

Examiners' Report

June 2016

GCSE Religious Studies 5RS09 01

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Introduction

This GCSE Religious Studies specification continues to be a very popular course, with teachers and schools recognising the benefits of an examinable course that both interests and educates young people. The variety of choice within the specification allows teachers to teach the course that most suits their candidates, and as such, the examination is unique. Many schools now study Unit 9 along with another unit in order to access a full course GCSE.

Unit 9 is a study of Christianity that allows candidates to investigate and understand the beliefs and teachings of Christianity, which is the majority religion in the UK. The course engages the interest of young people, it addresses many moral and spiritual issues affecting them today and, importantly, it fulfils all the requirements for the present Key Stage 4 statutory Religious Education.

Candidates have achieved a wide range of performance levels, which would be expected from an examination that does not have papers differentiated by ability.

Examiners noted that although there were many formulaic answers, it was clear that the use of the skills required in the subject amongst the candidates had also improved.

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

This question is based on Section One in the specification: each of the sub-questions covers a different bullet point from the specification.

Question Q1 was slightly more popular with candidates than Q2.

All a) questions ask either for a definition or for examples. 1 a) asks for a definition of monotheism. There was a range of ways whereby candidates managed to give correct definitions.

b) This question concerned Jesus as the Son of God, the fourth bullet point in the specification. Answers needed to include a personal opinion and more-able candidates used examples, or religious texts, as development of opinion.

c) This question required candidates to outline how a local church can show love of others, bullet point 11 in the specification. Most candidates were able to give descriptions of the various ways, both theological and practical, a church might do this. Some candidates, however, did not realise that it was about parish work and discussed the teachings of the Church, thus gaining no marks.

d) This question needed candidates to evaluate a statement regarding whether or not Christians should believe that God created the world, and it was possible to use a wide range of material to respond to the question. Many candidates used information from Units 1-7 and provided arguments using the design or causation argument. Most candidates are now familiar with the layout of the d) question. They were able to state their own opinion and give reasons for it in di), and give an opposite view in dii).

Note: SPaG is Spelling, Punctuation, and Grammar

An example of a full-mark answer

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: **Question 1 ☒** **Question 2 ☒**

Write your answer here:

(a) Monotheism is belief in one God. For example, Islam and Christianity are faiths with only one God, so practice monotheism.

(b) As a Christian, I believe Jesus is the Son of God because of the resurrection story. As God is an omniscient being, He has the power to resurrect the dead, and only He has this power. The Bible, which I believe to be the ^{direct} word of God, states that Jesus was resurrected, and as God chose to resurrect Jesus, this is evidence that Jesus is God's Son.

Also, I believe in the virgin birth, the belief that Jesus was not conceived through sex. This is also evidence, in my opinion, of Jesus being

the Son of God, as a virgin birth must only be possible of the Son of God, as must be caused by an omniscient being, i.e. God. I believe that the Holy Spirit blessed Mary with Jesus, and as Jesus was born not having been conceived from sex, but being a gift from God, must be His Son.

(c) A church in a local area (parish) can show love of others by supporting charities such as Christian Aid, and Winter Watch, which support those who are suffering and in need. ~~These charities~~ Churches can hold fundraisers in order to earn money and collect donations to support these charities, who will then use this money to provide shelter, food and clothing for the homeless.

Parishes can also show love to others by ~~holding~~ running youth groups and Sunday schools, which can aid parents in the running of their family. These Sunday schools and clubs are a safe place of care for children, where parents can drop off their children while they are worshipping and learning about God in Church, and also educate children about God, contributing to their Christian upbringing.

Additionally, churches show love to others by ~~bringing~~ bringing people together in a community. Churches function as a place for Christians to congregate and share their beliefs, ~~and~~ worshipping God together.

Furthermore, churches show love to others by through sharing the word of God. Some Christians may believe that those who are not Christians will not receive eternal life with God in heaven, and wanting this for others, may try to spread the word of God.

conservative

(d) (i) I disagree with this statement because, as a ~~liberal~~ Christian, I believe that the Big Bang theory and evolution are more likely explanations for the origins of the Universe, with some scientific evidence to support them, and being logical.

Also, I think that the Bible is not the direct word of God, but was inspired by the Holy Spirit, so is not entirely factual. I see the creation story in Genesis 1 as a guideline to the Earth's creation but not historical fact.

Additionally, I believe that the ^{Universe} ~~world~~ is eternal, and has no beginning or end, a scientific theory upheld by many. For this reason, the Universe has no creator because it was never 'created' but rather, has always existed.

(ii) Some people may disagree with me, for example, fundamentalist Christians believe that the Bible is the direct word of God and therefore believe that the creation story is factual and tells the story of Earth's creation exactly as it happened. They may think all Christians should think this.

Others may disagree with me because they may think that the Universe is not eternal and must have had a beginning. Believing God is omnipotent, they may argue He is the only being with the power to create the world, and agree that all Christians must agree with this statement.

Furthermore,

a) 2 marks — a fully-correct definition

b) 4 marks

Personal opinion and two developed reasons

The resurrection story, developed by: only God would have had the power

The virgin birth only possible for the Son of God, developed by: a gift from God, must be his son

c) Level 4 — 8 marks

Three ways given, with one developed

Supporting charities like Christian Aid, developed by: supporting those that suffer and are in need

Hold fundraising for charities for the homeless

Support parents through running Sunday schools

di) 3 marks

One developed reason and one simple reason

Big bang and evolution more likely, developed by:

evidence to support them being more logical

Genesis is a guideline to Earth's creation, not fact

Other valid reasons are given but the candidate has achieved full marks

dii) 3 marks

One developed and one simple reason

Fundamentalists believe the creation story is factual, developed by:

as the Bible is the direct word of God

The universe must have a beginning, developed by: God is the only being powerful enough to create the world

SPaG — 4 marks: high performance

The candidate spells, punctuates and uses grammar consistently accurately with a range specialist terms used precisely

Total: 24 marks

b) Answers should begin with a statement identifying that the answer is the candidate's own opinion. In this case, the candidate says 'I would agree...'

c) Ideally, candidates should start a new paragraph with each new reason they give on a c) question.

This is another example of a high-scoring response.

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: **Question 1** ☒

Question 2 ☐

Write your answer here:

- (a) Monotheism - The belief that there is one God.
- (b) Yes, because it says in the Bible that he was conceived through the Virgin Mary, showing that God must be the father, as it is a miracle, and must have been conceived therefore by the Holy Spirit. Also, I think yes because only ~~and~~ the son of God would be able to save us from sin, and give us salvation as he died on the cross. Only the son of God would be good enough and powerful enough.
- (c) The church can show love for others, as at church you can meet up with others and discuss your faith, as a result, this shows love for others as you are sharing your own personal

Knowledge of the faith.

Also, the church gives people a sense of belonging to all those who attend, therefore, it shows love for others.

Also, in Church the priest offers answers to any questions people might have about faith.

Also, the priest in the church can lead people in worship, and can also perform special services such as, weddings which show love for others because you are respecting their wishes to get married.

Also, there are special clubs on at church which offer people food and drinks, as a result, you are loving your neighbour and others by giving them good.

Also, the church is the centre of worship in a community and welcomes everybody to come in, showing love to others.

(d) (i) Yes, because in the creeds it says that God is the creator of Heaven and Earth, and Christians should believe the creeds.

Also, ~~ign~~ they should believe in God as the creator of the world, as it would mean that God is the Father to all humans as he created us.

Also, I think Christians should because in the Genesis story it tells us about how God created the world, and this is a story in the Bible.

Also, the design argument and causation argument indicate that God may have created the world, as it is so complex, so there must be a designer and there must be a cause.

(ii) However, people may disagree with me because they might not believe in God.

Also, people might not agree with me because they might believe in the big bang theory.

Also, they might not agree with me because they might think that there is no proof.

Also, they may believe that only science can answer the question to who created the world.



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Examiner Comments

a) 2 marks — fully correct definition

b) 4 marks

Personal opinion and two developed reasons

It was a miracle, developed by: conceived through Virgin Mary

Only the Son of God could save us from sin, developed by: gave salvation as he died on the cross

c) Level 4 — 8 marks

Four ways given

Meet others to discuss faith

Gives a sense of belonging

Perform marriage service

Special clubs (link to love your neighbour shows it is about love of others)

di) 3 marks

Three simple reasons

The creeds say God is the creator of Heaven and Earth

God is the Father of all human beings and he created us

Genesis tells about creation in the Bible

dii) 2 marks

One developed reason

Only science can answer the question, developed by: earlier reference to the Big Bang

Note: the belief in God is not linked to the question about creation, so is not creditworthy

SPaG — 4 marks: high performance

The candidate spells, punctuates and uses grammar consistently accurately, with a range specialist terms, used precisely.

Total: 23 marks



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

In b) questions, reasons need development to gain more than two 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 from the specification.

Q2 was slightly less popular with candidates than Q1.

- a) This was a glossary definition question for *omnipotent*. This question was very well-answered by candidates.
- b) Most candidates were able to state their own opinion and then give a reason as to why they believed, or did not believe, that Christians should love their neighbour. However, frequently the candidates discussed the New Testament teaching, which did not answer the question set. More-able candidates discussed why Christians should love their neighbour and developed their answers with examples from religious texts.
- c) This question was generally well-answered by candidates; the majority were able to explain why the Trinity is important for Christians. However, it was less well-answered by candidates who simply described what the Trinity was. Excellent answers were able to supply and use quotations from the New Testament.
- d) Many candidates answered this question very well; they gave reasons why Christians might need to attend church to achieve salvation, using several examples illustrating how salvation can be attained, can be engendered, or otherwise. Low marks were received by candidates who did not link their reasons to the examples they gave or who did not realise the question was about salvation.

This is a good answer. However, the candidate does not gain maximum marks on c) because they give irrelevant information. This response shows that candidates must ensure that they read the questions carefully.

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: Question 1 ☒

Question 2 ☒

Write your answer here:

- (a) Belief in something without evidence
- (b) I do think that Christians should always love their neighbour as Jesus said in the new testament that this was the second most important commandment after loving and worshipping God. Because Jesus is God incarnate as human this means this is the direct word of God. Secondly Christians

should love their neighbours as the "Golden Rule" of Christianity states that 'you should "do unto others as you would wish them to do unto you" as most people wish to be treated respectfully the Golden Rule indicates that Christians should treat others this way.

- (c) I believe that the trinity is important to Christians as many Christians believe that the holy spirit, the third part of the trinity in order they were revealed is
- why it's important

present in every day life. An example of this presence is the Christian belief that the Holy Spirit guides and inspires Christians in every day life such as moral dilemmas. ~~Another example of the trinity~~ This is important to Christians as it helps them during times of dilemma and gives them comfort in the idea that the holy spirit is guiding them towards the right choice. Another example of this presence is the idea that Jesus is present in the Eucharist. ~~and~~ Catholics believe that the bread & wine transform into the literal body & blood of Christ.

(Transubstantiation) This belief may cause Catholics to feel more connected to God when they take the Sacrament of communion.

(d) (i) I disagree as I believe that silent prayer alone repenting for your sins can also lead to forgiveness as Jesus taught in the Sermon on the Mount that public displays of religion were wrong and that a person should seek forgiveness alone.

I also disagree as Catholics considered some sins to be unforgivable such as murder meaning there would be little point to seek salvation.

(ii) ~~Disagree~~ Some Catholics may disagree with this point of view as they believe that the priest is the only person who can forgive you for your sins during confession. Additionally some Christians may argue that the church can help a person stop committing sins with services they run e.g sex addicts anonymous.



a) 2 marks, fully correct – alternative wording

b) 3 marks

Personal opinion, with one brief, and one developed, reason

Second most important commandment, developed by: after loving God

Because of the Golden Rule

Note that the rest of the answer is not linked to “love your neighbour” and only repeats what the Golden Rule says. It does not develop the answer.

c) Level 2 – 4 marks

One developed reason

Holy Spirit important as present in everyday life, developed by: helps make right choice

Note: the rest of the answer is not creditworthy because it is about Jesus and not linked to the Trinity

di) 3 marks

Personal opinion, one developed and one simple reason

Silent prayers can lead to forgiveness: developed by: Jesus’ teaching about praying in private

Some sins are unforgiveable

dii) 3 marks

One developed and one simple reason

Priest is the only person who can forgive your sins, developed by: during confession

The church helps you to stop committing sins

SPaG – 4 marks: High performance

The candidate spells, punctuates and uses grammar consistently accurately, with a range specialist terms, used precisely.

Total: 19 marks



Using paragraphs for each reason given is very good practice.

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: **Question 1** ☒

Question 2 ☒

Write your answer here:

(a) firm belief without logical proof.

(b) Yes, because it is one of the greatest commandments and taught by Jesus therefore Christians should listen to him and follow in his example to live a good Christian life. Also, the Parable of the sheep and Goats teaches that if you love your neighbor you will be rewarded with eternal life, but if you don't you will be punished. Therefore Christians will want to act as the sheep and love their neighbor so they can go to heaven.

(c) The Trinity is the belief that God is three in one. The Trinity involves God as the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. It is important for Christians because Jesus taught

this in the Lord's prayer. Also, it is ~~at the~~ ^{the} centre of Christian belief. Christians are taught the ~~Trinity~~ ^{Trinity} in Church and in the Bible. Therefore Christians follow the example of the Bible and Church by believing in the Trinity.

Also, sacraments and services such as baptisms and confirmation use the Trinity in the blessings. For example, the priest says "I baptise you in the name of the father, the Son and the Holy spirit." The Trinity is also important for Christians because it shows that God is active in the world today through the Holy Spirit. It shows that ~~the~~ God guides ^{our} ~~at~~ lives and leads us into living a good Christian life. It also shows that God is responsible for miracles and numinous feelings.

Overall, the Trinity is a key Christian teaching. ~~The~~ ^{The} Church and Bible both teach ~~in~~ ^{the} Trinity and the Church and Bible are a means to faith and salvation. Therefore it is important that they believe in the Trinity to show their love and belief in God.

(d) (i) I do not agree because you can be saved from sin by doing good deeds, like helping the poor and giving to charity. Also, some people don't believe in sin therefore don't need saving from it. Another reason is that everyone is born with original sin, as some people don't go to church there must be other ways to be saved from it. Also, ~~if~~ if God does not exist, neither does ^{original} sin therefore there is no need to go to church.

(ii) People may disagree with me because the Church only provides reconciliation through confession with the priest. Also, sin separates God from humanity therefore Christians must go to church to be saved from it. The church is a place of worship, therefore people can only be saved from sin if they love and worship God. Also, the church is a means to faith and salvation, therefore sin can only be saved from taking things such as Holy Communion, ~~from~~ the bread and wine, which are sacraments which bring you closer to God so he can forgive you and repent of your sins.



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Examiner Comments

a) 2 marks — fully correct

b) 4 marks

Personal opinion and two developed reasons

One greatest commandment, developed by: how to live a good Christian life

The parable of the Sheep and Goats teaches if you love your neighbour, developed by: receive eternal life

c) Level 4 — 8 marks

Three brief reasons, and one developed

God as Three in One

Taught by the Church

Sacraments use the Trinity, developed by: the example of baptism

Note: other valid reasons are given but the candidate has now achieved Level 4

d i) 3 marks

Personal opinion, one developed, and one simple reason

Saved through good deeds, developed by: the examples

Some don't believe in sin

d ii) 3 marks

One developed and one simple reason

Church provides reconciliation developed by: through confession with the priest

Church is a means to faith and salvation

SPaG — 4 marks: high performance

The candidate spells, punctuates and uses grammar consistently accurately, with a range specialist terms, used precisely

Total: 24 marks



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

d) Candidates should ensure they identify a Christian reason in d) questions, because this is required by the question

Question 3 (a)

Many candidates knew the glossary definition for the *Orthodox Churches*. However, some candidates guessed at other Churches and thus gained no marks.

A full-mark answer

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: **Question 3** ☒

Question 4 ☒

Write your answer here:

(a) Orthodox Churches are churches in union with the Patriarch of Constantinople e.g. the Russian Orthodox church.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

2 marks — correct answer

The candidate receives full marks, before giving the example.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Thorough learning of the Edexcel key word glossary would prevent candidates being confused about what the word means.

This is a typical incorrect answer.

(a) orthodox churches and churches that are in communion with the church of England.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

0 marks — incorrect answer

The candidate gives the key word definition for another word.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Learn the glossary definitions from the Edexcel specification: they may be found in Appendix 4.

Question 3 (b)(c)(d)

b) Most candidates were able to state their own opinion regarding whether or not Roman Catholic priests should be allowed to marry. More-able candidates were able to refer to the Catholic arguments for an unmarried priesthood, and examples from alternative faith perspectives, as part of their answer.

c) The majority of answers to this question concerning why apostolic succession is important to Catholics (bullet 5 in the specification), were very good. Most candidates were able to answer by giving a number of reasons, including development using New Testament material. Lower-achieving candidates did not know what apostolic succession was. Some included reasons as to why they thought apostolic succession was unimportant, which did not answer the question and therefore could not be credited.

d) The question regarding whether or not the Bible is the direct word of God was answered well by candidates. They responded either by giving a number of reasons — often linked to a specific denomination's point of view — or by developing two or three reasons, with examples from religious texts.

An example of a candidate's answer that shows good knowledge but does not contain enough information on the c) sub-question.

(b) Yes because one of the purposes of marriage is to have children. If they do not marry, they cannot have children to bring up in the Christian faith. Also, you can show love to God whether you are married or not, therefore your relationship status shouldn't lessen your love for God.

(c) Apostolic succession is important for Roman Catholics because the Bible teaches that it is important and they should follow the Bible.

Also, Jesus chose the apostles so we should follow Jesus and his choices. As well as this, the Catechism speaks of its importance and they should follow and obey what is written. The Roman Catholic Church teaches apostolic succession, therefore they should follow and believe in it.

(d) (i) Yes because it says so in church teachings. Also, the Bible tells us it's the Word of God. As well as this, Jesus tells us that it is the Word of God.

(ii) No because some Christians believe that because it was written so long ago, bits have been changed. Also, some believe that it is other people re-telling their experiences. As well as this, some believe that

Well as this, some believe that it could of been translated incorrectly somewhere down the line.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

b) 4 marks

Personal opinion and two developed reasons

Not being able to raise children in the faith, developed by: purpose of marriage

Can show love of God when married, developed by: marriage does not lessen your love of God

c) Level 2 — 4 marks

Two brief reasons

Jesus chose the apostles

Catechism teaches about the importance of Apostolic Succession

d i) 3 marks

Personal opinion, three simple reasons

Says so in the Church's teachings

Bible says it is the Word of God

Jesus tells us it is the Word of God

dii) 3 marks

Three simple reasons

Written long ago so bits changed

People are retelling their experiences

Could have been translated incorrectly

Total: 14 marks



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Examiner Tip

b) Reasons need to be developed in b) questions in order to gain full marks. This is easy to do by giving an example, as shown in this answer.

(b) I do not because during mass the priest becomes Jesus Roman Catholic believe. Jesus was unmarried so the priest embodying him should be unmarried.

Also they would get distracted with family life if they were to marry. They would not be able to show their full dedication towards God or the Church.

(c) It is important because the first Pope was appointed by Jesus, so this gives him authority to make decisions, this authority was passed on by all the popes to today's pope. It proves that today's pope has authority to make important decisions.

Also it helps the Catholic faith to choose a leader for everything. It made it much easier than how the C of E chooses a leader. The head of the C of E is the monarch, however this monarch will not have been appointed by God.

Also Apostolic ~~best~~ succession, is, what some people believe, makes the ~~fast~~ Catholic faith the 'right one', and shows that God supports the Catholic faith oppose to the other denominations.

finally it ~~keeps~~ ^{carries on} alive the commandment of Jesus to make Peter head of his Church. By having apostolic succession they are obeying Jesus, therefore its important.

(d) (i) I do not agree because I am a liberal Christian and I think that the bible was inspired by God, but ~~people~~^{writers} wrote down their own opinions that were not from God.

Also there are some sections in the bible that would not be written by an omnibenevolent God such as slavery being allowed.

Also there are some contradictions in the bible such as Jesus changing the laws of Moses within the sermon on the mount I believe. An omniscient God would not contradict himself or change his mind, because he is Jesus.

(ii) Some may disagree because they are fundamentalist Christians and believe that the bible is the word of God and all scientific explanations are wrong. They might think this because they have been brought up to believe this and do not know anything different.

Also because they may have had religious experiences that match those in the bible. Only God would be able to do the experience so ^{only} he could describe it in the bible before the event, because he is omniscient.

Lastly they might think that because the bible foretells of some events that happen in the future, only God could've known it ~~and~~ so he ~~wrote~~ told someone to write it. For example the coming of Jesus written in the Old testament.



b) 4 marks

Personal opinion (which gains no marks but is required) and two developed reasons

Priest represents Jesus, developed by: Jesus was unmarried

Distracted by family life, developed by: not be able to show full dedication

c) Level 4 — 8 marks

One fully developed and one brief reason

First Pope appointed by Jesus, developed by: gives authority to Popes today, further developed by: has authority to make important decisions

Makes Catholics feel they are the "right one"

d i) 3 marks

Personal opinion, one developed and one simple reason

Bible inspired by God

Some sections not written by an all-loving God, developed by: example of slavery in the Bible

The candidate goes on to give other valid reasons, which are not required

d ii) 3 marks

Three simple reasons

Fundamentalists believe science is wrong

Had a similar religious experience to those in the Bible

Bible has foretold future events that only God could have written

Total: 18 marks



c) In c) sub-questions the candidate's own opinion is not required.

Question 4 (a)

Most candidates had some idea of the definition of *ordination* but many did not use the glossary definition, which occasionally meant that their response was unclear and could only be credited as partially correct.

This is an example of a fully-correct answer.

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: Question 3 ☒

Question 4 ☒

Write your answer here:

(a) A ^{ceremony} ~~speech~~ in which a person says vows and becomes a priest / bishop / cardinal.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

a) 2 marks — fully correct

The candidate states: becomes a priest.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Learn the glossary definition from the Edexcel specification. It might help to have these visible around the classroom, for candidates to learn.

Another example of a fully-correct answer.

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: **Question 3** ☒

Question 4 ☒

Write your answer here:

(a) Becoming a priest by the sacrament of holy orders.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

a) 2 marks — fully correct definition
This is almost the correct glossary wording.



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Candidates need to know the key terms not only because of the a) questions, but also because the other sub-questions will use the terms within their questions. Learn the glossary definition from the Edexcel specification.

Question 4 (b)(c)(d)

This question is based on Section Two in the specification: each of the sub-questions covers a different bullet point from the specification.

Q4 was more popular with candidates than Q3.

b) Candidates were usually able to state their own opinion regarding whether or not the Church should have authority for all Christians (bullet 3 in the specification). Most candidates were able to give one reason for their opinion, but some found it difficult to think of two reasons and their responses were frequently repetitive.

Candidates who received fewer marks were those who gave vague answers about 'all Christians', ignoring the first part of the question, rather than answering the question. Candidates need to be prepared to answer questions on all of the specification.

c) This question required candidates to explain the role of a priest or minister. The vast majority of candidates were able to answer well and usually gave examples that developed answers efficiently.

d) Most candidates responded well to the question and were able to state their own opinion concerning whether or not all Christians should show devotion to the Virgin Mary. Some candidates were not aware of the difference between devotion and worship, and were unaware that Roman Catholics do not 'worship Mary'. This resulted in lower marks.

An example of a full-mark response.

(b) I do not think the Church should have authority over all Christians today. Firstly I believe that the Church should only have authority over spiritual issues and not moral. I believe that a person should be able to decide for themselves on moral issues and should allow themselves to be guided by the holy spirit. ~~to~~ ~~hastly~~ I believe the ~~an~~ Church may believe and instruct potentially dangerous acts for certain people, for example not ~~be~~ allowing contraceptives. I believe this is damaging and the matter should be up to the individual without influence from the Church.

(c) In a local parish a priest or minister ~~should~~ is expected to help the community. This can be done in a variety of ways. Firstly a priest may go out into the local

P got lsh

community and visit those ~~ill~~ who are sick. Priests may do this because it says in the parable of the sheep and goats that when you help those in need you're doing the same for Jesus. Additionally a priest may run community groups such as bible study in order to educate and discuss the teachings of the bible with others and to promote community cohesion. Priests have the role of educating the community about the bible as well as helping those least fortunate in the community.

All Christians should show devotion to Mary

(d) (i) I do not believe all Christians should show devotion to the Virgin Mary. Firstly I believe this because in the 10 commandments it says that you should love God, the most important commandment according to Jesus, and not to worship false idols. As I therefore believe that showing devotion to Mary and praying to Mary, as many Catholics do, goes against the key teachings of the bible. In addition I would argue that unlike Jesus, Mary is not God ~~and~~ nor any other deity with no power or control over Christians.

(ii) Some Christians may disagree as they believe that all prayers that Mary receives she tells God who does have the power to help Christians. Additionally some may argue that Mary is Holy as she was conceived through immaculate conception and therefore born without sin.

b) 4 marks

Personal opinion and two developed reasons

Only authority over spiritual matters, developed by: person decides for self, guided by Holy Spirit

Church may instruct potentially dangerous acts, developed by: example of contraception

c) Level 4 — 8 marks

Two developed ways

Helps the community, developed by: visit the sick

Educates about the Bible, developed by: sets up Bible study groups

di) 3 marks

Personal opinion, one developed and one simple reason

Should not worship false idols, developed by: most important commandment is to love God

Unlike Jesus, Mary was not God

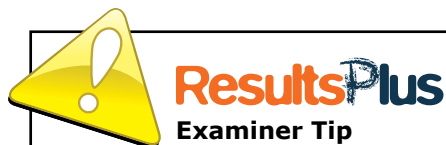
dii) 3 marks

One simple and one developed reason

Mary intercedes with prayers

Mary is Holy, developed by: reference to Immaculate Conception

Total: 18 marks



Candidates should always try to develop their reasons.

This is an example of a candidate who has misread the question in b) and as a result, did not gain any marks on the b) sub-question.

(b) I do think all Christians should have authority in a ^{local} Church because Jesus taught that we should love our neighbour as ourselves and that we should treat people equally.

Also, Jesus treated everyone equally despite their authority and I think that as Christians we should follow in Jesus' example and obey his teachings. We should all be equal and none of us should be treated better than others.

(c) The role of a priest / minister in a ^{parish} church is to pray for the people of the Church and to help them to be forgiven from their sins.

Also, they should perform communion on the congregation and baptism on the Christians of the church. This again helps them to be saved from sin.

Also, they should fortell what the teachings of the Bible are and what Jesus would want to do in order for us to succeed and be a good Christian. This also tells us what is wrong and right and how we should live our life without sinning.

Lastly, the priest should encourage the people of the Parish Church to do good things for the world, for example giving to charity or doing some type of volunteer work so that you are helping people in need. They should also tell us to follow the 10 commandments in our everyday life.

(d) (i) I do think that all Christians should show devotion to the Virgin Mary as she is the most important woman in the Bible.

They should focus on the fact that she was chosen by God to conceive Jesus (The son of God) so must have been a very good and special person so [REDACTED] deserves a lot of devotion.

Also, she conceived Jesus without sex which sets an example to girls and the fact that she is pure and is ^{setting} a good example _{for} [REDACTED] woman. She spent a lot of time raising and looking after Jesus.

(ii) People may disagree with me because, they might think that Mary didn't really do a lot for Jesus as she didn't stop anyone from crucifying him and also she let him learn to do things mostly independently.

Also, [REDACTED] Some people may disagree with the fact that Jesus was conceived without sex and that there is no way it can happen.

Some people don't think that she was chosen by God to give birth to Jesus and that it was just a way of explaining logically how Jesus got there, so some may not show devotion towards her.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

a) 0 marks

No creditworthy reasons given: the candidate has written about all people in a local church, who should be treated equally.

b) Level 4 — 8 marks

One developed and two brief ways

Pray for the people in the church, developed by: help them to be forgiven for their sins

Perform communion

Perform baptism

di) 3 marks

Personal opinion, one developed and one simple reason

Chosen by God to conceive Jesus, developed by: special person deserves devotion

Spent a lot of time raising Jesus

dii) 3 marks

Three simple reasons

She didn't stop Him being crucified

The Virgin Birth is impossible

It is just a way of explaining how Jesus got there

Total: 14 marks



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Candidates should be encouraged to read through their work after they have completed it, to check that they have written what they intended to write and that they cannot add anything else to their answers.

Question 5 (a)

Most candidates knew the glossary definition for Lent. Some candidates described what happens during Lent and this was not needed.

Some gave definitions about Easter, and these gained no marks.

This is an example of a partially-correct answer — gained by giving examples.

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: Question 5 ☒

Question 6 ☐

Write your answer here:

(a) An act of giving up an earthly desire that lasts for 40 days.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

1 mark

Partially-correct

No reference to Easter, only to fasting



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Candidates should learn the Edexcel glossary of key words.

An example of a fully-correct answer.

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: **Question 5** ☒

Question 6 ☒

Write your answer here:

(a) *The forty days approaching Easter Sunday, where Jesus rose from the dead.*



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

2 marks

Fully-correct



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Candidates are able to receive one mark for examples when definitions are required, so should be encouraged to learn examples for all of the key words.

It is possible that examples will be required in the a) questions.

Question 5 (b)(c)(d)

This question is based on Section Three in the specification: each of the sub-questions covers a different bullet point from the specification.

Q5 was a much more popular choice than Q6.

b) Most candidates were able to state their own opinion regarding whether or not Christmas is a religious celebration. Some candidates gave two opposing opinions and as long as they showed that both opinions were their own point of view, they could be credited. Less-able candidates described Christmas celebrations and gained no marks.

c) Most candidates were able to identify some features of Roman Catholic churches and explained their use. Lower-achieving candidates were not able to refer specifically to Catholic features. More-able candidates developed the features, with explanations of how and why each feature might be used.

d) Most candidates responded well to the question concerning the Eucharist and were able to give reasons supporting their own opinion. The best answers to this question discussed issues such as transubstantiation, remembrance and symbolism. Poorer answers were very descriptive and lacked reasoning.

This was an example of an answer that was credited with full marks.

(b) Yes, I think Christmas is no longer a religious celebration because people who don't believe or worship God celebrate it therefore they aren't celebrating the religious meaning. It has started to become more of a national holiday that everyone celebrates.

Also, ~~Christmas~~ Christmas is no longer a religious celebration as it has lost its true meaning of celebrating the ~~birth of~~ birth of Jesus and now people just celebrate people forget that, that is its true meaning. People believe it is just about giving gifts now and nothing to do with Jesus so it's no longer a religious celebration.

(c) Roman Catholic churches have certain features for example statues. Roman Catholic churches have statues up in the church like Mary and Jesus then Roman Catholic Christians can focus their worship and pray

to the statue. Also Roman Catholic churches have a altar where mass ~~is~~ is prepared as they believe that it is a important part of worship to have the Eucharist as it remembers the sacrifice of Jesus and therefore to have a altar is focuser the important part of the service to have a special place. Also Roman Catholic churches have a tabernacle where the bread and wine of the Eucharist is kept. This is because they believe that it must be kept safe as they believe in the real presence and transubstantiation. Also Roman Catholic churches have a lectern where the Bible is placed and Bible readings are read off. They have this so when the Bible is being read there is a certain place and Christians can focus their worship properly.

(d) (i) Yes, I think the Eucharist is simply a time to remember Jesus as protestant Christians believe nothing happens to the bread and wine and therefore the Eucharist is just to remember Jesus. Also it is just a time to remember Jesus because it is just remembering and keeping alive the last supper of Jesus, there is no other meaning to it. It is also to simply remember Jesus' sacrifices that he made for Christians.

(ii) Some people may disagree as they believe in the real presence (Jesus is present in the bread and wine of the Eucharist) so they believe Jesus is with you while to take it so it is a special and important part of worship and it's more than just remembering Jesus. Also it is more than a time to remember Jesus as some people believe in transubstantiation (that the bread and wine become the body and blood of Jesus) so it's more than just remembering Jesus. Also people may disagree as the Eucharist is showing how God sacrificed his only son for the lives of humanity so you are remembering Jesus and God's sacrifice.



b) 4 marks

Personal opinion and two developed reasons

People who don't believe celebrate it, developed by: more of a national holiday

People forget the true meaning, developed by: just about gifts

c) Level 4 — 8 marks

One simple and two developed reasons

Statues so Catholics can focus their worship

Altar where mass is prepared, developed by: it focusses the important part of worship

Tabernacle where the Eucharist is kept, developed by: as it is believed to be the real presence

di) 3 marks

Personal opinion, three simple reasons

Nothing happens to the bread and wine

Just remembers the Last Supper

Remembers Jesus' sacrifice

dii) 3 marks

One simple, and one developed, reason

Believe in the real presence, developed by: so believe Jesus is with you

Believe in transubstantiation

Total: 18 marks



c) Responses to an 'Explain why...' question, which describes, rather than gives reasons, will not reach beyond Level 1 in the mark scheme. Teachers should explain to candidates how questions will be rewarded for description.

(b) I don't think Christmas is a religious celebration anymore because it has become too commercialised. Companies see Christmas as a way to sell special products and gifts, not as a religious celebration, and as big companies have money and power, they succeed in over-commercialising it.

Many different religions have the features of Christmas but without religion. For instance, a Muslim family may all buy gifts for each other at Christmas however not celebrate the Christian meaning - this proves it is no longer a religious celebration.

(c) Roman Catholic churches have altars for mass services. This is the special table ~~at~~ on which mass is taken place and the bread and wine of the Eucharist are prepared.

Transubstantiation is a Roman Catholic belief - that the bread and wine become Jesus' blood and body. They have a tabernacle which is a special cupboard to keep the bread and wine in, in order to keep it sacred for mass.

Many have fonts for infant baptism. This is important as Catholics (and other Christians) believe infant baptism is important as it brings a baby into God's family so it can have a good, Christian upbringing and the font is where this takes place.

Lecterns are another feature of a Catholic Church. Bible readings are an important part of a Catholic church service and the lectern is where a priest or member of the laity will stand to deliver such a reading.

- (d) (i) I disagree because it ^{imparticulary} ~~remembers~~ remembers the sacrifice of Jesus, not just him. Catholics believe in real presence, meaning they believe Jesus is with them during eucharist and I also believe this is true. They, and I, also believe in transubstantiation, meaning the body and blood of Jesus is actually the bread and wine as they have become the body and blood so it is much more important than just remembering him.

- (ii) Some would agree if they don't believe in real presence and just say ~~go~~ that he isn't there, just being remembered. Part of the service says 'Do this in remembrance of him' meaning Jesus, showing the Eucharist is just taking bread and wine to remember Jesus. Christians that don't believe in transubstantiation will agree the same as they don't believe anything special happens to the bread or wine before the Eucharist.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

b) 4 marks

Personal opinion and two developed reasons

Too commercialised, developed by: selling specialist products and gifts

Many religions celebrate features of Christmas, developed by: example of Muslim family

c) Level 4 — 8 marks

Two brief and one developed reason

Altar where bread and wine are prepared

Tabernacle for keeping the bread and wine sacred

Font for baptism, developed by: reference to the importance of this for Catholics

di) 3 marks

Personal opinion, and two developed reasons

Remembers the sacrifice, developed by: not just the man

Belief in real presence, developed by: Jesus with you during the Eucharist

dii) 3 marks

Three simple reasons

Jesus just being remembered, nothing else happens

"Do this in remembrance..."

Nothing special happens to the bread and wine



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

If candidates have time, they should try to give as many reasons as they can in case one of their reasons is inaccurate.

Question 6 (a)

Most candidates knew the glossary definition for *charismatic worship*. Some were awarded marks for partially correct responses, if they did not indicate the 'Holy Spirit' in any way.

An example of a partially-correct response.

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: Question 5 ☒

Question 6 ☒

Write your answer here:

(a) Charismatic worship is when you pray to God using things such as healing and speaking in tongues.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

1 mark

Partially-correct

Gives the example of speaking in tongues but there is no reference to spiritual gifts or Holy Spirit



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

It is easy to receive full marks on the a) sub-questions by learning the keyword glossary definitions, provided by Edexcel, within the specification.

An example of a fully-correct answer

Chosen question number: Question 5 ☒

Question 6 ☒

Write your answer here:

(a) Charismatic worship is worship involving spiritual gifts such as speaking in tongues and healing.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

2 marks

Fully-correct



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Candidates should learn the Edexcel glossary definitions, which are in Appendix 4 in the specification.

Question 6 (b)(c)(d)

This question is based on Section Three in the specification: each of the sub-questions covers a different bullet point from the specification.

Q6 was a more popular choice than Q5.

b) This question was answered well, and most candidates were able to state their own opinion regarding whether or not it is important for Roman Catholics to go to Mass, which is bullet point 4 in the specification. Some candidates found it difficult and gave answers as to whether or not Christians, in general, should attend.

c) This question was well-answered by the majority of candidates. It required candidates to discuss why Christians celebrate Easter. The best answers linked their reasons to scripture and Church teachings. Answers that did not achieve full marks were those that included reasons why Christians observe Lent and Holy Week, but unless these were linked to Easter they were not credited.

d) Most candidates were able to give reasons supporting their view about whether only adults should be baptised in di) and reasons for an alternative view in dii). More able candidates used examples from the practice of different denominations and quotations from Church teachings to support their opinion. Poorer candidate responses simply gave arguments for and against baptism and these answers were only credited if they also linked to the issue of age/understanding.

This is an example of a candidate response that gains full marks by effective use of development.

(b) I do believe it's important for Roman Catholics to go to mass as they can take part in the Sacrament of the Eucharist which many Catholics believe is transubstantiated into the literal blood & body of Christ bringing worshippers closer to God. Additionally Mass involves the reading of bible verses and the sermon which can help them in understanding the meaning of the bible and improving their relationship with God.

★
(c) Christians celebrate Easter as this time shows the death and resurrection of Christ. ^{and consider} Christianity therefore Christians celebrate this to be one of the greatest miracles.

death = sins x

Christians often use Easter as a time of reflection towards the Suffering Christ endured on the cross. Additionally Christians celebrate Easter as ~~was~~ Jesus died for our sins. Christians celebrate Easter as it represents life and rebirth. Many Christians also celebrate Easter as it is the day that the Holy Spirit was revealed to the world. Additionally Christians celebrate Easter as it was the day Jesus was shown definitively to be the son of God.

only adults get baptised

- (d) (i) I do believe that only adults should be baptised as if they are adults they fully understand the bible, and the promises they must make as well as the fact that baptism is a sacrament and therefore very important. Additionally, ^{only} adults should ~~only~~ be baptised as babies cannot decide for themselves.
- (ii) In contrast many Christians may disagree for a number of reasons. Firstly some may argue that infant baptism is important as it washes away the child's original sin meaning they will go to heaven in cases of infant mortality. Secondly many Christians believe that infant baptism is important as it welcomes the child into the Church with the parents promising to raise them in a stable Christian home. Finally many Christians ~~believe~~ believe that Confirmation shows that the young adult now knows about the Christian faith and is ready to become an active member of the church.

Confirm





ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

b) 4 marks

Personal opinion and two developed reasons

Take part in the sacrament of the Eucharist, developed by: reference to transubstantiation

Hear readings from the Bible, developed by: help to understand the meaning of it

c) Level 4 — 8 marks

One developed and two brief reasons

Remembers the death and resurrection of Christ, developed by: this was a miracle

Celebrates life and rebirth

The day Jesus shown to be the Son of God

di) 3 marks

Personal opinion, one developed and simple reason

Adults fully understand the promises, developed by: link to sacraments

Babies cannot decide for themselves

dii) 3 marks

Two developed and one simple reason

Washes away original sin, developed by: able to go to heaven

Welcome the child into the Church

Total: 18 marks



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

In c) sub-questions, candidates should be encouraged to read questions carefully. Some responses need to include reasons:

- for
- against
- both for and against

These will change from question to question.

This is an example of a response where the candidate did not gain marks in sub-question (c) because they included repetition and information about Holy Week, which did not answer the question set.

(b) Yes, because by attending mass, Roman Catholics are remembering the sacrifice Jesus made for us so it is important to attend to show thanks and to take the bread and wine which reminds us of the sacrifice made.

Also, it's important because by attending you are showing love for God & because you can go to feel closer to God, take the sacraments

(c) Christians celebrate Easter because it remembers the sacrifice Jesus made for us by dying on the cross and being crucified.

Also, it is celebrated by Christians to show thanks and love, to God.

Christians also celebrate Easter because the Church does which means ~~it's~~ ~~no~~ it's important and should be celebrated by Christians too.

Also, Christians celebrate Easter because it's a time to remember and reflect on the ~~resurrection~~ resurrection of Jesus and how he rose from the dead.

(d) (i) Yes, because the adult is old enough to know what is happening, & therefore, it is out of their own free will. ~~Also, if they were a~~
Also, the baptism will be much more meaningful and real because the adult can understand and fully commit to the baptism.
Also, Jesus was baptised as an adult therefore, therefore, people should only be baptised when they are adults.

(ii) NO, others may disagree because if children are baptised then they are welcomed into the church from an early age.
Also, being baptised younger means your faith journey is started much younger, and it will allow the child to feel closer to God because being baptised shows love of God.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

- b) 4 marks
Personal opinion and two developed reasons
- Remember Jesus' sacrifice, developed by: take the bread and wine
Show love of God, developed by: take the sacrament
- c) Level 1 — 2 marks
One brief reason
- Time to remember Jesus' resurrection
- d) 3 marks
Three simple reasons
- Old enough to know what is happening
More meaningful as an adult as can understand it
Jesus was baptised as an adult
- dii) 3 marks
Three simple reasons
- Welcomed into the Church
Faith journey is started younger
Allows children to feel closer to God
- Total: 12 marks



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

If candidates start each reason with a new paragraph they can often recognise that the reason they are about to write is the same as one they have already given, and so can avoid repetition.

Question 7 (a)

Most candidates knew the glossary definition for *contemplative life* and were awarded full marks. However, some candidates guessed the answer, rather than using knowledge, and gained no marks.

An example of a fully-correct definition.

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: **Question 7** ☒

Question 8 ☐

Write your answer here:

(a) A contemplative life is living as a monk or nun and not engaging with the outside world.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

2 marks

Fully-correct, even though it is not the Edexcel glossary definition.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Learn the glossary definitions.

A fully-correct answer, paraphrasing the Edexcel glossary definition.

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: **Question 7** ☒

Question 8 ☒

Write your answer here:

(a) Contemplative life - Showing love for God by
praying and meditation and not getting involved with
the outside world so ~~nothing~~ nothing distracts you



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

2 marks

Fully correct



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Learn the glossary definition from the Edexcel specification.

Question 7 (b)(c)(d)

This question is based on Section Four in the specification: each of the sub-questions covers a different bullet point from the specification.

Q7 was a much less popular choice than Q8.

It was noticeable that many of Q7 and Q8 were not complete; candidates should be advised to spend about 20 minutes on each question.

b) Better candidates were able to answer this question regarding whether or not Christians should show their vocation through their work. Lower-scoring responses did not develop their reasons agreeing/disagreeing, or did not know what 'vocation' meant, and thus gained no marks.

c) Most candidates answered this question well, recognising that this was a question concerning whether or not Christians should apply the teachings in the Sermon on the Mount to display religion in their daily life. Many candidates referred to examples from the news, often explaining in great detail. However, some candidates did this without giving reasons and only giving description, limiting their marks to Level 1 — two marks.

d) Most candidates were able respond to the quote relating to community cohesion, but a few did not refer to Christianity, so limiting their overall score to a possible three marks out six.

Some candidates were able to give their own opinion and reasons for it, but were unable to explain why others might disagree with their opinion. It is important that candidates are encouraged to discuss fully both their own reasons and those that other people might hold.

This is an example of a full-mark answer.

(b) Yes, because showing vocation through their work will help others. ^{The Bible} God tells us to love our neighbour as ourself and becoming a doctor through a vocation will help us to love others as we save them from dying. Also a vocation could be to become a priest, and a priest converts people and educates them to spread Christianity. This is what God would have wanted. Therefore showing vocation through work helps people who are suffering and spread Christianity which follows in the example of Jesus.

(c) The Sermon on the Mount teaches that people should not display their religion as this is against what God wanted. Therefore Christians do not preach on the streets as this is making a display of their religion, instead they attend Church services and pray at home. Also the Sermon on the Mount teaches that if you give to charity you should do it anonymously, this is so you don't brag about how good you are. Therefore, Christians give money to charities without putting their name on it. Also the Sermon on the Mount teaches that we should keep our prayers short and not ramble on. Therefore Christians use the Lord's prayer to speak to God by saying 'our father in heaven.' Also the Sermon on the Mount teaches that if you fast, you shouldn't make a fuss about it by complaining, instead you should follow in Jesus' example and keep quiet. Therefore Christians do not brag or talk about how hungry they are, instead they keep quiet.

(d) (i) yes, because community cohesion helps to stop racism and instead shows love for others, which is one of the greatest commandments, therefore should be followed. Also the Golden Rule is to treat people how you would like to be treated and community cohesion helps people to do this. Also community cohesion will help to prevent wars which will help Christians not commit a sin; for example the Ten Commandments of do not murder. Also community cohesion means Christians will follow Jesus' teaching such as the Good Samaritan, because we should ~~##~~ share the same values and belonging with all religions and help and love others.

(ii) No, because community cohesion could lead to people believing and accepting other religions and it's one of the 10 commandments to only believe in one God, therefore the person would be sinning. Also some Christians believe that we should work to convert people to Christianity and community cohesion wouldn't help us do this. ^{God wants us to convert people to Christianity to get} people into heaven. Also working for community cohesion is a distraction from Christianity and we should only love and worship God and not be distracted.

TOTAL FOR PAPER = 84 MARKS



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

b) 4 marks

Two developed reasons

Vocations that help others, developed by: the example of a doctor

What God wants, developed by: through example of a priest

c) Level 4 — 8 marks

One developed and two brief ways

Not preaching on the streets, developed by: prayer at home

Giving to charity anonymously

Keeping prayers short

di) 3 marks

One developed and simple reason

Stops racism, developed by: love of others

Because of the Golden Rule

dii) 3 marks

One developed and one simple reason

Leads to believing in other religions

Need to convert clashes with community cohesion

It is a distraction from worshipping God

Total: 18 marks



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Candidates should practice developing reasons. This may be done in class by pairing candidates and asking them each to write a reason and swap with each other to develop the reason.

This is an example of a response showing a lack of knowledge in sub-questions b) and c).

(b) I don't think Christians should show their vocation through their work as every Christian will get a different calling from God that they may not be able to show through work. Some simple ones are for helping others so becoming a nurse but this isn't the case for every Christian so they are unable to do so. Their vocation should also be personal to them and they shouldn't openly share it with others, as long as they fulfil it they don't need to prove it.

(c) Christians use the teachings from the sermon on the mount in their daily lives by following the rules ^{and} using them as morals to live their life. The Sermon on the Mount is Jesus talking to Moses

laws (the Commandments) and reinterpretes them by adding to them or making them relevant to modern life. A Christian will follow these teachings as in order to get to heaven they must live a Christian life and following the ~~ser~~^{sermon} allows them to do so. They teach it in church as it is wrote in the Bible so Christians must follow it. They use the sermon on the mount in their daily lives displaying their religion by simply following the morals. At first in the 10 Commandments God teaches do not commit adultery and Jesus says in the sermon on the mount, don't commit adultery, don't even think about it or lust for women. Another example is ~~do~~ not committing murder and Jesus says don't commit murder but also don't get angry so that murder could be an outcome, don't think about it. Christians will display the teachings of the sermon on the mount by following the morals so like the previous examples they will not lust for another woman or think about it in their daily life and they will not get angry as this ~~would~~ result in murder. They will not give the sin's means to commit them. All of this Christians actively follow in their daily lives.

(d) (i) I do agree that all Christians should work for community cohesion because in the Bible there is the parable of the Good Samaritan, different religions didn't get along and because of that man suffered but the good Samaritan came along and although they had different religions ^{helped} ~~helped~~ the suffering man, because of this both gained. This is showing other religions can get along. Jesus wasst also Jewish yet Christians have a sense of belonging. To love thy neighbor and to treat others as you wish to be treated is the golden rule so Christians should follow this, they should be able to live peacefully in a community with other people.

(ii) others may disagree with me as they believe in monotheism which is ~~one God~~ and belief in one God so as a community they all can't share a similar sense of belonging if they don't believe in the same God. Also a community of people living together could cause conflict. This could lead to violence which is against Christian belief so Christians shouldn't support this.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

b) 3 marks

Personal opinion, which has to be given but is not credited: one developed and one brief reason

Have a different calling, developed by: the example of the nurse

It should be personal

c) 0 marks

No rewardable material

There are no ways given about displaying religion from the Sermon on the Mount

di) 3 marks

Personal opinion, one fully developed reason

Teachings of the Parable of the Good Samaritan, developed by: link to helping different religions, further developed by: shows that others' religions can get along

dii) 3 marks

One developed and one simple reason

Can't share sense of belonging if others don't believe in same God, developed by: link to monotheism

Could lead to conflict

Total: 9 marks



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

c) Candidates will be able to check they have written sufficient to gain full marks, by using a paragraph for each reason.

Question 8 (a)

Most candidates knew the glossary definition for the *evangelical counsels*; those that did not often guessed incorrectly.

This is an example of a fully-correct definition.

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: Question 7 ☒

Question 8 ☒

Write your answer here:

(a) ~~Para~~ A promise of chastity, poverty & obedience.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

2 marks

Fully-correct: uses the word *promise* instead of *vows*



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Learn the glossary definitions given in the Edexcel specification.

This is an example of a partially-correct answer.

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: Question 7 ☒

Question 8 ☒

Write your answer here:

(a) Vows of baptism, chastity and obedience



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

1 mark

Partially-correct

Two correct vows given



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Learn glossary definitions.

Question 8 (b)(c)(d)

This question is based on Section Four in the specification: each of the sub-questions covers a different bullet point from the specification.

Q8 was a much more popular choice than Q7.

It was noticeable that many responses for Q7 and Q8 were not complete; candidates should be advised to spend about 20 minutes on each question.

b) Most candidates were able to state their own opinion as to whether or not Christians should help those who suffer in the UK, and then give reasons for it. Many were able to use examples to develop their reasons. Any reference to overseas help could not be credited because it did not answer the question.

c) This question was well-answered by candidates, who had been taught about issues relating to the Ten Commandments as a guide for living (bullet point 5 in the specification). It was not well-answered by candidates who referred to the Golden Commandment as one of the Ten Commandments.

d) Some candidates left this question blank because they had run out of time. Most candidates were able to respond to the quote about judging others, and gave one or two reasons. Better responses referred to religious teachings, and weaker responses were very one-sided or gave examples, rather than reasons.

This is an example of a response that gains full marks.

(b) I do think all Christians ~~must~~ should help those who are suffering as in the parable of the sheep and goats Jesus said "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine you did for me" this shows that when Christians help others it helps Jesus. Additionally the Christian ^{Golden} rule of "do unto others as you wish they'd do unto you" shows that Christians should help those in need as they would want help if they were in need.

(c) Christians use the 10 commandments for living as they believe this is what God wants them to do. Christians also follow these commandments as they believe they are

the direct word of God given to Moses in the ~~new testament~~ old testament. Christians also follow the 10 commandments as a guide for living as they may simply feel that these are good moral codes to follow in order to live a good life. Additionally Christians may follow the 10 commandments as they believe it will lead them to salvation in death. Christians may follow the 10 commandments as they were raised in a Christian household and may feel that their childhood was better for following the commandments and because of this, may continue to follow them.

(d) (i) I believe that judging people is always wrong, this is because on the sermon on the mount Jesus said that you should not judge others for their actions even if you consider them to be morally wrong. Additionally the Golden Rule of Christianity states "do unto others as you would want them to do unto you" ~~this shows that Christians should~~ meaning that Christians shouldn't judge others without thinking about how they'd feel if they were judged. Additionally Jesus said on the sermon on the mount that a man who has never sinned may judge others showing God believed no one should be judged ~~as we have all sinned.~~

(ii) In contrast some people may argue that judgement is necessary in society. An example of this is the judgement of people who've committed crimes, as these people must be judged and punished accordingly. Additionally some people may say that others should be judged if they're politically important in order to hold them accountable for their actions. Finally some people may say that it's human nature to judge other people and should not be considered wrong.



b) 4 marks

Personal opinion, supported by two developed reasons

Christians helping others helps Jesus, developed by: quote from Parable of the Sheep and Goats
Should help others if they would want to be helped, developed by: Golden Rule

c) Level 4 — 8 marks

Four brief reasons

Direct word of God given in Old Testament

Good moral codes

Leads to salvation

Life is better by Commandments (childhood example given)

di) 3 marks

Three simple reasons

Jesus said not to judge

Because of the Golden Rule

Should not judge unless we have not sinned

dii) 3 marks

Three simple reasons

Judgement of criminals

Hold people to account

It is human nature

Total: 18 marks



d) Candidates may use development and examples in d) sub-questions, to improve their answers.

This is an example of a candidate who did not develop their responses on the b) sub-question, and did not gain maximum results as a result.

(b) I think we should help those who are suffering in the UK because we are following the golden commandment of loving one another. We should also do it because we would be following in the footsteps of Jesus who helped everyone.

(c) Christians use the Ten Commandments as a guide to living because they say 'you shall not kill'. This is important because ~~Jesus never killed~~ it is against the law.

They also say to 'only believe in one God'. This is important because it links with the basic Christian idea of monotheism.

Furthermore, they say 'do not commit adultery'. This is important because ~~Jesus~~ God said to love one another and committing adultery goes against this.

Finally, we use them as a guide because Jesus himself used them as a guide, and we should use them to follow in his footsteps.

(d) (i) I agree with this because in the sermon on the Mount, Jesus said only ~~he could~~ ^{he could} judge someone who had done no wrong could judge someone else by using the analogy of the speck of dust in one eye and a plank of wood in the other. This means that only the Trinity can judge people on judgement day at the end of the world, as it says in the Bible.

(ii) Some people would disagree with this because if judges didn't judge criminals then they would get away with acts which are against the Ten Commandments. Also

Also, if the ~~the~~ Magisterium didn't judge who was the next Pope then the whole religion could be in jeopardy.

Finally, if ~~teachers~~ ^{examiners} didn't judge pupils then anyone would be able to say they were qualified to do subjects such as RS when, in actual fact, they're lying!

b) 2 marks

Two brief reasons

Following the commandment to love others

Following in footsteps of Jesus who helped

c) Level 4 — 8 marks

Four brief reasons

Do not kill is against the law

Believe in one God as basis of Christianity

Not commit adultery, as should love one another

Jesus used them as a guide

di) 3 marks

Personal opinion, which is required but not credited, one developed and one simple reason

Jesus said only people who do no wrong can judge, developed by reference to the teaching

Only the "Trinity" can judge

dii) 3 marks

Three simple reasons

Judges need to judge criminals

Magisterium needs to judge for a new Pope

Examiners need to judge

Total: 16 marks



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

b) Candidates should separate their two reasons by using a new paragraph for each one.

Paper Summary

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

- There is a choice of two questions per section, each as 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 numbered). Candidates who choose questions from a mixture of the top and bottom questions will not receive marks for all their questions and as such are at a clear disadvantage
- Candidates are asked to indicate which question they have answered by crossing in a square at the top of the paper. Some candidates did not do this. Candidates should be reminded to do this as part of examination preparation
- Space on the examination paper. The amount of lines given is more than adequate for candidates to achieve maximum marks; there is no need for candidates to write more than this. If candidates write more than can be inserted into the allocated lineage they are using up too much time on that particular question and inevitably will place themselves at a disadvantage later in the paper. Almost all of the candidates who used extra paper had already achieved maximum marks on that question. Any candidate who needs extra space can use the space allocated to other questions, as long as they indicate clearly on their paper that this is what they have done
- Timing. There was a number of candidates who did not complete the final section this year, due to timing difficulties. Candidates should be encouraged to spend about twenty minutes per question, leaving ten minutes to check through work at the end of the paper
- The paper is marked by examiners on a computer screen. Candidates are asked to write using a black pen. This is important so that clear images are reproduced

Some general points can be made on how best to answer the various question types:

- Maximum marks on the (a) questions are easily gained by learning the Edexcel glossary definitions in Appendix 4 of the specification. Candidates who had learnt the glossary wording performed to a high standard
 - Only the candidate's point of view is credited in (b) questions: there is no point in explaining other people's views in this question. The easiest way to gain full marks is for candidates to concentrate on stating their opinion. They should write two separate reasons for it, each in a distinct paragraph. They should develop each of the reasons with an example or a quote. Candidates who are taught to say why people disagree with their opinion in b) questions are severely disadvantaged
- (c) Questions test AO1 and so are likely to ask for candidates to 'Explain why' or to 'Explain how'
- Many of the d) questions this year produced interesting answers. However, candidates should ensure that they start by stating their own view and reasons for it in di) and state reasons why someone might hold a different view in dii), rather than confusing the two halves. At least one of the reasons given in either di) or dii) must be explicitly Christian, to go beyond three marks
 - There are four extra marks added for spelling punctuation and grammar (SPaG). There were four marks added to Section One. Information on this has been sent to all centres
 - Teachers who would like to learn more about the specification, and this year's examination in particular, should attend one of the online Edexcel feedback 'Insets', which can be booked through the Edexcel website. Specific queries can be answered through *Ask the Expert*, which is also found on the Edexcel website

There are also many free insets for the new specifications and it is strongly advised that centres attend one of these to find out about the specifications and gain understanding of the how the new papers will be assessed.

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>

Ofqual



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Welsh Assembly Government



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