

# GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES B

(8063)

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## Marked Papers

Summer 2018 - Paper 2 Themes

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See a range of responses and how different levels are achieved and understand how to interpret the mark scheme.

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# EXAMPLE RESPONSES



Whilst every attempt has been made to show a range of student responses, the following responses and examiner comments provide teachers with the best opportunity to understand the application of the mark scheme. They are not intended to be viewed as 'model' answers although they are genuine student responses from Summer 2018 and have been standardised by senior examiners.

## Four mark questions (A01.3)

0 | 1 | . | 3

Explain two contrasting beliefs in contemporary British society about cohabitation.

- You must refer to a Christian belief or view.
- Your contrasting belief or view may come from Christianity or from another religious or non-religious tradition.

**[4 marks]**

### Answer A

The Catholic Church believes that it is wrong to cohabit with your partner as sex is only meant to be for within marriage. However, some liberal Christians would say that cohabiting with your partner is actually a good thing as it helps the couple to experience and manage life problem situations and see whether each other compliment together to complete these tasks.

### Answer B

Catholics would completely disagree with the idea of cohabitation as two people should be married in order to live with each other as sex outside marriage is completely unacceptable and by cohabiting a couples temptation for sex is always a risk.

On the other hand Church of England Christians may say that cohabitation is ok as a couple should be able to live with one another without being married if they love each other, as they may be unable to get married due to financial issues.

#### Answer A

This response includes one simple point and one developed point. The first point is simple, as the view that sex within a marriage is given, but not explained. The second point on a liberal view is developed with explanation of dealing with situations together.

3 marks

#### Answer B

In this response both points are well developed with explanations of the relevant beliefs. The two views given are different, and Christianity is clearly referenced, so the requirements of the question are fully addressed.

4 marks

## Four mark questions (A01.3)

0 | 1 | . | 3

Explain two contrasting views in contemporary British society about Mark's account of Jesus' healing of Jairus' daughter.

- You must refer to a Christian belief or view.
- Your contrasting belief or view may come from Christianity or from another religious or non-religious tradition.

**[4 marks]**

### Answer A

Jesus' healing of Jarius' daughter would have been amazing. The girl had died yet was resurrected when Jesus laid his hands on her. This would have truly shown Jesus' power. However, the daughter may have just fallen asleep and they may have thought she died. That is why Jesus just had to lay his hands on her to wake her.

### Answer A

The first view states that the event was 'amazing' and is developed with an explanation of what happened and that it showed Jesus' power. The second view is that she may have been asleep, which is developed.

4 marks

## Five mark questions (A01.1)

0 | 2 | . | 4

Explain two Old Testament views on war. Refer to scripture or another source of Christian belief and teaching in your answer.

**[5 marks]**

### Answer A

In the Old Testament, contrasting contemporary views, war is promoted as an appropriate resolution to disagreements about religion. In the Old Testament a lot of violence occurs such as in Leviticus. War is even promoted by God in stories such as when God flooded the earth. This act of violence shows that God in the Old Testament may have agreed himself that war is appropriate.

### Answer B

In the Old Testament the term 'eye for an eye, tooth for a tooth' is mentioned suggesting if someone does you wrong you do wrong back to them. This could be used in views on war, if someone has attacked you, you attack back.

#### Answer A

This response is permitted as appropriate in terms of war being use to resolve disagreements about religion. The first point is developed with the example of violence in Leviticus. The second point is developed with the example of God using violence to suggest he might have supported war.

5 marks

#### Answer B

There is only one view given here, which means the mark is limited as the requirements of the question have not been fully met. The point given is developed, although expressed simplistically, and includes a reference to the Old Testament.

3 marks

## 12 mark questions

### Levels of response

Level	Criteria	Marks
4	<p>A well-argued response, reasoned consideration of different points of view.</p> <p>Logical chains of reasoning leading to judgement(s) supported by knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence and information.</p> <p>References to religion applied to the issue.</p>	10-12
3	<p>Reasoned consideration of different points of view.</p> <p>Logical chains of reasoning that draw on knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence and information.</p> <p>Clear reference to religion.</p>	7-9
2	<p>Reasoned consideration of a point of view.</p> <p>A logical chain of reasoning drawing on knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence and information.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Recognition of different points of view, each supported by relevant reasons / evidence.</p> <p>Maximum of Level 2 if there is no reference to religion or the argument is one-sided.</p>	4-6
1	<p>Point of view with reason(s) stated in support.</p>	1-3
0	<p>Nothing worthy of credit.</p>	0

## 12 mark questions (A02)

0 | 3 | . | 5

'Discrimination should not be tolerated.' Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you:

- should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement
- should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
- should refer to Christian arguments
- may refer to non-religious arguments
- should reach a justified conclusion.

**[12 marks]**

### Answer A

Some Christians would agree with this statement because they would argue that God made everyone equal. Therefore everyone should be treated the same and have equal rights in spite of their race, age and gender.

Similarly, some people may also agree with this statement because of God's teaching 'love your neighbour' and 'treat others as you wish to be treated.' These demonstrate how everyone should be treated equally and therefore no one should be discriminated against.

However, others would disagree with this statement because of some of the Church's teachings. The Catholic Church does include some discrimination, for example, they say that women are not allowed to be priests. Also, the Church and the Bible teach that women should worship their husbands and only speak when spoken to in the name. Therefore showing some discrimination towards people's genders.

Also, the Catholic Church also says that homosexuals should live chaste lives as they are not open to the possibility of creating new life.

In conclusion, discrimination should not be tolerated because it goes against God's wish that everyone should be treated equally. Also, discrimination can sometimes really offend and mentally damage some people, therefore it should not be tolerated.

### Answer A

This response includes logical chains of reasoning that lead to a judgement. Arguments on both sides support biblical and church teaching. Although a little shorter than expected (198 words), the response is fully focused on the statement in the question.

Level 4, 11 marks

## 12 mark questions (A02)

0 | 1 | . | 5

'Catholic teaching on artificial contraception is outdated.' Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you:

- should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement
- should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
- should refer to Christian arguments
- may refer to non-religious arguments
- should reach a justified conclusion.

**[12 marks]**

### Answer A

Some Catholics may disagree with the statement because they think that what the Bible and the Church teaches is still correct to this day. For example, people should save themselves for when they are married so they can plan around the period cycle on when they can reproduce. Therefore artificial contraceptions are seen as unacceptable.

However, some Catholics may agree with this statement because British society has changed since the teaching was made. For example casual sex is seen as okay to some. Therefore if they are not ready for children, they are more prepared as they have contraception to help.

### Answer A

This is a short response at 101 words. However, it does address two sides of the argument and gives one reason in support of the statements and simple reasons against. The arguments would require further development or exemplification in order to reach Level 3.

Level 2, 5 marks



## Answer B

Church of England Christians may strongly agree with this statement as the Catholic teaching is that the use of artificial contraception is always wrong, which doesn't fit into modern society as many people choose to use contraception to be able to control when they have children and how many children they have, so they can have a controlled family size which is suitable to them, so artificial contraception has a positive use and should be allowed to use in the modern day.

However, many Catholics may disagree with the statement as God said that we should 'be fruitful and multiply' which means that we should make children, so by using artificial contraception we are stopping ourselves from having children and doing what God said for us to do, so therefore the use of artificial contraception will still be totally unacceptable to Catholics.

Many other Christians may also choose to disagree with the statement as sex should only take place within a marriage and in the wedding vows you promise in front of God that you should always be open to the possibility of having children every single time you have sex with your partner, so by using artificial contraception they aren't being open to the possibility of children, so therefore breaking a promise which was made in front of God.

However, other Christians may disagree with the statement and say that contraception such as condoms should be allowed for health reasons, as it can stop sexually transmitted disease, so it would be the most loving thing to do as it would save lives. Pope Francis stated that the use of condoms should be allowed in the African nations in order to reduce the spread of HIV as it would save many lives.

In conclusion, the statement is true as the use of artificial contraception is necessary in the modern world as it improves people's quality of life and safety of a person's body, mind and finances.

### Answer B

This is an excellent response, and despite the slip at the start of the penultimate paragraph ('disagree'), this still merits full marks. The response is fully focused on the statement in the question, and applies religious reasoning well on both sides of the argument.

Level 4, 12 marks

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