



Pearson

Religious Studies recommended time per question

The below outlines the recommended times for candidates to spend answering each question in the GCSE, AS and A level question papers for the new Religious Studies qualifications (first teaching 2016)

These are just suggestions. Teachers will know their students best and be able to recommend times for them based on their ability and preferences.

The purpose of these tables is to offer some initial guidance.

The tables also include the command words and number of marks for each question for information.

GCSE RS Spec A

Question	Command word	No. of marks	Minutes
1 (a)	State	3	3
1 (b)	Explain	4	4
1 (c)	Explain	5	4
1 (d)	Evaluate	15	15
2 (a)	Outline	3	3
2 (b)	Explain	4	4
2 (c)	Explain	5	4
2 (d)	Evaluate	12	15
3 (a)	Outline	3	3
3 (b)	Explain	4	4
3 (c)	Explain	5	4
3 (d)	Evaluate	15	15
4 (a)	Outline	3	3
4 (b)	Explain	4	4
4 (c)	Explain	5	4
4 (d)	Evaluate	12	15

So 25 minutes per section, plus 5 mins at the end to check

GCSE RS Spec B

Question	Command word	No. of marks	Minutes
1 (a)	State	3	3
1 (b)	Explain	4	4
1 (c)	Explain	5	4
1 (d)	Evaluate	15	15
2 (a)	Outline	3	3
2 (b)	Explain	4	4
2 (c)	Explain	5	4
2 (d)	Evaluate	12	15
3 (a)	Outline	3	3
3 (b)	Explain	4	4
3 (c)	Explain	5	4
3 (d)	Evaluate	15	15
4 (a)	Outline	3	3
4 (b)	Explain	4	4
4 (c)	Explain	5	4
4 (d)	Evaluate	12	15

So 25 mins per section, plus 5 mins at the end to check

AS level SAMs

Question	Command word	No. of marks	Minutes
1	Explore	8	8
2	Assess	9	10
3	Assess	9	10
4 (a)	Explore	8	8
4 (b)	Analyse	20	20

Plus 5 mins at the end to check

A level SAMs

Question	Command word	No. of marks	Minutes
1	Explore	8	10
2	Assess	12	20
3 (a)	Clarify	10	15
3 (b)	Analyse	20	30
4	Evaluate	30	40

Plus 5 mins at end to check