



Mark Scheme (Results)

Summer 2023

Pearson Edexcel GCSE
In Religious Studies A (1RA0)
Paper 4: Area of Study 4 – Textual Studies
Option 4A – Mark’s Gospel

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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 4: Textual Studies 4A – Mark’s Gospel 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"> • Jesus fed the crowd with five loaves and two fish (1) • Jesus looking up to heaven gave thanks and broke the loaves (1) • The crowd all ate and were satisfied (1) • There were twelve baskets of food left (1) • Christians believe this is a nature miracle (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
1b	<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"> • Jesus is recognised as the Son of God by Legion (1) even though the disciples did not (1) • It shows that Jesus’ authority must be from God (1) because the power to drive out impure spirits could only come from God (1) • It shows that Jesus has the power to transform lives (1). The people saw that the man who had been possessed was now ‘in his right mind’ (Mark 5:15) (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 point. Award further marks for each development of the point 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"> • The Transfiguration shows Jesus was the Messiah (1). It reveals Jesus as the fulfilment of the Old Testament hope for the Messiah (1) as Moses and Elijah appeared to Jesus (Mark 9:4) (1) • It shows that Jesus has the authority to speak from God (1). Jesus is seen as God the Son, (1) as a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!' (Mark 9:7) (1) • Jesus referred to himself as the Son of Man (1) and said he would rise from the dead (Mark 9:9) (1), must suffer and would be rejected (Mark 9:12) (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated point/ development • Development that does not relate both to the point and to the question • Reference to a source of wisdom that does not relate to the point 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 Last Supper is the most important event as it was the beginnings of the Eucharist and for some Christians this is 'the source and summit of Christian life' (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1324); as the bread and wine makes Jesus' sacrifice present again • The significance of Jesus' death is revealed through the Last Supper. Mark does this by making connections with the Passover, showing Jesus' death would restore the relationship with God, just as the events of the Passover did for the Jews • The Last Supper is a pivotal event, what happens here sets off the chain of events that leads to Jesus' death. Jesus predicts Judas' betrayal; Judas sets up Jesus' arrest (Mark 14:43-46) that results in the trial and crucifixion, thus bringing salvation to the world. <p>Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Even though the Last Supper is a significant event it is the Resurrection that is the foundation of the Christian Church, as it is the final proof that Jesus is the Son of God and can overcome death • For some Christians the Eucharist is just an act of remembrance of the Last Supper and it is through the Crucifixion that the full meaning of Jesus' words over the bread and wine are revealed; therefore, making the Crucifixion more important • All the events of the days of Jesus life are equally important as Mark used each of the events to help his readers understand 'the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God' (Mark1:1); therefore, no one event should be singled out. <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> <p><u>Dietrich Bonhoeffer</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bonhoeffer was imprisoned for his faith (1) • He denied himself and took up his cross (Mark 8:34) (1) • He acted as a witness of Jesus (1) • He made a stand against the Nazi regime (1) • He was willing to sacrifice his own comfort (1). <p><u>Oscar Romero</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Romero made a stand against injustices (1) • He gave a voice to the voiceless (1) • He was executed for his beliefs (1) • He believed all should experience the Kingdom of God (1) • He took up his cross and followed Jesus (Mark 8:34) (1). <p><u>Mother Teresa</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mother Teresa helped those unloved by others (1) • She denied herself and followed Jesus (Mark 8:34) (1) • She inspired others to become disciples (1) • She followed the teaching of love of neighbour (1) • She dedicated her whole life to the service of God (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"> • Christians believe the command to serve is something all Christians can do in their everyday lives (1), e.g by helping the poor (1) • Christians today should follow Jesus' example of service (1) 'For even the Son of Man didn't come to be served, but to serve...' (Mark 10:45) (1) • It is through service to others that the rewards of the Kingdom of God come (1); Jesus said, 'whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant ...' (Mark 10:43) (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 point. Award further marks for each development of the point 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"> • Jesus was impressed by the great faith of the Greek woman who asked him to heal her daughter (1). Even though Jesus said, the children should be able to eat the bread before the scraps are given to the dogs (Mark 7:27) (1), she persuaded him to help her daughter knowing it was Jesus' duty to help the Jewish people first (1) • At Bethany a woman anointed Jesus with expensive oils, as an act of love (1). This is seen as a foreshadowing of Jesus' own burial (1) as Jesus said, 'she poured perfume on my body beforehand to prepare for burial.' (Mark 14:8) (1) • Women were the first to hear the news of the resurrection of Jesus (1). They were told by a young man dressed in white that Jesus had risen (Mark 16:5-6) (1) and to bear witness of this to the disciples (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated point/ development • Development that does not relate both to the point and to the question • Reference to a source of wisdom that does not relate to the point 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"> • Mark’s Gospel teaches the Kingdom of God is a future hope and will arrive when all come to accept the Word of God. In the Parable of the Sower the reference to harvest (Mark 4:20) implies the Kingdom of God is a future event • Jesus’ ministry begins the fulfilment of the promise of the Kingdom of God, but it is yet to be realised. Mark 12:1-12 teaches the Kingdom of God was offered to Israel, but they rejected it, so will be offered to all in the future • The Kingdom of God is seen as a future reward in the story of the rich man (Mark 10:17-31), here Jesus taught that eternal life was a reward after death for those who are willing to make sacrifices to follow him on earth. <p>Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesus taught the Kingdom of God is present now. The Parable of the Sower implies that Kingdom of God is already here as it is concerned with how different people respond to Jesus’ message (Mark 4:1-20); therefore, is available to everyone now • The Kingdom of God is present now to those who are willing to accept Jesus as the Son of God. The healing miracles Jesus performed bear witness that the Kingdom of God is available to those who have faith (Mark 5:25-34) • The Kingdom of God is both realised and in the future. The parable of the growing seed (Mark 4:26-29) teaches that the kingdom of God is present now through Jesus but will continue to grow in the future. <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>	<p style="text-align: right;">12</p>

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	0	No rewardable response.
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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.