



Mark Scheme (Results)

Summer 2023

Pearson Edexcel GCSE
In Religious Studies A (1RA0)
Paper 2: Area of Study 2 – Study of Second
Religion
Option 2A – Catholic Christianity

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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.

Paper 2: Study of Second Religion 2A – Catholic Christianity Mark Scheme 2023

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
1(a)	<p>AO1 3 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each point identified up to a maximum of three.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The disciples went out and preached (1) • Jesus was taken before the disciples’ eyes (1) • A cloud hid Jesus from sight (1) • Two men dressed in white stood next to Jesus (1) • The disciples asked Jesus when he would restore the kingdom (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lists (maximum of one mark) 	3

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
1(b)	<p>AO1 4 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for providing a reason. Award a second mark for development of the reason. Up to a maximum of four.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholics believe salvation is significant as they seek salvation for what they have done wrong (1), sin makes it difficult to have a relationship with God (1) • Catholics believe that all human are sinful, (1) everyone does wrong and because wrongdoing spoils our relationship with God everyone needs salvation (1) • Salvation is important because it was the reason why God became man, (1) his death opened the gates of heaven so that Christians can spend eternal life there (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated reason/ development • Development that does not relate both to the reason given and to the question. 	4

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
1(c)	<p>AO1 5 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each belief. Award further marks for each development of the belief up to a maximum of four marks. Award one further mark for any relevant source of wisdom or authority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholics believe that the Holy Spirit gives them courage, (1) just as it supported the apostles at Pentecost (1) 'suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting' (Acts 2:2) (1) • Christians believe that the Holy Spirit is the means by which God communicates with humans, (1) this is a presence which can only be felt not seen (1) as recorded in the Transfiguration the Spirit in the 'the cloud appeared and covered them' (Mark 9:7) (1) • Catholics believe that the Holy Spirit is present in the sacraments (1). It is a means by which believers join into communion with Christ (1), John the Baptist prophesied of Jesus: 'He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire' (Matthew 3:11) (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated belief/ development • Development that does not relate both to the belief and to the question • Reference to a source of wisdom that does not relate to the belief given. 	5

Question number	Indicative content	Mark
1(d)	<p>AO2 12 marks, SPaG 3 marks</p> <p>Candidates must underpin their analysis and evaluation with knowledge and understanding. Candidates 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.</p> <p>AO2</p> <p>Arguments for the statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Catechism teaches that the account of Creation has different sources and was placed at the beginning of the Bible to express the truth of God as the Creator; so, the account could be understood metaphorically • Some Christians think Genesis was never intended as a historical/scientific account of Creation and the theological truth is contained within its whole not in a point by point literal way • Most Catholics accept the scientific explanations and reject Genesis as literally true; so, science explains how the universe came into being and the biblical account why it came into being. <p>Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creationists believe that every word in the Bible, including the account of Creation in Genesis, is the word of God, so must have happened exactly as the Bible says • The scientific theories, such as the Big Bang and Steady State theory are only ideas; they have never been proven so there is no reason to question the biblical account of Creation • Some Christians believe the sequence of creation in Genesis 1 is literally true even though they would interpret the days as eras; still showing how God created humans and placed them in the perfect environment, as detailed in the Creation account. <p>Accept any other valid response.</p> <p>Candidates who do not consider different viewpoints within the religious tradition or non-religious viewpoints (as instructed in the question) cannot achieve marks beyond Level 2.</p>	15

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable response.
Level 1	1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information/issues are identified and make superficial connections among a limited range of elements in the question, underpinned by isolated elements of understanding of religion and belief. Judgements are supported by generic arguments to produce a conclusion that is not fully justified.
Level 2	4-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Superficial connections are made among many, but not all, of the elements in the question, underpinned by a limited understanding of religion and belief. 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.
Level 3	7-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deconstructs religious information/issues, leading to coherent and logical chains of reasoning that consider different viewpoints. These are underpinned by an accurate understanding of religion and belief. Connections are made among many, but not all, of the elements in the question. Constructs coherent and reasoned judgements of many, but not all, of the elements in the question. Judgements are supported by the appraisal of evidence, some of which may be superficial, leading to a partially justified conclusion.
Level 4	10-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critically deconstructs religious information/issues, leading to coherent and logical chains of reasoning that consider different viewpoints. These are underpinned by a sustained, accurate and thorough understanding of religion and belief. Connections are made among 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.

SPaG

Marks		Descriptors
0 marks	No marks awarded	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The candidate writes nothing• The candidate's response does not relate to the question.• The candidate's achievement in SPaG does not reach the threshold performance level, for example errors in spelling, punctuation and grammar severely hinder meaning.
1 mark	Threshold performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates spell and punctuate with reasonable accuracy.• Candidates use rules of grammar with some control of meaning and any errors do not significantly hinder meaning overall.• Candidates use a limited range of specialist terms as appropriate.
2 marks	Intermediate performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates spell and punctuate with considerable accuracy.• Candidates use rules of grammar with general control of meaning overall.• Candidates use a good range of specialist terms as appropriate.
3 marks	High performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates spell and punctuate with consistent accuracy.• Candidates use rules of grammar with effective control of meaning overall.• Candidates use a wide range of specialist terms as appropriate.

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
2(a)	<p>AO1 3 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each point identified up to a maximum of three.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mass is a renewal of faith (1) • To receive the body and blood of Christ (1) • The Mass celebrates the resurrection (1) • The Mass allows people to pray in communion (1) • Mass is where transubstantiation takes place (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lists (maximum of one mark) 	3

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
2(b)	<p>AO1 4 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for providing a way. Award a second mark for development of the way. Up to a maximum of four.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Churches offer mission through prayer groups (1) allowing people a chance to discuss more about God (1) • Many churches help others through charity and service (1) this allows people to put their faith into action (1) • Many Churches will fund projects enabling young people to travel abroad with missionary work (1) allowing opportunities to establish links with churches in other countries (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated way/ development • Development that does not relate both to the way given and to the question. 	4

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
2(c)	<p>AO1 5 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each reason. Award further marks for each development of the reason up to a maximum of four marks. Award one further mark for any relevant source of wisdom or authority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It allows the community to support the sick (1) James in the New Testament said 'Is any one of you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord.' (James 5:14) (1) this helps them feel cared for (1) • The sacrament allows a sick person to confess their sins (1) this helps remove any anxiety the person may have about dying (1) The priest says 'May the Lord who frees you from sin, save you and raise you up.' (1) • It is spiritual help to make them feel that Christ is with them in this difficult time (1) as they may receive Communion (1) 'He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.' (Catechism of Catholic Church 1524) (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated reason/ development • Development that does not relate both to the reason and to the question • Reference to a source of wisdom that does not relate to the reason given. 	5

Question number	Indicative content	Mark
2(d)	<p>AO2 12 marks</p> <p>Candidates must underpin their analysis and evaluation with knowledge and understanding. Candidates 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.</p> <p>AO2</p> <p>Arguments for the statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The funeral rite marks the end of the earthly life and the handing back of the person to God; as it is through the prayers of the Church in the funeral liturgy the deceased is supported • The funeral is a time of reflection on the life of the deceased; often eulogies are given and prayers offered in thanksgiving for the life of the deceased; so all this is marking the end of the person's life as it was known • Death is inevitable, the funeral rite emphasises this reality; as during the Catholic rites of the vigil, funeral and burial the body of the deceased may be present to help the family come to terms with the death. <p>Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earthly life is viewed as a pilgrimage, a journey towards God; death is not the end of life but the passage from this world into the next; so it is a celebration of eternal life • Even though the funeral is a time of grief it expresses the hope for eternal life; 'Our great hope is that we will be redeemed from death by Christ's great victory.' (Vincent Nichols 'Preparing my funeral') • Once a person becomes a Catholic, they are part of the Church in life and death; the funeral liturgy acts as a reminder that all members of the Church are part of the communion of saints. <p>Accept any other valid response.</p> <p>Candidates who do not consider different viewpoints within the religious tradition or non-religious viewpoints (as instructed in the question) cannot achieve marks beyond Level 2.</p>	12

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable response.
Level 1	1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information/issues are identified and make superficial connections among a limited range of elements in the question, underpinned by isolated elements of understanding of religion and belief. Judgements are supported by generic arguments to produce a conclusion that is not fully justified.
Level 2	4-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Superficial connections are made among many, but not all, of the elements in the question, underpinned by a limited understanding of religion and belief. 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.
Level 3	7-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deconstructs religious information/issues, leading to coherent and logical chains of reasoning that consider different viewpoints. These are underpinned by an accurate understanding of religion and belief. Connections are made among many, but not all, of the elements in the question. Constructs coherent and reasoned judgements of many, but not all, of the elements in the question. Judgements are supported by the appraisal of evidence, some of which may be superficial, leading to a partially justified conclusion.
Level 4	10-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critically deconstructs religious information/issues, leading to coherent and logical chains of reasoning that consider different viewpoints. These are underpinned by a sustained, accurate and thorough understanding of religion and belief. Connections are made among 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.