



Mark Scheme (Results)

Summer 2024

Pearson Edexcel GCSE

In Religious Studies B

Paper 3: Religion, Philosophy & Social Justice

3C Islam

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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: Religion, Philosophy and Social Justice 3C - Islam Mark Scheme

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 marks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Believing in the Day of Judgement is obligatory for Muslims (1)• Everyone is raised from the dead (1)• Everyone appears before Allah (1)• The good go to Paradise (1)• Those who have denied Allah are sent to hell (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 way. Award a second mark for development of the way up to a maximum of four marks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Muslims will strive to live good Muslim lives (1), to fulfil the destiny Allah has predestined for them (1)• Muslims will use their free will to choose good over evil (1), since Allah already knows the outcome of their choices (1)• Muslims will seek forgiveness from Allah (1) since no-one but Allah knows when they will die (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
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"> • Muslims can show the importance of the Six Beliefs when they gather at the mosque (1). They acknowledge together the Oneness of Allah as they worship (1). 'Worship Allah, and avoid [idolatry].' (Surah 16:36) (1) • Muslims send their children to the Madrassah (1) where they are taught to read and understand the Qur'an (1). Muhammad said 'I have left behind two things, the Qur'an and the Sunnah, you will never go astray as long as you hold fast onto them.' (al-Muwatta 1661) • Muslims respect the teachings of the prophets (1). The Qur'an says 'We certainly sent into every nation a messenger.' (Surah 16:36) (1). Muslims try to live like Prophet Muhammad (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 • Reference to a source of wisdom that does not relate to the way given. 	5

Question number	Indicative content	Mark
1(d)	<p data-bbox="363 260 768 291">AO2 12 marks, SPaG 3 marks</p> <p data-bbox="363 323 1333 485">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="363 516 812 579">AO2 Arguments for the statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="363 611 1333 936" style="list-style-type: none"> • Some Muslims may agree that angels are significant today since they are one of the Six Beliefs of Sunni Islam. Without believing in angels a person cannot be considered a Muslim • Angel Jibril transferred the words of Allah to Prophet Muhammad. Without the angel the Qur'an would not have been given to Muhammad to teach mankind of Allah • Angels have specific responsibilities in maintaining the earth in balance. For example, Mika'il is responsible for directing the wind and rains. It could be argued that without the angel's efforts human life on earth would be impossible. <p data-bbox="363 968 878 999">Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="363 1031 1333 1388" style="list-style-type: none"> • For some Muslims there is no evidence that angels are at work in their lives today. Although belief is important they struggle to see their significance • There are many things a Muslim must do which have a significant effect by comparison to a belief. The Five Pillars require Muslims to pray five times daily and pay Zakah. These have a more significant impact on daily life • The work of angels in the world today produces no observable effects. Angel Mika'il is responsible for the wind and rain but climate patterns have been disturbed by global warming. This suggests that the work of the angels is not significant. <p data-bbox="363 1419 805 1451">Accept any other valid response.</p>	15

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable response.
Level 1	1–3	A superficial analysis of the statement that uses undeveloped arguments, underpinned by isolated elements of understanding of religion and belief. Judgements are asserted without clear links to the analysis.
Level 2	4–6	A basic analysis of the statement that uses some developed arguments to discuss different points of view, underpinned by limited understanding of religion and belief. This leads to simple judgements which have some links to the analysis, leading to a conclusion with limited justification.
Level 3	7–9	A good analysis of the statement that uses logical chains of reasoning to discuss different points of view, underpinned by a sound understanding of religion and belief. This leads to reasoned judgements which are clearly linked to the analysis, leading to a partially justified conclusion.
Level 4	10–12	A sustained and coherent analysis of the statement that uses logical chains of reasoning to discuss different points of view, underpinned by thorough understanding of religion and belief. This leads to reasoned judgements supported by the appraisal of arguments, leading to a justified conclusion that is consistent with the analysis.

'Point(s) of view' **always** means arguments for and against the statement. **Where specified in the bullet points under the question**, it may also include one of the following:

- different views within the religion
- non-religious views
- philosophical arguments
- ethical arguments.

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 marks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The only uncaused cause is Allah (1) • Everything that exists must be caused by something (1) • The universe must have a cause (1) • Allah must be the prime mover (1) • Only Allah has the power and wisdom to create the universe (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 marks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Qur'an teaches that Allah is a compassionate God (1). A compassionate God should not allow his followers to suffer (1) • Suffering may lead to a Muslim praying for help (1). If their prayers are not answered it may suggest Allah does not care for them (1) • Allah has the power to stop their suffering but chooses not to act (1). This may make some Muslims doubt that Allah is compassionate (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"> Maryam was gifted visions concerning the birth of her child (1). Jibril reassured Maryam that the birth of Isa to a virgin mother was easy for Allah (1). 'We will make him a sign to the people, and a mercy from Us.' (Surah 19:21) (1) Visions provide direct evidence of the existence of Allah for those who receive them (1). Only Allah has the power to cause visions (1). 'I possess not for myself any harm or benefit except what Allah should will.' (Surah 10:49) (1) Visions are important because they are outlined in the Qur'an (1). Yusuf was able to warn the Pharaoh of a famine, showing the omniscience of Allah (1). 'The king said, "Indeed, I have seen [in a dream] seven fat cows being eaten by seven [that were] lean, and seven green spikes [of grain] and others [that were] dry. O eminent ones, explain to me my vision, if you should interpret visions.'" (Surah 12:43) (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 Reference to a source of wisdom that does not relate to the reason given. 	5

Question number	Indicative content	Mark
2(d)	<p>A02 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 A02 descriptors.</p> <p>A02</p> <p>Arguments for the statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allah is all-knowing and he has chosen to reveal himself through revelation. The prophets brought the revelation of Allah to humanity. Scholars agree the Qur'an could not have been written by a human • Muhammad's first revelation happened in the cave of Hira. The angel Jibril appeared to Muhammad and commanded him to read proving the existence of Allah • The Qur'an as a revelation is the only book of revelation that remains in its complete and unaltered form, showing the importance of revelation to prove the existence of Allah. <p>Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People are drawn to Allah for a variety of reasons. Those who witness a miracle may believe that miraculous events are the best way to demonstrate the reality of Allah. They demonstrate Allah's ability to over-ride the laws of nature • Others may argue the evidence of Allah's love, demonstrated by answered prayers, is a more powerful proof of Allah's existence. Such personal events have more impact than the words of the Qur'an • Allah comes to people at different times and in different ways. None can be regarded as more important than the others as they all contribute to bringing people to Allah. <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	12

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable response.
Level 1	1–3	A superficial analysis of the statement that uses undeveloped arguments, underpinned by isolated elements of understanding of religion and belief. Judgements are asserted without clear links to the analysis.
Level 2	4–6	A basic analysis of the statement that uses some developed arguments to discuss different points of view, underpinned by limited understanding of religion and belief. This leads to simple judgements which have some links to the analysis, leading to a conclusion with limited justification.
Level 3	7–9	A good analysis of the statement that uses logical chains of reasoning to discuss different points of view, underpinned by a sound understanding of religion and belief. This leads to reasoned judgements which are clearly linked to the analysis, leading to a partially justified conclusion.
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'Point(s) of view' **always** means arguments for and against the statement. **Where specified in the bullet points under the question**, it may also include one of the following:

- different views within the religion
- non-religious views
- philosophical arguments
- ethical arguments.

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
3(a)	<p>AO1 3 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each point identified up to a maximum of three marks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zakah benefits poor Muslims financially (1) • Zakah supports orphans (1) • Zakah cleanses a person's wealth (1) • Giving Zakah shows obedience to Allah (1) • It sets a charitable example to non-believers (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
3(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 marks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The daily prayers are important to Muslims because Salah is the second Pillar of Islam (1). The Qur'an instructs Muslims 'and establish prayer' (Surah 2:43) (1) • It is a way of communicating with Allah (1). This encourages every Muslim to focus on Allah throughout the day (1) • There are many benefits to prayer (1). 'Indeed, prayer prohibits immorality and wrongdoing.' (Surah 29:45) (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
3(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"> • By reciting Shahadah a Muslim submits to Allah's will (1). The Qur'an teaches 'And if they submit [in Islam], they are rightly guided' (Surah 3:20) (1), affirming that Allah requires belief and obedience (1) • Shahadah is significant to Muslims today because by saying it Muslims reaffirm the fundamental beliefs of Islam (1). The Qur'an says 'He is Allah, [who is] One.' (Surah 112:1) (1), confirming Islam as a monotheistic faith (1) • It is the first of the Five Pillars (1). As such it is regarded as the foundation of Islam (1). 'Believe in Allah and His messenger' (Surah 4:136) (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 • Reference to a source of wisdom that does not relate to the reason given. 	5

Question number	Indicative content	Mark
3(d)	<p data-bbox="370 264 768 296">AO2 12 marks, SPaG 3 marks</p> <p data-bbox="370 327 1333 485">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="370 516 812 579">AO2 Arguments for the statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="370 611 1333 968" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="370 611 1333 737">• The Hajj pilgrimage is a once-in-a-lifetime act of worship. It brings many spiritual benefits for the pilgrim. Hajjis are treated with renewed respect in their communities because of the act of submission <li data-bbox="370 747 1333 873">• Hajj cleanses the soul. 'And [due] to Allah from the people is a pilgrimage to the House - for whoever is able to find thereto a way.' (Surah 3:97). Muslims believe all minor sins are forgiven and, with sincere repentance, even major sins may be forgiven if Allah wills <li data-bbox="370 884 1333 968">• Hajj unites Muslims. Despite differences in language, colour and nationality all Muslims gather in one place to honour one God. This contributes to uniting their purposes and goals. <p data-bbox="370 999 878 1031">Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="370 1062 1333 1419" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="370 1062 1333 1188">• Attending Hajj can be financially challenging for Muslims. The Qur'an says 'they will come to you on foot and on every lean camel; they will come from every distant pass' (Surah 22:27). The sheer cost involved may leave poorer Muslims and their families at risk <li data-bbox="370 1199 1333 1293">• Hajj is physically challenging for some Muslims. Some rely on crutches or wheelchairs to circumambulate the Ka'ba. This can place additional demand on the sick, frail and elderly <li data-bbox="370 1304 1333 1419">• Some of the ritual practices themselves can be dangerous. For example, during Hajj Muslims throw rocks at three pillars representing Shaytan. Sudden crowd movements can cause pilgrims to be crushed. <p data-bbox="370 1451 805 1482">Accept any other valid response.</p>	15

Level	Mark	Descriptor
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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
4(a)	<p>AO1 3 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each point identified up to a maximum of three marks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muslims should not show prejudice (1) • Everyone is equal as the teeth of a comb (1) • Prejudice can lead to discrimination (1) • Prejudice promotes inequality (1) • Muslims continue to suffer from prejudice (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
4(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 marks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muslims believe social justice is important because the Qur'an teaches that resources should be shared equally (1), greed over limited resources leads to conflict (1) • Muslims are taught they are brothers in the ummah (1), if they feel that a group is oppressed, they may fight in their defense (1) • The Qur'an says 'Allāh does not do injustice, [even] as much as an atom's weight' (Surah 4:40) (1), encouraging Muslims to act fairly in society (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
4(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"> • Muslims believe racial discrimination can cause society to fracture (1). The Qur'an teaches that Allah is the creator and he 'made you peoples and tribes that you may know one another.' (Surah 49:13) (1). If society divides it cannot function as Allah intended (1) • Racism creates a society where people do not trust or respect each other (1). The Prophet taught 'An Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab' (Muhammad's final sermon) (1). This shows that Allah does not judge a person's race, nor should Muslims (1) • Discrimination leads to inequality in society (1). The Prophet is reputed to have said 'People are equal as the teeth of a comb' (1) so everyone, regardless of race should be treated equally well (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 • Reference to a source of wisdom that does not relate to the way given. 	5

Question number	Indicative content	Mark
4(d)	<p>A02 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 A02 descriptors.</p> <p>A02 Arguments for the statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muslims believe that human rights are important and therefore should be protected, because they are rooted in the dignity that belongs to each human being • As the human rights that society has today reflect Allah's Law, found in the Qur'an for example care for your brothers, Muslims should work to protect these human rights • Many non-religious people believe that every life is of value and that every individual deserves the same freedoms and opportunities. They recognise that there are still places in the world today where governments abuse human rights. <p>Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many non-religious people believe there are circumstances when the needs of society may mean going against a human right, for example the treatment of prisoners • For Muslims, because the Declaration was created by humans, it may not be Allah's Law; so 'rights' can clash with religious beliefs, e.g. same sex marriage. It is only Allah's Law that should be protected • Some Muslims may suggest that some rights such as the right to freedom of speech can be abused. This can lead to hate speech and an increase in prejudice and discrimination. <p>Accept any other valid response.</p> <p>Candidates who do not consider non-religious points of view (as instructed in the question) cannot achieve marks beyond Level 2.</p>	<p>12</p>

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