if you want because there are more than one or two religions.

~~I think~~

Multi-faith societies allow people to respect other religions and different people because they are exposed to a wider variety of individuals and faiths with different or ~~some~~ beliefs.

When people of ~~the~~ varying faiths live in one ~~same~~ society it allows others to ~~maybe~~ visit ~~upon~~ their place of worship and discover new things about the religion.

I believe that Multi faith societies are crucial in the advancing on mankind and how well we can work together in peace without wars over religion.

(d) (i) I agree with this statement because I believe that although religious people often keep to themselves and their own family/faith but they can also achieve community cohesion through social events and meeting other people.

Community cohesion in Islam is a fundamental factor anyway because the belief that you should help fellow Muslims in your ummah is widely ~~also~~ renowned as a key part of a stable community.

(ii) $\frac{1}{2}$
Some people may disagree because they believe that religious people are not willing to put aside their beliefs in order to make peace in a community.

Also, religious people do not like to think that their religion may be ~~wrong~~ restricting their social interactions.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

(b) Two developed reasons

4 marks

(c) Four brief reasons

- Gaining knowledge of other religions
- Encourages respect of other religions' differences and similarities
- It allows people to visit other places of worship
- It helps people to work together in peace

8 marks

(d) (i) The reference to holding social events is credited.

Helping other Muslims is not community cohesion, so is not credited.

1 mark

(d) (ii) *put aside their beliefs in order to make peace in the community* is credited.

1 mark



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

On (b) and (d) questions, candidates should be taught to give reasons, rather than make statements, about what they believe.

Paper Summary

Based on their performance this year, candidates are offered the following advice.

- Learn the specification definitions: many students lose marks by paraphrasing
- Do not rely on "it is the teaching of the Qur'an" or "it is the example of Muhammad" without development
- Leave a space between reasons on (b) questions to help organise thoughts and to help the examiner
- Be specific in (c) questions
- Always refer to Islam on one side of the (d) questions
- Students are not penalised for wrong answers - a guess is better than a blank space
- Practise timing - too many students did not finish section 4

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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