



Examiners' Report

June 2024

GCSE Religious Studies B 1RB0 3C

Edexcel and BTEC Qualifications

Edexcel and BTEC qualifications come from Pearson, the UK's largest awarding body. We provide a wide range of qualifications including academic, vocational, occupational and specific programmes for employers. For further information visit our qualifications websites at www.edexcel.com or www.btec.co.uk.

Alternatively, you can get in touch with us using the details on our contact us page at www.edexcel.com/contactus.



Giving you insight to inform next steps

ResultsPlus is Pearson's free online service giving instant and detailed analysis of your students' exam results.

- See students' scores for every exam question.
- Understand how your students' performance compares with class and national averages.
- Identify potential topics, skills and types of question where students may need to develop their learning further.

For more information on ResultsPlus, or to log in, visit www.edexcel.com/resultsplus. Your exams officer will be able to set up your ResultsPlus account in minutes via Edexcel Online.

Pearson: helping people progress, everywhere

Pearson aspires to be the world's leading learning company. Our aim is to help everyone progress in their lives through education. We believe in every kind of learning, for all kinds of people, wherever they are in the world. We've been involved in education for over 150 years, and by working across 70 countries, in 100 languages, we have built an international reputation for our commitment to high standards and raising achievement through innovation in education. Find out more about how we can help you and your students at: www.pearson.com/uk.

June 2024

Publications Code 1RB0_3C_2406_ER

All the material in this publication is copyright

© Pearson Education Ltd 2024

Introduction

This paper contributes 50% of the overall course award. The paper includes four questions, each covers a section of the specification, and all candidates are expected to answer all four sub-questions from each section. Details of the assessment content are provided in the specification. Centres are expected to use the Edexcel specification, rather than other published resources, when planning and teaching the course content. The examination is written based on the specification content.

This paper encourages an in-depth study of Islam today. 1RBO 3C focuses on two core topics, Islamic Beliefs and Living the Muslim Life with two option topics, Philosophy of Religion and Equality.

There was a marked increase in the number of candidates entered for 3C this year: this impacted the quality of the responses and the marks awarded.

Question 1 (a)

(a) questions are marked using a points mark scheme. Candidates are required to give three short points.

This question concerns Muslim teachings about life after death. In this question, candidates are specifically required to outline beliefs about the Day of Judgement.

Many candidates suggested that an angel blows a horn to announce the Day of Judgement, Allah judges your actions on earth and he decides whether you go to heaven or hell. Others referenced a variety of beliefs such as Muslims must walk across the bridge of As-Sirat and the angels are present for Judgement Day.

This response is given 3 marks for three valid beliefs.

1 (a) Outline **three** beliefs about the Day of Judgement.

(3)

three beliefs are that the world ends
when the day of judgement starts, everyone
who has ever lived will be resurrected and
everyone will be judged by Allah for
their actions during their life to see if
they go to Jannah or Jahannam.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate achieves marks for:

- The world ends when the day of judgement starts (1)
- Everyone will be resurrected (1)
- Everyone will be judged by Allah (1)

The candidate also gives additional information with respect to the destination after judgement.

Total: 3 marks



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Write in short sentences. Help the examiner.

This response has two valid beliefs.

1 (a) Outline **three** beliefs about the Day of Judgement.

(3)

Muslims believe that they are judged by Allah for how they have lived their lives. It is when Allah decides if they are to go to heaven or hell.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate achieves marks for:

- Muslims are judged by Allah for how they lived their lives (1)
- Allah decides if they go to heaven or hell (1)

Total: 2 marks



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Three is key.

Question 1 (b)

(b) questions are marked using a points mark scheme. Candidates are required to give two developed reasons to achieve full marks.

This question considers the implications of belief in al-Qadr for Muslims today.

The key is to look for a way that belief in al-Qadr affects Muslim life. It is the *way* that must be developed rather than understanding of the belief. The way may be a practical response, such as it causes them to behave well. It may be a spiritual or emotional response, such as it causes them to seek forgiveness.

This response is given 4 marks for two developed ways. Both ways were emotional effects rather than practical responses.

In this example, the quotation, although not required for a mark, functions as a development of the idea that they can leave things to Allah.

(b) Explain **two** ways belief in al-Qadr affects how Muslims live their lives.

(4)

Al-Qadr which is predestination ~~can~~
~~affect~~ helps Muslims live their lives
with a better attitude as if they are meant
to have something it has already been written
so they will get it they should just work hard

Al-Qadr also ^{helps} ~~makes~~ Muslims not to
stress as they leave things to Allah
which takes away their problems as
'Allah is the best of planners.' Thus meaning what
ever has been written down will happen.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

- They live their lives with a better attitude (1) If they are meant to have something it has already been written (1)
- They leave things to Allah (1) as 'Allah is the best of planners.' (1) (Surah 8:30)

Total: 4 marks



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Do what the question asks. Effects are not reasons.

This response is given 0 marks because there is no relevant information.

(b) Explain **two** ways belief in al-Qadr affects how Muslims live their lives.

(4)

Prophethood may affect Muslims and how they live their lives as the prophets are people Muslims may view as role models so they live their lives similar to how the prophets would.

Tawhid is the oneness of God showing that he is omnipotent so Muslims must look up to, worship and put Allah before themselves.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

Candidates should be familiar with key terms used in the specification.

In this instance the candidate had no idea what al-Qadr means and tried Risalah (Prophethood) and Tawhid (the Oneness of Allah) as possibilities.

Total: 0 marks



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Learn key Islamic terms.

Question 1 (c)

(c) questions are marked using a points mark scheme. Candidates are required to give two developed purposes as they would in a (b) question. The additional fifth mark is awarded for the use of a recognisable quote or paraphrase from a source of authority.

In Islam, the sources of authority are the Qur'an and Hadith. The quotation must be embedded in a developed reason. It can occur at the beginning of the reason, in the middle or at the end. There is no preferred location but it must contribute to the developed purpose in the question.

This question concerns the importance of the Six Beliefs for Muslims, specifically how they can demonstrate their importance in their life.

This response is included as an example of a candidate who understands what the Six Beliefs are and gives two well-developed ways they are shown in Muslim life.

(c) Explain **two** ways Muslims can show the importance of the Six Beliefs.

In your answer you must refer to a source of wisdom and authority.

(5)

one way is that they can make sure they only worship one God. "He is Allah, the one and only" showing how Tawhid is very important and only Allah should be praised. They then show this by praying 5 times a day and only to Allah.

Another way is by reading the holy books. Kutub shows how reading all the holy books is important as they guide you. Muslims show the importance by reading these scriptures during prayer and looking over them.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response is given 5 marks for two developed ways with a source of authority.

- They can make sure they only worship one God (1) 'He is Allah, the one and only' (Paraphrase Surah 112:1) (1) They show this by praying five times a day only to Allah (1)
- They read all the holy books (1) They read the scriptures during prayer (1)

Total: 5 marks



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Learn exactly what the Six Beliefs are.

By contrast, this response gains 0 marks because there is no relevant content.

(c) Explain **two** ways Muslims can show the importance of the Six Beliefs.

In your answer you must refer to a source of wisdom and authority.

(5)
One way they can show importance is by praying to Allah and showing they love and respect him.
Another way they could show importance is by fasting and following one of Allah's rules.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate suggests prayer and fasting as responses to the Six Beliefs. Both prayer and fasting are actions, rather than beliefs, and not contained in the Six Beliefs.

The first example uses prayer as an example of an action celebrating Allah, rather than emphasising his oneness.

Total: 0 marks



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Beliefs are not actions.

Question 1 (d)

This response was marked according to the new (d) mark scheme descriptors and the updated guidance on SPaG marking. It considers the importance of angels in Muslim life today.

Unlike the other questions on the paper (d) items are levels marked. They are NOT point marked.

For levels marking it is important to read the whole response. The level should be decided using the best-fit to level from the mark scheme. Once a level is determined it is then decided where the response lies within the level.

Use the SPaG descriptors to decide the SPaG mark. The full range of marks was used as appropriate.

This question considers the significance of angels in Muslim life today. Candidates often referred to the historical significance of angels, particularly angel Jibril and discussed the idea that, because Muhammad was the seal of the prophets, the role of angels is not so significant today. Many mentioned the recording angels and the angel of death as retaining importance for every Muslim.

The work of this candidate is included to illustrate the impact of the change in the mark scheme for (d) items.

Angels are significant in Muslim life today by their role in the life after death. Muslims believe it is angels which reunite them with Allah by bringing the deceased to him. This is important as it shows the Muslims' faith in Allah and their belief of the characteristics of Allah surrounding a fair judgment. This is a strong argument as on death Muslims must trust Allah as well as trust the angel to bring them back to Him.

Some Muslims may believe ~~that~~ angels have lost significance in life today due to their being no new revelations or prophets. This is important as the angel Jibril revealed the Qur'an to the prophet Muhammad and Allah uses angels to communicate with us. So without prophet-hood Muslims may believe the significance of angels has been lost. This argument is weak as Allah has

reflected everything to the world and so no new prophets are needed and angels have many roles in muslim life.

Many muslims would argue angels are required for the day of judgement and they remind muslims of right and wrong. This is important as the angels record muslims good and bad deeds so Allah can judge them fairly. The qur'an tells them to 'shun all false gods' and the significance of the angels recording their deeds reminds them of this. This argument is strong as angels are significant to remind muslims of right and wrong whilst serving Allah.

In conclusion ~~that~~ angels have significance in muslim life today. This is as even without prophethood, they play a large role in life after death and the day of judgement. This is important as it provides muslims comfort in death.



There is evidence of logical chains of reasoning and a sound understanding of religion and belief.

The candidate makes a limited attempt to judge the quality of the arguments offered by referring to strong and weak arguments and supporting this choice with some simple reasoning.

SPaG: The candidate spells and punctuates with the accuracy required for high performance.

Level 3

Question: 7 marks

SPaG: 3 marks

Total: 10 marks



Focus on improved analysis for Level 3.

This response is included to illustrate the rare occasions when SPaG gains 0 marks. The response is simply too short to make the award of SPaG meaningful.

***(d) "Angels are significant in Muslim life today."**

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you must:

- refer to Muslim teachings
- reach a justified conclusion.

(15)

Angels are important as they are the messengers of God and signify the importance of Allah and his teachings.



The candidate offers an isolated relevant piece of information.

Nevertheless, the argument that angels are the messengers of God provides an isolated element of religion and belief that can be credited.

Level 1

Question: 1 mark

SPaG: 0 marks

Total: 1 mark



A mark may make all the difference.

Question 2 (a)

This question is based on understanding of the cosmological argument.

Those candidates who achieved highly on this question understood that the cosmological argument links to the infinite regression of causation back to a first cause. Muslims believe this first cause is Allah.

Some candidates confused the cosmological argument with the design argument.

The work of this candidate demonstrates clear understanding of the cosmological argument.

2 (a) Outline **three** ways the cosmological argument can be used to prove that Allah exists.

(3)

One way is by showing that ~~the~~ everything has a cause so for the creation of the universe there must be an uncaused cause. Another way is because the uncaused cause must be an all-powerful being. Another way is that the uncaused cause is Allah.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response is given 3 marks for three clear ways.

- Everything has a cause (1)
- For the creation of the universe there must be an uncaused cause (1)
- The uncaused cause must be an all-powerful being (1)

Total: 3 marks



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Know the difference between the cosmological argument and the design argument.

This response is given 0 marks because the responses are not directly linked to the cosmological argument.

Science **Question 2: Philosophy of Religion**

2 (a) Outline **three** ways the cosmological argument can be used to prove that Allah exists.

(3)

firstly, it can be used to show Allah exists because Allah created everything
secondly, it can show Allah's existence because everything came from Allah signifying his identity.
thirdly, the cosmological argument can prove his existence because science and beliefs can work together.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate is aware that this is the scientific argument.

The argument needs to be used to demonstrate Allah's existence. Asserting that Allah created everything does not link to the cosmological argument of Allah as the uncaused cause.

Total: 0 marks



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Cosmological equates to cause, not create.

Question 2 (b)

This question concerns the existence of suffering and the conflict with Allah as a compassionate God.

Those candidates who did well on this question considered why the issue causes a problem. They usually used the characteristics of Allah as a starting point because it is neither loving nor compassionate to allow your creation to suffer if you, as God, can prevent it.

Those who found the question more challenging often did not link the characteristics back to the compassionate nature of Allah.

The candidate uses the question stem before each response, linking it to Muslims doubting Allah's compassion.

(b) Explain **two** ways that suffering makes some Muslims doubt the compassion of Allah.

(4)

One way that ~~the~~ suffering makes Muslims doubt the compassion of Allah is that he is omniscient. This means that he knows all the suffering happening in the world and yet does not stop it.

Another way that suffering makes Muslims doubt the compassion of Allah is that he is omnipotent. This means that he is all-powerful and ~~so~~ has the power to end all suffering but he doesn't.



This response is given 4 marks for two developed ways.

- He is omniscient (1) He knows all the suffering happening in the world and yet does not stop it (1)
- Allah is omnipotent (1) He has the power to end all suffering but he doesn't (1)

Total: 4 marks



Link the response directly to the question.

(b) Explain **two** ways that suffering makes some Muslims doubt the compassion of Allah.

(4)

One way that suffering makes some Muslims doubt the compassion of Allah is that if Allah ~~is~~ loves all why does he put us through pain and conflict because that is not of loving nature.

Another way that suffering makes some Muslims doubt the compassion of Allah is that he allows people to inflict pain and conflict on others.



This response is given 3 marks for one developed and one simple way.

- If Allah loves all why does he put us through pain and conflict (1)
That does not show a loving nature (1)
- He allows people to inflict pain and suffering on others (1)

Total: 3 marks



Develop both reasons.

Question 2 (c)

This question considers the importance of visions in Islam.

Candidates often referred to historic examples of visions, principally the appearance of an angel to Maryam telling her that she would have a boy child.

Others mentioned the value of visions in providing proof of the existence of Allah. Many had difficulty in providing a relevant quotation.

(c) Explain **two** reasons why visions are important in Islam.

In your answer you must refer to a source of wisdom and authority.

(5)

Visions prove the existence of Allah as the Qur'an teaches that only Allah has the power to promote these occurrences, therefore teaching people that did not fully believe in Allah to trust in his teachings. Another importance is that ~~the~~ visions bring people closer to Allah as referenced by the Qur'an, 'Allah is closer to humans than their Jugular Vein', this helps people struggling or ~~with~~ ^{doubting} their beliefs to get personal reassurance from Allah, showing them that he is all-loving.



This response is given 5 marks for two developed reasons and a source of authority.

- Only Allah has the power to promote these occurrences (1) teaching people that did not fully believe in Allah to trust in his teachings (1)
- Visions bring people closer to Allah (1) The Qur'an says 'Allah is closer than their jugular vein.' (Surah 50:16) (1) This helps people to get personal reassurance from Allah (1)

Total: 5 marks



Keep the quote attached to a developed reason.

(c) Explain **two** reasons why visions are important in Islam.

In your answer you must refer to a source of wisdom and authority.

(5)

Visions are important in Islam because they show a way for Muslims to better understand Allah. Allah is ~~has~~ transcendent so visions allow Muslims to grasp an idea of what He is like. In the Quran it states it mentions a lot of visions such as the night journey where Muhammad went to talk to Allah. Another reason is because they can cause conversion. A numinous experience like a vision can cause people to believe in Allah.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response is given 4 marks for two developed reasons.

- They show a way for Muslims to better understand Allah (1) Allah is transcendent so visions allow Muslims to grasp an idea of what he is like (1)
- Another reason is because they can cause conversion (1) A numinous experience like a vision can cause people to believe in Allah (1)

Total: 4 marks



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

The points must answer the question.

Question 2 (d)

This question considers whether revelation is proof of the existence of Allah .

Both direct revelation or revelation through a messenger were acceptable.

(d) "Revelation is the best way to prove the existence of Allah."

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you must:

- refer to Muslim teachings
- reach a justified conclusion.

	Y	N
Arguments	Straight from Allah	Qur'an.
		Cosmological/design

(12)

It could be considered that 'revelation is the best way to prove the existence of Allah', due to it being straight from Allah. A revelation would be incredibly hard to replicate, such as Allah appearing in a burning bush. This results in very few inaccuracies in a revelation, meaning Allah must exist.

On the other hand, other Muslims may find other ways to prove the existence of Allah, with the design argument being incredibly strong. In the Victorian era, Christian philosopher William Paley came up with the watch analogy, where the watch is so perfect it must have a designer. This correlates exactly to the theory of Allah creating the world. As nothing is ^{talented} perfect enough to create the universe, Allah must be the only one to ~~create~~ have made it. Similarly, it is believed that the Qur'an is perfection, so must have been designed by Allah. Both these forms of the design argument could be believed to strongly prove Allah's existence.

However, it could be argued that revelation is the best way to prove Allah's existence, as this is reinforced by Allah's qualities: omnipotent, omniscient, transcendent. Allah is considered to 'be above his creation', ^{along} ~~mean~~ with his eternal love to his followers, Allah must be the only one to reveal himself or his work to his followers. For example, the revelation of Jibril to Muhammad (PBUH) proves that this revelation & the Qur'an must be Allah, as it cannot be imitated.

On the contrary, other Muslims could believe that the cosmological argument best proves Allah's existence. It was revealed in the Kalam that Allah is the uncaused cause which caused the universe. As nothing else could prove the miracles or even the Big Bang and every aspect of daily life, Allah must have caused caused everything, proving his existence every day.

Overall, it could be argued that revelation is not the best way to prove Allah's existence, yet the belief in the arguments for design, as they cover all of life, which proves Allah exists.



The candidate develops a good analysis of the statement, arguing for the importance of revelation in proving Allah's existence. They propose and defend alternative theories that may offer stronger proof.

These are developed into logical chains of reasoning underpinned by sound understanding of religion and belief.

There is inherent evidence of judgement throughout.

The conclusion remains the weakest element of the evaluation, which should justify the decision that revelation is not the best way to prove the existence of Allah.

Level 5

Total: 8 marks



Focus on an evaluative conclusion.

A number of candidates submitted scripts that were essentially illegible. They were difficult to read and some were impossible.

Centres are encouraged to provide typed responses when legibility may be an issue, particularly under examination conditions.

(d) "Revelation is the best way to prove the existence of Allah."

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you must:

- refer to Muslim teachings
- reach a justified conclusion.

• Faith without seeing

(12)

Revelation is when a ~~higher~~ deity reveals knowledge to humans about humans themselves or about the deity.

Most Muslims would agree that Revelation is the best way to prove the existence of Allah as they would argue that the main proof of Allah is a revelation - The Quran. The Quran is the word of God given to Muhammad that describes the nature of God how the universe was made - This proves the existence of Allah. Another way is that revelations such as miracles break the laws of physics this proves that there is an omnipotent being who created the laws of physics and is able to break the laws of physics. This proves the existence of Allah.

On the other hand some Muslims would argue faith based on what

is seen is not faith but faith based on the
Dasnal experience - prove the existence of
For example muslims would argue that there is a
God due to the fact the nature is so
perfectly designed in regards to the function of
the body it the way we breathe subconsciously
is a reason some would argue the evidence of
Allah.

Overall I would say most Muslims would agree that
Agree with the statement as the Quran
is much stronger proof of a Creator.
The revelations as revelations are the
best way to prove the existence of Allah.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate provides a basic analysis of the statement using some developed arguments.

The arguments are made briefly and suggest limited understanding of religion and belief.

There is an attempt to justify the conclusion but little judgement of the quality of the arguments.

Level 2

Total: 6 marks



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Make your judgements clear.

Question 3 (a)

This response considered the benefits a Muslim may gain from Zakah. Benefits for those who receive it and those who give it were both acceptable.

This response is given 3 marks for three valid ways.

It focusses on benefits for those who pay Zakah.

3 (a) Outline **three** ways Zakah may benefit Muslims.

(3)

One way Zakah may benefit Muslims is by helping others your good deeds increase. Another way is by slightly decreasing your wealth ~~you~~ you become less greedy. Another way is because ~~it~~ Zakah is one of the pillars so you are obeying Allah, which makes you a better muslim.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

- By helping others your good deeds increase (1)
- You become less greedy (1)
- You obey Allah (1)

Total: 3 marks



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Know the key terms.

This response is given 2 marks for 2 valid ways.

3 (a) Outline **three** ways Zakah may benefit Muslims.

(3)

Those who are in need receive Zakah for support.

It is a good move in Allah's eyes to give to charity, and will help you reach heaven.

It is also in the 5 roots of Usul-ad-Din showing importance to Shi'as.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

- Those in need receive support (1)
- Giving charity will help you reach heaven (1)

The final point is not credited. Zakah is one of the Five Pillars and one of the Ten Obligatory Acts. It is not one of the Five Roots of Usul ad-Din.

The Pillars and Obligatory Acts are require actions, the Six Beliefs and Five Pillars are beliefs.

Total: 2 marks



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Learn the difference between beliefs and actions.

Question 3 (b)

This question considers why daily prayers are important to Muslims.

Those candidates who did well at this question often suggested that prayer brings them closer to Allah and praying five times daily increases self-discipline.

This response is given 4 marks for two developed reasons.

(b) Explain **two** reasons why daily prayers are important to Muslims.

(4)

One reason why daily prayers are important is because of Prophet Mahamed. He told Muslims how to pray, and said to pray five times a day.

Another reason why ~~a~~ daily prayers are important is to show their devotion to one god. Muslims would do this ~~to~~ for the day of judgement, to get into heaven.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

- Prophet Muhammad told Muslims to pray five times a day (1) He told them how to pray (1)
- Prayer shows their devotion to one God (1) This is to get into heaven on the day of judgement (1)

For the first point, the reason and the development are reversed but together make a developed reason.

Total: 4 marks



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Start with the reason.

This response is given 2 marks for two simple reasons.

(b) Explain **two** reasons why daily prayers are important to Muslims.

(4)

one reasons why daily prayers are
important to muslim so you
can communicate with God and
feel close to God



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

- You can communicate with God (1)
- You can feel close to God (1)

Total: 2 marks



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Development is key.

Question 3 (c)

This question concerns the significance of the Shahadah.

Many candidates had a clear understanding of the importance of the Shahadah in Muslim life and gave two developed reasons.

Some candidates found it surprisingly difficult to include a valid quotation.

The most common responses included its role in conversion to Islam, the Shahadah as a declaration of faith, and its involvement in both birth and death rituals.

This response is given 5 marks for two developed reasons with a source of authority.

(c) Explain **two** reasons why Shahadah is significant to Muslims today.

In your answer you must refer to a source of wisdom and authority.

(5)

Shahadah is extremely significant to Muslims today because it is their declaration of faith and shows their love for Allah by sharing their belief in him as the only God, "Allah is one". Furthermore Shahadah helps Muslim stay close to Allah, as it is one of the five pillars of ~~Islam~~ Islam, which is extremely important for Muslims to follow.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

- It is the declaration of faith (1) It shows belief in Allah as the only God (1) 'Allah is one.' (Paraphrase of Surah 112:1) (1)
- It helps Muslims stay close to Allah (1) as it is one of the Five Pillars of Islam (1)

Total: 5 marks



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Use simple quotes when possible.

This response is given 2 marks for one developed reason.

(c) Explain **two** reasons why Shahadah is significant to Muslims today.

In your answer you must refer to a source of wisdom and authority.

(5)

One reason is because shahadah is one of the 5 roots of Uaui-Al-Din, showing it is significant in the beliefs of Muslims to this day.

Another reason is as it is a very important prayer in Islam. It is said to you when you are born as a showing that you are one of Allah.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

- It is said to you when you are born (1) showing that you are one of Allah's (1)

The Shahadah is not one of the Five Roots. It can be regarded as a prayer, but is more commonly accepted as the statement of faith used during prayer.

The final point made by the candidate was accurate and creditworthy.

Total: 2 marks



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Learn the Roots and the Six Beliefs accurately.

Question 3 (d)

This question concerns the benefits and challenges from attending Hajj.

Many candidates considered the spiritual benefits and the benefits in uniting the community. These were offset by the expense and the danger.

* (d) "The benefits of Hajj make the challenges worthwhile."

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you must:

- refer to Muslim teachings
- reach a justified conclusion.

(15)

↓

For:

strengthens ummah

strengthens bond with Allah as

completed a pillar

Against:

• cost & availability

• living very simply

The benefits of Hajj outweigh the challenges because it can strengthen the ummah and Muslims' bond with Allah.

Firstly, Hajj strengthens the ummah, which is the relationship between all Muslims. This is because they do all the activities together such as prayer, going around the Ka'aba seven times and throwing rocks at the walls representing the devil. As a result, Muslims will find more love for their religion and will be more faithful to Allah as they have created a larger, stronger support network of Muslims across the globe. Therefore, this provides so many benefits to Muslims.

By contrast, there are many challenges to Hajj like the cost of it. So many people want to participate in the pilgrimage because it is one of the five pillars, making it very busy and expensive. It is shown in the Qur'an in "proclaim these men the pilgrimage", so it is very popular which increases the cost.

Therefore, many families struggle to pay for it. However, this is worthwhile for the benefits of Hajj because it is a once in a lifetime opportunity that all Muslims must do. Therefore, they should save up for it in order to do it.

Another benefit of Hajj is the strengthened bond with Allah SWT because it means Muslims have completed one of the five pillars, which is Allah's law. There is also lots of prayer during it which also strengthens the bond. This provides comfort to Muslims during time of struggle as well as show Allah how dedicated they are. As a result, they could experience the biggest benefit of all - entry into Jannah, which outweighs everything.

However, another challenge is living very simply. This is because Muslims sleep on the floor and have to walk for a long time. This could be challenging for the elderly or those who aren't used to living like this. Therefore, they might not enjoy this part. Although, the benefits from it like the friends or connection with Allah make this pain worthwhile in the long run.

In conclusion, the benefits of Hajj make the challenges worthwhile as they provide a closer support network for Muslims and could be the reason they are granted entry into ~~the~~ paradise.



This candidate gives a basic analysis of the statement using developed arguments and accurate content on both sides.

The response suffers from a lack of ongoing judgement of the quality of the arguments meaning the conclusion, although consistent with the arguments offered, had little justification.

Spelling, punctuation and grammar are consistently accurate throughout.

Level 2

Question: 6 marks

SPaG: 3 marks

Total: 9 marks



Judge the arguments.

*d) "The benefits of Hajj make the challenges worthwhile."

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you must:

- refer to Muslim teachings
- reach a justified conclusion.

(15)

Some Muslims may agree because Hajj is one of the five pillars of Islam so going on it would mean that they could be ~~judged~~ ^{have} ~~be~~ ⁱⁿ better ~~chance~~ ^{chance} at ~~getting~~ ^{setting} into Jannah. Going on Hajj ~~is~~ also means you get to be more spiritually connected to Allah as ~~Makkah~~ ^{Makkah} is seen as the ~~most~~ ^{most} ~~holy~~ ^{holy} place in Islam, so making ~~making~~ the pilgrimage there will be worth it for Muslims as it's the place where they connected to Allah.

Some ~~may~~ ^{disagree} Muslims may disagree because it is not something a Muslim has to do during their lifetime meaning that it's not as worthwhile as it is not ~~the~~ ^{required}. Going on Hajj ~~also~~ ^{doesn't} ~~mean~~ ^{also} ~~that~~ ^{mean} that on Judgement day you will go to ~~Jannah~~ ^{Jannah} as it doesn't take away from potential sins that a person has committed.

In conclusion, Hajj may seem to some ~~many~~ Muslims as not ~~mandatory~~ ^{mandatory} and worthwhile, many take ~~to~~ Hajj to feel more spiritually connected as well as ~~to~~ ~~showing~~ ~~their~~ ~~commitment~~ ~~to~~ ~~Allah~~ ~~by~~ ~~making~~ ~~the~~ ~~pilgrimage~~.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate gives a basic analysis of the 'agree' side of the argument with evidence of developed reasons.

However, the 'disagree' side is largely incorrect because Muslims should attend Hajj once in their life and many believe completing Hajj will wipe away their sins.

In effect, the response is judged solely on the quality of the 'agree' arguments with their simple developments and the conclusion that is consistent with the content.

Level 2

Question: 4 marks

SPaG: 2 marks

Total: 6 marks



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Revise both sides of the question.

Question 4 (a)

This question considers Muslim beliefs about prejudice.

Many candidates were aware that prejudice is a thought and discrimination is an action so few demonstrated any confusion.

Many suggested that prejudice was wrong or sinful, that it creates division rather than unity, and that Muslims should act to reduce prejudice.

This response is given 3 marks for three valid beliefs.

4 (a) Outline three Muslim beliefs about prejudice.

(3)

One Muslim belief is that prejudice ~~is~~ should not happen between groups of people. Another belief is that prejudice goes against Allah's will of unity. Another belief is that Muslims should work on themselves in order to undo prejudiced thinking ~~in order~~ and become a better Muslim.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

- Prejudice should not happen (1)
- It goes against Allah's will for unity (1)
- Muslims should undo prejudiced thinking to become a better Muslim. (1)

Total: 3 marks



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Do not write more than you need.

This response is given 2 marks for two valid beliefs.

4 (a) Outline **three** Muslim beliefs about prejudice.

(3)

- Muslims believe that prejudice is wrong as all humans are equal in the eyes of Allah.
- Muslims believe that prejudice is ^{an} ~~acting~~ discrimination based on someone's race / gender / ~~religion~~ religion etc.
- Muslims believe that they should try to ~~stop~~ reduce ^{prejudice} ~~prejudice~~.



This response is given 2 marks for two valid beliefs.

- Prejudice is wrong (1)
- They should try to reduce prejudice (1)

The middle belief confuses prejudice and discrimination so could not be credited.

Total: 2 marks



Learn accurate definitions.

Question 4 (b)

This question concerns Muslim attitudes to social justice, specifically why they may consider it important.

Social justice is the view that everyone deserves equal economic, political and social rights and opportunities.

Many candidates suggested that the Qur'an and Hadith show that Muslims should treat each other equally and fairly and that a fair society would reduce poverty and crime.

This response is given 4 marks for two developed reasons.

(b) Explain **two** reasons Muslims believe social justice is important.

(4)

One reason muslims believe social justice is important is because they believe in equality. muslims believe that all people should be treated equally no matter what as they are all gods creation.

Another reason muslims believe social justice is important is because it will help them on the day of judgement. ~~fight~~ fighting for social justice will help muslims go to heaven.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

- All people should be treated equally (1) as they are all God's creation (1)
- It will help them on the day of judgement (1) Fighting for social justice will help Muslims go to heaven (1)

Total: 4 marks



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Avoid repetition.

This response is given 2 marks for one developed reason.

(b) Explain **two** reasons Muslims believe social justice is important.

(4)

Muslims believe social justice is important because it presents the equal and just world that Allah wanted to create. It shows how much Muslims are thankful for the world if they try to make it like Allah's vision.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

- It presents the equal and just world Allah wanted to create (1) It shows how much Muslims are thankful for the world if they try to make it like Allah's vision (1)

Total: 2 marks



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Quotes are often useful as development in (b) questions.

Question 4 (c)

This question concerns the impact of racial discrimination on society.

Many candidates suggested it could cause the fracturing of society because groups feel socially excluded based on their race. It may lead to violence when people feel they are being treated unfairly or unequally.

Some candidates explained what racial discrimination is and why Muslims should oppose it rather than discussing how it harms society.

The beliefs must concern how racial discrimination causes problems in society.

(c) Explain **two** Muslim beliefs about how racial discrimination causes problems in society.

In your answer you must refer to a source of wisdom and authority.

(5)

Some through racial discrimination some groups may feel isolated or ~~ignored~~ angered which could lead to tension and conflict. Muslims believe that racial discrimination is completely wrong as the Prophet Muhammad said that there is no difference between an Arab and a non Arab.

Muslims would argue that through racial discrimination some groups ~~become~~ become isolated or ~~segregated~~ segregated in society. Muslims believe that this is completely wrong as they support racial harmony and believe that "everyone is an equal as the teeth on a comb".



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response is given 5 marks for two developed beliefs and a source of authority.

- Some groups may feel angered (1) this could lead to conflict (1)
- Some groups become isolated (1) Muslims believe this is wrong (1)
They believe 'everyone is equal as the teeth of a comb.' (Hadith) (1)

Total: 5 marks



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Concentrate on how the problem is caused.

This response receives 0 marks because there is no rewardable material.

(c) Explain **two** Muslim beliefs about how racial discrimination causes problems in society.

In your answer you must refer to a source of wisdom and authority.

(5)

~~E~~

A Muslim belief is that racial discrimination is wrong talked about in Mohamed's (Saw) last testimony when he says No Arab is better than black or black better than white vice versa.

~~etti~~

Another Muslim belief is that ~~the~~ we are all equal in front of the Allah. This means race, gender doesn't matter to Allah as some messengers were black white, arab, everything essentially as it says "We sent messengers to every nation."



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate discusses reasons why racial discrimination is wrong rather than how it may lead to problems in society.

Total: 0 marks



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Make sure you answer the question.

Question 4 (d)

This question required consideration of Muslim responses to human rights.

Non-religious views were also required in order to achieve at the higher levels.

(d) "All human rights must be protected."

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you must:

- refer to Muslim teachings
- refer to non-religious points of view
- reach a justified conclusion.

Shariah

apostasy

homosexual

No Compulsion - Quran

you have your own beliefs and I have mine - hadith

(12)

Some Muslims may agree with this statement. This is because Allah created everyone from the same soul so everyone was created equally. Because Allah created everyone equally, everyone should be treated with dignity and respect otherwise you are dishonouring God by dishonouring His creation and human rights are rights everyone must have such as a right to life and right to choose religion and sexuality. These human rights provide everyone with equal treatment and help ensure that everyone is treated with honour, dignity and respect. This is a ~~bad~~ strong argument as it is a Quranic argument so it comes from God.

On the other hand, some Muslims will disagree with the statement. This is because they believe in Shariah law where human rights such as freedom to choose religion and homosexuality are wrong and can be punishable by death. This means they disagree with the human rights act. However many non-religious people who don't believe in Shariah law as they do not believe that God exists so Shariah law is made up disagree and believe that no one chooses what they are so shouldn't be discriminated against for being

Gay homosexual.

However, some other Muslims may claim that all human rights must be protected. This is because of following the Prophet Muhammad, who is the perfect example of a Muslim. So should be copied. The ~~Prophet~~ Prophet in his city of Medina allowed Christians and Jews to continue practicing their faith and treated them no differently to Muslims. So Muslims should agree with God on to choose religion as the Prophet teaches that "you have your religion and ~~we~~ I have mine" which is further backed up by the Quran with "There is no compulsion in religion". This is a strong argument as it comes from the Quran, which is the word of God and Allah cannot be wrong so it must be true.

Overall the statement is true as human rights are taught by the Prophet Muhammad and the Quran. So Muslims should protect human rights.



The candidate offers a good analysis in agreement with the statement using well-developed arguments and some basic judgements.

The alternative view is more basic, offering evidence of developed reasoning but lacking the depth and consistency required for Level 3 performance.

The conclusion is weak, offering little by way of justification for the judgement.

Using the levels mark scheme the best-fit is Level 2.

Level 2

Total: 6 marks



Do not neglect the side of the argument you disagree with.

(d) "All human rights must be protected."

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you must:

- refer to Muslim teachings
- refer to non-religious points of view
- reach a justified conclusion.

(12)

All human rights should be protected as Allah made humans which makes them sacred so everyone's rights should be listened to and protected.

However if the right is not benefiting the larger community then it shouldn't be listened to as it should benefit the majority of people.

Muslims ~~don't~~ don't support same sex relationships so they would believe that they shouldn't have the right to same sex relationships.

But everyone should have the same rights no matter where.

Overall it shouldn't matter what the right is it should always be benefiting someone so have their right protected.



The candidate gives a series of simple arguments with little evidence of development and little justification.

As a result, the conclusion is effectively a personal opinion.

Level 1

Total: 3 marks



Focus on development.

Paper Summary

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

- In (a) questions give short sentences or phrases
- There is no requirement to prefix answers with the question stem
- In (b) questions focus on clear points and clear development
- Read the question carefully. A belief is not the same as an action
- For (c) questions learn quotations thoroughly
- Be careful when attributing quotations specifically to the Qur'an or Hadith. The wrong source of authority invalidates the mark
- In (d) questions focus on answering the question. Generic information is rarely useful unless it is clearly responding to the statement
- In (d) questions take note if additional material is requested, such as non-religious views or philosophical arguments
- In (d) questions analysis, judgements and an evaluative conclusion are keys to the highest levels

Grade boundaries

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

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/support/support-topics/results-certification/grade-boundaries.html>

