



Pearson
Edexcel

Mark Scheme (Results)

Summer 2024

**Pearson Edexcel International GCSE
In Religious Studies (4RS1) Paper 2C**

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Summer 2024

Question Paper Log Number P80677

Publications Code 4RS1_2C_2406_MS

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General Marking Guidance

- All candidates must receive the same treatment. Examiners must mark the first candidate in exactly the same way as they mark the last.
- Mark schemes should be applied positively. Candidates must be rewarded for what they have shown they can do rather than penalised for omissions.
- Examiners should mark according to the mark scheme not according to their perception of where the grade boundaries may lie.
- There is no ceiling on achievement. All marks on the mark scheme should be used appropriately.
- All the marks on the mark scheme are designed to be awarded. Examiners should always award full marks if deserved, i.e. if the answer matches the mark scheme. Examiners should also be prepared to award zero marks if the candidate's response is not worthy of credit according to the mark scheme.
- Where some judgement is required, mark schemes will provide the principles by which marks will be awarded and exemplification may be limited.
- When examiners are in doubt regarding the application of the mark scheme to a candidate's response, the team leader must be consulted.
- Crossed out work should be marked UNLESS the candidate has replaced it with an alternative response.

Hinduism

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
1(a)	<p>Award one mark for providing a role. Award a second mark for development of the role. Up to a maximum of four marks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The pujari conduct daily prayers in the mandir (1) and this allows Hindus to participate in formal prayer as part of a congregation (1) They perform pujas on important occasions in the life of Hindus (1), such as during weddings (1) Pujaris maintain worship in the mandir (1), such as bathing the deity with water and milk (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repeated role/ development. Development that does not relate to both the role given and the question. 	(4)

Question number	Answer	Mark
1(b)	<p>Students will develop responses using ideas/reasoning/arguments such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mahatma Gandhi is one of the most famous of modern Hindus, and therefore his example and his teaching about non-violence have been widely disseminated and are influential throughout the Hindu community Many commentators say that Gandhi tried his best to undermine the centuries-old caste system and to remove the blot of untouchability from Hinduism, by travelling around India to teach the evil of untouchability Sri Ramakrishna taught that all religions are the revelation of God in different aspects, which satisfy the diverse demands of human minds. He said that, like different photographs of a building taken from different angles, different religions give the picture of one truth from different standpoints. <p>Candidates who write about both Mahatma Gandhi and Sri Ramakrishna should be rewarded for their answer relating to just one of them, whichever gains the higher mark.</p>	(6)

	Accept any other valid response.	
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Mark	Descriptor
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No rewardable material.
1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited use of religious terms. Description of relevant religion, beliefs and values is mostly satisfactory. Gives a partial explanation of the significance and influence of beliefs and values.
4-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of religious terms is appropriate and shows understanding. Explanation of relevant religion, beliefs and values is comprehensive. Explanation of significance and influence of beliefs and values is assured and comprehensive.

Question number	Indicative content
1(c)	<p>The student must underpin their analysis and evaluation with knowledge and understanding. The student will be required to demonstrate thorough knowledge and understanding as well as accuracy of religion and belief when responding to the question and in meeting AO2 descriptors described below.</p> <p>The student will develop responses using ideas/reasoning/arguments such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rama and Krishna provide accessible ways for Hindus to understand the beliefs and values of their faith, which many of them will find easier than by reading books of Hindu philosophy The stories of Krishna help Hindus to understand important duties and correct behaviour, such as when Krishna is described as killing the tyrant king Kamsa, which encourages Hindus to fight against oppression In some Hindu traditions Rama is considered supreme, and is referred to as the 'perfect man'. This is because he provides important insights into the way human beings should live, and is a symbol of courtesy and values The Bhagavad Gita is believed to be an important source of knowledge for Hindus because it teaches them how to live their daily lives in a way which will help them cast off the cycle of birth and death, and attain the immortal state The Vedas are thought to be revelations by ancient sages after meditation, and part of the creation of Brahma. They are therefore often considered to be the foundation of all Hindu philosophical thought

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hinduism has a rich source of philosophical works, stories and other sacred texts, and many Hindus will argue that it is important not to consider one source more important than another, but to respect the wisdom of the whole canon. <p>Accept any other valid response. (10 marks)</p>
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Mark	Descriptor
0	No rewardable material.
1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates isolated elements of understanding of religion and belief. Identifies information/issues and makes superficial connections between a limited range of elements within the question. Judgements are supported by generic arguments to produce a conclusion that is not fully justified.
4-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates limited understanding of religion and belief. Deconstructs religious information/issues, and makes superficial connections between many but not all of the elements in the question. Judgements of a limited range of elements in the question are made. Judgements are supported by an attempt to appraise evidence, much of which may be superficial leading to a conclusion that is not fully justified.
7-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates accurate understanding of religion and belief. Deconstructs religious information/issues, leading to coherent and logical chains of reasoning that consider different viewpoints and that make connections between many but not all of the elements in the question. Constructs coherent and reasoned judgements of many but not all of elements in the question. Judgements are supported by the appraisal of evidence, some of which may be superficial leading to a partially justified conclusion.
9-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates sustained accurate and thorough understanding of religion and belief. Critically deconstructs religious information/issues, leading to coherent and logical chains of reasoning that consider different viewpoints and that make connections between the full range of elements in the question. Constructs coherent and reasoned judgements of the full range of elements in the question. Judgements are fully supported by the comprehensive appraisal of evidence, leading to a fully justified conclusion.

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
2(a)	<p>Award one mark for providing a practice. Award a second mark for development of the practice. Up to a maximum of four marks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On pilgrimage to Varanasi Hindus visit the Kashi Vishwanath Temple (1). This allows them to recall stories associated with Shiva (1) • Pilgrims will often bathe in the Ganges at Varanasi (1), which they believe helps them to purify their souls (1) • Many Hindus will go on an excursion to Sarnath (1) which is where the Buddha delivered his first sermon (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated practice/ development. • Development that does not relate to both the practice given and the question. 	(4)

Question number	Answer	Mark
2(b)	<p>Students will develop responses using ideas/reasoning/arguments such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the celebration of Diwali, which is a festival of light, homes and mandirs are illuminated. This symbolises the Hindu belief in the spiritual victory of good over evil • Diwali is often a time when family members celebrate together and is seen as a special time for families and communities to unite and to share with each other • The festival is celebrated as a joyous religious occasion for Hindus. It is associated with many events that are fun for all the family, such as music, dance and community parades. <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	(6)

Mark	Descriptor
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No rewardable material.
1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited use of religious terms. Description of relevant religion, beliefs and values is mostly satisfactory. Gives a partial explanation of the significance and influence of beliefs and values.
4-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of religious terms is appropriate and shows understanding. Explanation of relevant religion, beliefs and values is comprehensive. Explanation of significance and influence of beliefs and values is assured and comprehensive.

Question number	Indicative content
2(c)	<p>The student must underpin their analysis and evaluation with knowledge and understanding. The student will be required to demonstrate thorough knowledge and understanding as well as accuracy of religion and belief when responding to the question and in meeting AO2 descriptors described below.</p> <p>The student will develop responses using ideas/reasoning/arguments such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some Hindus may consider Navaratri as the most important festival because it is an important time of religious reflection, a time for spiritual renewal as the fruits of fasting and meditation In some places Navaratri is celebrated as a time of great rejoicing, for example in thanksgiving for the autumn harvest, and can be accompanied by singing and dancing The autumn festival is an occasion to honour the divine feminine, Devi or Durga, and to remember the role that women play in giving birth and in nurturing The specific celebration of Durga Puja may be considered particularly important in some Indian states because of its focus on the victory of good over evil, with the story of the victory of the Mother Goddess Durga over the demon Mahishasura As a festival of light, with its very clear focus on the contrast of light and goodness with darkness and evil, Diwali might be considered a more important festival, with a message that is very easy for all Hindus to understand Festivals are considered by many Hindus as very important to their religion, but would not want to consider one more important than another, as they believe each festival provides insight into essential Hindu values and beliefs.

	Accept any other valid response. (10 marks)
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Mark	Descriptor
0	No rewardable material.
1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates isolated elements of understanding of religion and belief. • Identifies information/issues and makes superficial connections between a limited range of elements within the question. • Judgements are supported by generic arguments to produce a conclusion that is not fully justified.
4-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates limited understanding of religion and belief. • Deconstructs religious information/issues, and makes superficial connections between many but not all of the elements in the question. • Judgements of a limited range of elements in the question are made. Judgements are supported by an attempt to appraise evidence, much of which may be superficial leading to a conclusion that is not fully justified.
7-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates accurate understanding of religion and belief. • Deconstructs religious information/issues, leading to coherent and logical chains of reasoning that consider different viewpoints and that make connections between many but not all of the elements in the question. • Constructs coherent and reasoned judgements of many but not all of elements in the question. Judgements are supported by the appraisal of evidence, some of which may be superficial leading to a partially justified conclusion.
9-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates sustained accurate and thorough understanding of religion and belief. • Critically deconstructs religious information/issues, leading to coherent and logical chains of reasoning that consider different viewpoints and that make connections between the full range of elements in the question. • Constructs coherent and reasoned judgements of the full range of elements in the question. Judgements are fully supported by the comprehensive appraisal of evidence, leading to a fully justified conclusion.

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
3(a)	Award one mark for providing a feature. Award a second mark for development of the feature. Up to a maximum of four marks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated feature / development. • Development that does not 	(4)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hindu temples contain shrine rooms (1) which provide a focus for Hindu prayer (1) • There are images of deities (1) to which Hindus will often make an offering of food (1) • Often there are carpets on the floor of mandirs (1) which allows worshippers to remove their shoes as a sign of cleanliness and respect (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	relate to both the feature given and the question.	
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Question number	Answer	Mark
3(b)	<p>Students will develop responses using ideas/reasoning/arguments such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hindu spirituality attaches great importance to a darshan, or view, of a saint or holy image, so image-based ritual, seeing and being seen by the deity, is central to Hinduism • The images are not themselves deities, but merely places in which the deity dwells for the benefit of devotees. Ritual attention on the images acknowledges the sacred that is symbolised there, not any power inherent in the material image • The creators of visual images follow principles laid down in medieval texts that stipulate in detail the proportions and features essential for each deity. Often dark stone is the ideal medium, for example, because it suggests infinite power and mystery. <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	(6)

Mark	Descriptor
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No rewardable material.
1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited use of religious terms. • Description of relevant religion, beliefs and values is mostly satisfactory. • Gives a partial explanation of the significance and influence of beliefs and values.
4-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of religious terms is appropriate and shows understanding. • Explanation of relevant religion, beliefs and values is comprehensive. • Explanation of significance and influence of beliefs and values is assured and comprehensive.

Question number	Indicative content
3(c)	<p>The student must underpin their analysis and evaluation with knowledge and understanding. The student will be required to demonstrate thorough knowledge and understanding as well as accuracy of religion and belief when responding to the question and in meeting AO2 descriptors described below.</p> <p>The student will develop responses using ideas/reasoning/arguments such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hindu temples are important places of worship, where the Hindu community can gather to celebrate festivals, and they can pray to the gods whose images are a feature of the main prayer hall • Hindu mandirs are places where Hindus can leave gifts for the gods, which is a way of showing them reverence, and also reminds them of the importance of giving without expectation of reward • The mandir is a considered a holy place away from the noise of the world outside, and many Hindus will visit the mandir in order to find peace and spiritual refreshment • Some mandirs are important because they serve as centres where religious manuscripts can be preserved, and so the mandir becomes a library and a place of learning • It is not possible for mandirs to be at the heart of every Hindu community, and Hindus place great importance on worship in the home. Homes have shrines for worship, and this means all the family can worship daily without going to a mandir • In Hindu belief Brahman is everywhere, penetrating the whole of reality as the essence that provides the structure, meaning, and existence to everything, and so honouring and worshipping Brahman cannot be restricted to a particular place. <p>Accept any other valid response. (10 marks)</p>

Mark	Descriptor
0	No rewardable material.
1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates isolated elements of understanding of religion and belief. • Identifies information/issues and makes superficial connections between a limited range of elements within the question. • Judgements are supported by generic arguments to produce a conclusion that is not fully justified.

4-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates limited understanding of religion and belief. • Deconstructs religious information/issues, and makes superficial connections between many but not all of the elements in the question. • Judgements of a limited range of elements in the question are made. Judgements are supported by an attempt to appraise evidence, much of which may be superficial leading to a conclusion that is not fully justified.
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9-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates sustained accurate and thorough understanding of religion and belief. • Critically deconstructs religious information/issues, leading to coherent and logical chains of reasoning that consider different viewpoints and that make connections between the full range of elements in the question. • Constructs coherent and reasoned judgements of the full range of elements in the question. Judgements are fully supported by the comprehensive appraisal of evidence, leading to a fully justified conclusion.

