



Mark Scheme (Results)

Summer 2023

Pearson Edexcel GCSE
In Religious Studies A (1RA0)
Paper 3: Area of Study 3 – Philosophy and
Ethics
Option 3A – 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 3: Philosophy and Ethics 3A – 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"> • Catholics respond by praying for the suffering to end (1) • They might give financial aid to a charity (1) • They might volunteer (1) • They see it as a chance to help others (1) • They trust that God knows the reason for suffering (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"> • Healing miracles cannot be explained by doctors (1), therefore only an omnipotent God would have the power be able to perform them (1) • Some religious experiences break the laws of science (1), there is no other explanation so it must be God (1) • Religious experiences are a way in which God can communicate with people (1), receiving a message from God would be prove of his existence (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 way. Award further marks for each development of the way 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 shows God's love (1), he revealed himself as Jesus so people could have a full relationship with him (1) as 'God so loved the world he gave his one and only Son' (John 3:16) (1) • It shows the power of God (1) he was both fully human and fully God (1) 'So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.' (Hebrews 1:4) • It shows that God is one who forgives (1) Jesus died on the cross to bring forgiveness to the world (1) 'He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.' (1 Peter 2:24) (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 and to the question • Reference to a source of wisdom that does not relate to the way 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 world contains many things that point to the idea that they must have been designed due to how well it works (e.g. Gravity, gases etc.) and this leads Catholics to think that someone must have designed and planned it—the only person with the power to do this is God—so therefore this proves that God must exist • Paley used the analogy of the watch to illustrate that all parts depend on each other, each part has a function that affects others; they fit together for a purpose, so someone had to have planned and designed the watch, Paley, therefore said, there has to be an omniscient designer, the designer being God • The intricate beauty of the design of things, like snowflakes, finger prints and sunsets could not happen by chance. Therefore, the intricacy of the design would make Catholics say it must have had a designer, the designer being God, so therefore he must exist. <p>Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-religious people reject the design argument because the world is full of natural events that cause suffering. Things like volcanoes and earthquakes would not have been designed by a loving God. Therefore, God cannot exist • Non-religious people argue the evidence of design can be explained by science without the need for a God. Science says that matter is eternal, the world came out of the explosion and the nature of the earth allowed it to develop life through evolution • Non-religious people might acknowledge the world might have evidence of design, but this is not proof of God, this could be many gods or even an evil designer. <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"> • Catholic marriage is a sacrament (1) • Catholic marriage is permanent (1) • For Catholics marriage is a place to show love (1) • Is the best place to raise children (1) • It is the union of two people (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 reason. Award a second mark for development of the reason. Up to a maximum of four.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The family provides an accepted unit in which reproduction may take place (1) and in which the children may be reared in faith (1) • The Bible has many references to the importance of family life (1). Catholics believe that the family was created by God to keep society together (1) • The family is the place where children learn the difference between right and wrong (1), without it there would be more evil in the world (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
2(c)	<p>AO1 5 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each attitude. Award further marks for each development of the attitude 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"> • St Paul suggests that man and women have different roles (1). 'Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord' (Ephesians 5:22) (1). This indicates that in the family the husband should make all decisions as head of the family (1) • Christians believe that both male and female were created by God (1), showing neither is superior to the other (1); the teaching is shown in Genesis 1:27 where humanity is created in his image (1) • St Paul stated in Galatians 3:28 there is no 'male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus' (1), this should apply to the relationships within the family (1) and there should be no unfair division of tasks (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated attitude/ development • Development that does not relate both to the attitude and to the question • Reference to a source of wisdom that does not relate to the attitude given. 	5

Question number	Indicative content	Mark
2(d)	<p data-bbox="363 260 558 289">AO2 12 marks</p> <p data-bbox="363 338 1370 489">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 data-bbox="363 537 428 567">AO2</p> <p data-bbox="363 575 802 604">Arguments for the statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="363 613 1380 1125" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="363 613 1380 764">• Catholics believe marriage is a sacrament, when people marry, they make a covenant with God, which cannot be broken without God’s consent; therefore, a couple can never be divorced according to God’s law <li data-bbox="363 772 1380 924">• Christians teach that divorce is not acceptable, and marriage cannot be ended by a human. In Matthew 19:6 it says ‘So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, let no one separate’ <li data-bbox="363 932 1380 1125">• The Catholic Church believes that divorce should not happen as it damages families. The Catechism of the Catholic Church 2385 states that ‘divorce is immoral because it introduces disorder into the family and into society. it is truly a plague on society.’ They instead offer guidance to help couples repair their marriage. <p data-bbox="363 1209 867 1239">Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="363 1247 1380 1638" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="363 1247 1380 1360">• Some Christians accept that there may be circumstances when the vows might be broken. Jesus allowed divorce for adultery and so some Christians argue for the same reason that divorce should be allowed <li data-bbox="363 1369 1380 1482">• Some Christians say it is not the death of one of the spouses that ends a marriage; it is the death of the love between the couple; so, it is better to divorce than live in a loveless marriage <li data-bbox="363 1491 1380 1638">• Some Christians may also say that marriage is supposed to show God’s love to the world; the couple cannot do this if they are continually arguing; it may be better for them to divorce than to continue in hatred and in the long run this may be the ‘lesser of two evils’. <p data-bbox="363 1688 808 1717">Accept any other valid response.</p> <p data-bbox="363 1768 1380 1873">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.