



Mark Scheme (Results)

Summer 2024

Pearson Edexcel GCE
In Religious Studies (9RS0)
Paper 4B Christianity

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Paper 4B: Christianity – June 2024
Mark scheme

Question number	Answer
1	<p>8 marks AO1</p> <p>AO1 will be used by candidates to demonstrate knowledge, understanding and specialist language and terminology when responding to the question.</p> <p>Candidates may refer to the following.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ten Commandments are the basis for Christian ethical teaching. • The Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7) reflecting the teaching of Jesus is considered by Christians to undergird biblical ethical teaching. • A central Christian message from the Bible is to 'love your enemies and your neighbour as yourself'; St. Paul talks of love as being patient, kind and of envying no one. • The ethical teaching 'give to the poor' means that Christians should live a life that is understanding of others. • The ethical teaching of the Golden Rule espoused by Christians follows the example of Jesus and a life that involves self-sacrifice and service.

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A narrow range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are selected but are unlikely to be used appropriately or accurately (AO1). • Knowledge and understanding addresses a narrow range of key religious ideas and beliefs with some inaccuracies (AO1). • Provides a superficial understanding of key religious ideas and beliefs (AO1).
Level 2	3–5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are selected most of which are used appropriately with some inaccuracies (AO1). • Knowledge and understanding addresses a narrow range of key religious ideas and beliefs (AO1). • Develops key religious ideas and beliefs to show a depth of understanding (AO1).
Level 3	6–8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A wide range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are carefully selected and used appropriately, accurately and sustained throughout (AO1). • Knowledge and understanding addresses a broad range of key religious ideas and beliefs (AO1). • Comprehensively develops key religious ideas and beliefs to show a depth of understanding (AO1).

Question number	Answer
2	<p>4 marks AO1, 8 marks AO2</p> <p>AO1 will be used by candidates to underpin their analysis and evaluation. Candidates will be required to demonstrate knowledge and understanding when responding to the question, and in meeting AO2 descriptors described below.</p> <p>Candidates may refer to the following in relation to AO1.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christians express and declare their faith through hymns/songs/anthems etc. • Music creates an atmosphere in which audible praise to God can be present. • Musicians find composing and singing to be a way of using their God-given gifts and talents in worship. <p>AO2 requires candidates to develop their answers showing analytical and evaluative skills to address the question. Such responses will be underpinned by their use of knowledge and understanding.</p> <p>Candidates may refer to the following in relation to AO2.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role of music is significant because some Christians find their closest experience of God through hymn singing etc. • There are some Christians who feel no need for music in their worship as it can be perceived to be a distraction. • Music is an effective way to gain inner strength and inspiration for daily living and for this reason music is considered significant for Christians when they worship. • Of all the art forms that may be employed in worship, singing is significant because it contributes to reflecting the corporate 'togetherness' or 'community' aspect of worship. <p>Candidates who show achievement only against AO1 will not be able to gain marks beyond the top of Level 1.</p>

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A narrow range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are selected but are unlikely to be used appropriately or accurately (AO1). • Information/issues are identified (AO2). • Judgements are supported by generalised arguments (AO2).
Level 2	5–8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are selected, most of which are used appropriately with some inaccuracies (AO1). • Deconstructs religious information/issues which lead to a simplistic chain of reasoning (AO2). • Judgements of a limited range of elements in the question are made (AO2).
Level 3	9–12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A wide range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are carefully selected and used appropriately, accurately and sustained throughout (AO1). • Critically deconstructs religious information/issues leading to coherent and logical chains of reasoning (AO2). • Constructs coherent and reasoned judgements of the full range of elements in the question (AO2).

Question number	Indicative content
3(a)	<p>10 marks AO1</p> <p>AO1 will be used by candidates to demonstrate knowledge and understanding and specialist language and terminology when responding to the question.</p> <p>Candidates may refer to the following.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moltmann views the passibility of God, who suffered abandonment, as God himself experiencing the suffering that Christ endured on the cross. • The abandonment of Jesus on the cross by the Father takes place within God and so, according to Moltmann, God experienced suffering, humiliation, and death on the cross. • God suffers as the Son who is abandoned and dies, or gives himself up, for God's love of humanity. • God suffers as the Father who gives up and loses his Son out of his love for humanity. • God suffers in the Spirit who is the 'giving up', the Spirit of abandonment and self-giving love. • Whilst the abandonment of Jesus constitutes a real separation of the Father and Son, it also expresses, according to Moltmann, a deep conformity between the will of the Father and the will of the Son in the event of the cross.

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A narrow range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are selected but are unlikely to be used appropriately or accurately (AO1). • Knowledge and understanding of key religious ideas and beliefs is superficial (AO1). • Knowledge and understanding addresses a narrow range of key religious ideas and beliefs with some inaccuracies that are not directly linked to the extract (AO1).
Level 2	4–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are selected most of which are used appropriately with some inaccuracies (AO1). • Knowledge and understanding of key religious ideas and beliefs is detailed, however it is not fully developed (AO1). • Knowledge and understanding addresses a narrow range of key religious ideas and beliefs and are linked in most cases to reference from the extract (AO1).
Level 3	7–10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A wide range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are carefully selected and used appropriately, accurately and sustained throughout (AO1). • Knowledge and understanding of key religious ideas and beliefs is detailed and fully developed (AO1). • Knowledge and understanding addresses a broad range of key religious ideas and beliefs and are fully linked to references from the extract (AO1).

Question number	Indicative content
3(b)	<p>5 marks AO1, 15 marks AO2</p> <p>AO1 will be used by candidates to underpin their analysis and evaluation. Candidates will be required to demonstrate knowledge and understanding using specialist language and terminology when responding to the question, and in meeting AO2 descriptors described below.</p> <p>Candidates may refer to the following in relation to AO1.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moltmann claims that in the crucifixion, it is not only Jesus who suffers and dies, but also God in his divine nature that suffers. • For Moltmann the suffering of God is the direct consequence of God's decision and willingness to suffer. • Weinandy maintained that a God who is impassable is more loving and compassionate than a suffering God. <p>AO2 requires candidates to develop their answers showing analytical and evaluative skills to address the question. Such responses will be underpinned by their use of knowledge and understanding.</p> <p>Candidates may refer to the following in relation to AO2.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moltmann maintains that God does suffer because 'whoever is capable of love is also capable of suffering' which contrasts with previous Christian teaching that God is immutable or impassable (cannot change or suffer). • The context of early 20th-century suffering and the challenges from protest atheism are refuted by Moltmann because he points out God is 'vulnerable' too. He is not indifferent to or above such suffering, which is convincing to many. • Moltmann's position stresses the differing experience of suffering on the cross of Father and Son and Moltmann therefore avoids <i>patripassianism</i> (the idea that Father and Son are identical). • Moltmann argues that the suffering of God is a trinitarian event, because both the Father and the Son suffer but experience suffering in different ways and the Spirit proceeds from this event which is precipitated by love. • Weinandy argues that Moltmann is wrong in thinking that God must feel like us, in his divinity, to know our pain because, for Weinandy, God's knowledge does not have to be physical knowledge. • Moltmann's view that God can suffer or 'death comes upon God' can be understood to infer that God has died, or is dead and, as a result, it is considered too unorthodox to be convincing for most Christian believers. <p>Candidates who show achievement only against AO1 will not be able to gain marks beyond the top of Level 1.</p>

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A narrow range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are selected but are unlikely to be used appropriately or accurately (AO1). • Information/issues are selected (AO2). • Makes basic connections between a limited range of elements in the question (AO2). • Judgements are supported by generic arguments (AO2).
Level 2	5–8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A limited range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are selected, some of which are used appropriately with some inaccuracies (AO1). • Deconstructs religious information/issues (AO2). • Makes connections between a limited range of elements in the question (AO2). • Judgements of a limited range of elements in the question are made with little or no attempt to appraise evidence (AO2).
Level 3	9–12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are selected, most of which are used appropriately with some inaccuracies (AO1). • Deconstructs religious information/issues, which lead to a simple chain of reasoning (AO2). • Makes connections between many but not all of the elements in the question (AO2). • Judgements of a limited range of elements in the question are made, which are supported by an attempt to appraise evidence (AO2).
Level 4	13–16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A wide range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are carefully selected, most of which are used appropriately and accurately throughout (AO1). • Deconstructs religious information/issues leading to coherent and logical chains of reasoning (AO2). • Makes connections between a wide range of elements in the question (AO2). • Constructs coherent and reasoned judgements of many but not all of elements in the question, which are supported by the appraisal of some evidence (AO2).
Level 5	17–20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A wide range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are carefully selected and used appropriately, accurately and sustained throughout (AO1). • Critically deconstructs religious information/issues leading to coherent and logical chains of reasoning (AO2). • Makes connections between the full range of elements in the question (AO2). • Constructs coherent and reasoned judgements of the full range of elements in the question, which are fully supported by the comprehensive appraisal of evidence (AO2).

Question number	Indicative content
4	<p>5 marks AO1, 25 marks AO2</p> <p>AO1 will be used by candidates to underpin their analysis and evaluation. Candidates will be required to demonstrate knowledge and understanding using specialist language and terminology when responding to the question, and in meeting AO2 descriptors described below.</p> <p>Candidates may refer to the following in relation to AO1.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The existence of humanity and the workings of the universe can now be explained by scientific theories. • Contemporary theories in physics are turning out to be capable of explaining why the Big Bang happened, without the need for a supernatural element. • Many religious scientists and other thinkers acknowledge there can be other types of knowledge besides the scientific and so Christianity can be compatible with science. <p>AO2 requires candidates to develop their answers showing analytical and evaluative skills to address the question. Such responses will be underpinned by their use of knowledge and understanding.</p> <p>Candidates may refer to the following in relation to AO2.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many cosmologists contend that there is good reason to think science will ultimately arrive at a complete understanding of the universe and therefore the Christian belief in God becomes irrelevant. • Observational evidence for theories such as the Big Bang provides explanations for the origin of the universe without the need for God; therefore Christian belief in the idea of God can be considered redundant. • Darwin's theory of evolution has raised challenges to the Biblical creation account of the universe: therefore, for this reason, the validity of religious belief in God as creator is redundant. • The advance of science over recent decades has revealed powerful new evidence that life and the universe are the product of intelligent design, and because this supports the view that science affirms a religious interpretation of the universe, Christian belief has not become redundant. • Many Christians acknowledge that the Biblical material is of its time and contains myth; it is the truth it reveals about God as the source of existence that is important, and this is not undermined by scientific understandings such as evolution which God may have guided. • For some Christians the notion of a creator God is not redundant and can be compatible with the mechanics of creation as explained by some scientific theories because God explains science itself. • Science uses methods of falsification and critics point out that some Christians refuse to allow anything to count against their beliefs, now or in the future; therefore, this renders Christian belief meaningless and incompatible with scientific truth and thus redundant. (This shows links to Philosophy of Religion). • Christian understanding of the creation and purpose of the universe might be influenced by modern ethical approaches to caring for the environment, which may be undermined if scientific knowledge is shown to diverge from Christian ethical belief about duties of stewardship (This shows links to Religion and Ethics). <p>Candidates who show achievement only against AO1 will not be able to gain marks beyond the top of Level 1.</p>

	<p>Candidates who do not show links with another area of their course of study will not be able to gain marks beyond the top of Level 4.</p>
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Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A narrow range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are selected but are unlikely to be used appropriately or accurately (AO1). • Information/issues are identified (AO2). • Makes basic connections between a limited range of elements in the question (AO2). • Judgements are supported by generic arguments (AO2). • Judgements made with no attempt to appraise evidence (AO2). • Conclusions are provided but are simplistic and/or generic (AO2).
Level 2	7–12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A limited range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are selected, some of which are used appropriately with some inaccuracies (AO1). • Deconstructs religious information/issues (AO2). • Makes connections between a limited range of elements in the question (AO2). • Judgements of a limited range of elements in the question are made (AO2). • Judgements made with little or no attempt to appraise evidence (AO2). • Conclusions are provided, which loosely draw together ideas but with little or no attempt to justify (AO2).
Level 3	13–18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are selected most of which are used appropriately with some inaccuracies (AO1). • Deconstructs religious information/issues, which lead to a simplistic chain of reasoning (AO2). • Makes connections between many but not all of the elements in the question (AO2). • Judgements of some of the elements in the question are made (AO2). • Judgements are supported by an attempt to appraise evidence (AO2). • Conclusions are provided, which logically draw together ideas and are partially justified (AO2).
Level 4	19–24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A wide range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are carefully selected, most of which are used appropriately and accurately throughout (AO1). • Deconstructs religious information/issues leading to coherent and logical chains of reasoning (AO2). • Makes connections between a wide range of elements in the question (AO2). • Constructs coherent and reasoned judgements of many but not all of elements in the question (AO2). • Reasoned judgements are supported by the appraisal of some evidence (AO2). • Convincing conclusions are provided which fully and logically draw together ideas and are partially justified (AO2).
Level 5	25–30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A wide range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are carefully selected and used appropriately, accurately and sustained throughout (AO1). • Critically deconstructs religious information/issues leading to coherent and logical chains of reasoning (AO2). • Makes connections between the full range of elements in the question (AO2). • Constructs coherent and reasoned judgements of the full range of elements in the question (AO2). • Reasoned judgements are fully supported by the comprehensive appraisal of evidence (AO2).

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convincing conclusions are provided which fully and logically draw together ideas and are fully justified (AO2).
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