



Mark Scheme (Results)

Summer 2024

Pearson Edexcel GCSE

In Religious Studies B

Paper 3: Religion, Philosophy & Social Justice

3B Christianity

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Summer 2024

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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 3B - Christianity Mark Scheme - 2024

| Question number | Answer | Reject | Mark |
|------------------------|---|---|-------------|
| Q1 (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"> • It is important for Christians as it is when God became human (1) • The Incarnation shows that Jesus is fully human and fully divine (1) • The Incarnation reveals God to humanity (1) • It fulfils Old Testament prophecies (1) • The Incarnation is a central belief for all Christians (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 belief. Award a second mark for development of the belief. Up to a maximum of four marks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christians believe natural suffering is not caused by God (1), as he made all things good (1) • Natural suffering allows Christians to do good (1). It gives them the opportunity to try and end suffering (1) • Natural suffering is not caused by humanity (1). It includes things such as earthquakes and floods (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 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"> The Bible teaches that good people will go to heaven (1), where God wants them to go (1). Paul explains 'if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven' (2 Corinthians 5:1) (1) Christians believe that there is judgement after death (1), this decides whether people go to heaven or not (1), 'we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ,' (2 Corinthians 5:10) (1) The Bible teaches that the resurrection shows there is life after death (1), all a person has to do is believe that Jesus is God (1). John's Gospel says, 'he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life' (John 3:16) (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 given 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"> • Christians may argue that belief in the oneness of God is the most important belief because it shows that no other deity is required, their faith can be placed in God alone • They may believe that the oneness of God is important as it shows that God is all powerful, can answer their prayers and as such should be the only God worshipped • Some Christians may feel that the oneness of God is important because it stresses that he is the eternal Creator – that God has always been and will always be, if there were more than one God the divine powers of God would be reduced. <p>Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some Christians would say that the belief is not the most important belief because belief in Jesus as the Divine Saviour is more important, that this leads to eternal life • Some Christians may feel that belief in the oneness of God is not the most important belief because the most important belief is God as Lawgiver, this gives a guide by which to live a Christian life • Some Christians will argue that there is no one most important belief in Christianity. Christianity has several beliefs and depending on each denomination and each individual Christian they may hold a number of beliefs important in their life. <p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A feature of a Christian religious experience is that it gives knowledge of God (1) • Another feature of a religious experience is that it cannot be accurately described (1) • A feature of a Christian religious experience is that it is positive (1) • A feature of them is they cause awe and wonder (1) • Another feature of a religious experience is that it will lead to a change in a person's life (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 marks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christians may believe miracles are important as they provide proof for the existence of God (1), miracles provide evidence which confirms belief (1) • Christians believe a miracle shows that God wants to help believers (1), because God is their loving Creator (1) • Christians may think miracles are important because they are a sign of God's power (1) they show that God can do anything (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 thing. Award further marks for each development of the thing 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"> • Christians would say that the design argument shows that God is powerful (1), this is because the world is clearly designed, something only a powerful God could do (1). 'For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen' (Romans 1:20) (1) • Christians would say that the design argument shows that God is a designer (1), he uses his omniscience to design the world (1). 'Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.' (John 1:3) (1) • Christians may feel that God is shown to be eternal in the design argument (1), before the world was designed God had to exist (1). 'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.' (John 1:1) (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated thing/ development • Development that does not relate both to the thing given and to the question • Reference to a source of wisdom that does not relate to the thing 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 AO2 descriptors.</p> <p>A02</p> <p>Arguments for the statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some Christians believe that visions prove that God exists, because only God can choose to reveal himself to support a person's faith • Some Christians argue that visions prove the existence of God because the person to whom it happens has a personal experience of God, and that proves he must exist • Visions prove God exists as throughout the Bible they are a way that God sends messages to people. Christians believe that visions such as these experienced by Moses reveal God's will to humanity. <p>Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some Christians would argue that visions do not prove that God exists, they are only a small part of how God reveals himself to humans and that the Bible as a whole is more reliable proof of the existence of God • Some non-religious people would say that God does not exist and so visions are simply hallucinations, that people who experience a vision may be ill or taking medicines that cause them to feel they have had a vision • Some non-religious people would argue that visions are wish fulfilment by the people who experience them, they are not a real event, they have been caused to happen by the person who experiences the vision and are not proof of God. <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> | 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. |
| 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.

| 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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One feature is that there may be Bible readings (1) • Another feature is blessings over the bread and wine (1) • Catholics believe the bread and wine are turned into the body and blood of Jesus (1) • Some Christians receive bread and wine (1) • After receiving the Eucharist Christians pray together (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 local church may help the individual believer by providing worship services (1), this allows the individual to worship in community (1) • The local church may help the individual by providing counselling services (1), this may help them with their relationships (1) • The local church may help the individual by providing social activities for children (1), this allows them to learn about their faith (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 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"> Some Christians believe that liturgical worship ensures that there is correct worship (1), helping ensure that people all worship in the same way (1). The Book of Common Prayer states the liturgy should 'tend to the preservation of Peace and Unity in the Church' (Preface of the Book of Common Prayer) (1) Some Christians believe that non-liturgical worship is a better form of worship (1). They believe it allows them to worship as God wants (1). Jesus explained to the Samaritan woman, 'true worshippers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks' (John 4:23) (1) Some Christians believe that liturgical worship encourages unity (1). All worshippers can join together and support one another (1). '[L]et us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe (Hebrews 12:28) (1). <p>Candidates who do not consider different attitudes within Christianity cannot be awarded more than 3 marks.</p> <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 given and to the question Reference to a source of wisdom that does not relate to the attitude given. | 5 |

| Question number | Indicative content | Mark |
|-----------------|---|------|
| 3(d) | <p data-bbox="362 264 768 296">AO2 12 marks, SPaG 3 marks</p> <p data-bbox="362 327 1276 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="362 516 431 548">AO2</p> <p data-bbox="362 552 818 583">Arguments for this statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="410 588 1281 936" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="410 588 1281 709">• Some Christians argue that charity work is essential in Christian life as it is needed by those people who have found themselves in need of it. Christians should show 'love of neighbour' <li data-bbox="410 714 1281 842">• Some Christians, believe that charity work is the way that justice will be achieved in the world, that those who do not have enough should be helped by those who have more than enough <li data-bbox="410 846 1281 936">• Some Christians feel that all Christians should carry out charity work as it is a responsibility to help others, they feel that they are following the example of Jesus by doing this. <p data-bbox="362 968 878 999">Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="410 1003 1281 1325" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="410 1003 1281 1094">• Some Christians do not think that charity work is essential in Christian life today, if a person does not have the financial ability to, then they should not feel pressure to <li data-bbox="410 1098 1281 1188">• Some Christians argue that people should be helped by the governments of the countries that they live in, it is their political responsibility to care for their citizens not a charities <li data-bbox="410 1192 1281 1325">• Some Christians do not feel that charity work is the right thing to do in modern society. They believe that people should learn to help themselves and that they should not be encouraged to depend upon charities. <p data-bbox="362 1356 805 1388">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. |
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- 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 |
|-----------------|--|---|----------|
| 4(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"> • Christians teach that everyone should have equal opportunities (1) • Christians teach that they should support social justice (1) • Christians teach people are entitled have their basic needs met (1) • Christians teach that the world should be a fair place for all to live (1) • Christians teach that social justice promotes respect and understanding (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 response. Award a second mark for development of the response. Up to a maximum of four marks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most Christians respond to non-religious arguments that all people deserve human rights by agreeing (1), because God created all people to be equal (1) • Some Christians disagree with non-religious views about the right for everyone to have a family (1), they believe people of the same sex cannot marry (1) • Most Christians respond by supporting the non-religious argument that all people deserve equality (1), because this supports the social teaching of the Church (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated response /development • Development that does not relate both to the response given and to the question. | 4 |

| Question number | Answer | Reject | Mark |
|-----------------|--|---|----------|
| 4(c) | <p>AO1 5 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each teaching. Award further marks for each development of the teaching 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"> • Most Christians believe that poverty is caused by a lack of equality (1). They work to ensure others do not lack the basics (1). The Parable of the Sheep and Goats explains 'whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me' (Matthew 25:40) (1) • Most Christians teach that poverty may be caused by greed (1). They believe people should realise that financial gains are not the aim of life (1), Jesus 'said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions"' (Luke 12:15) (1) • Some Christians teach that poverty may be caused by politics (1). They then become involved in charity work to provide for others (1), Jesus taught 'For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in' (Matthew 25:35) (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated teaching / development • Development that does not relate both to the teaching given and to the question • Reference to a source of wisdom that does not relate to the teaching given. | 5 |

| Question number | Indicative content | Mark |
|-----------------|---|------|
| 4(d) | <p data-bbox="363 260 558 291">AO2 12 marks</p> <p data-bbox="363 323 1307 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="363 516 428 548">AO2</p> <p data-bbox="363 548 812 579">Arguments for the statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="412 579 1307 968" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="412 579 1307 705">• Most Christians believe that everyone should work to end inequality because it reflects God’s plan for people. God created people in his image and as such all are equal in dignity and should be treated as such <li data-bbox="412 705 1307 831">• Most Christians argue that they should work to end inequality, they regard it as the most loving thing to do, it will reduce division which can cause conflict in society and ensure society functions effectively <li data-bbox="412 831 1307 968">• Most Christians would argue that everyone should work to end inequality because Jesus taught ‘Love one another’ (John 13:34). If Christians do not work to end inequality, then they are not showing love. <p data-bbox="363 999 876 1031">Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="412 1031 1307 1388" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="412 1031 1307 1157">• Some Christians would say that everyone does not need to work to end inequality, and they feel that it cannot be ended – there are too many causes of inequality and some, like COVID, cannot be predicted <li data-bbox="412 1157 1307 1251">• Some Christians might argue that they have other things to work on rather than inequality, they should focus on the spiritual, focus on God, rather than society <li data-bbox="412 1251 1307 1388">• Some Christians may argue that they do not need to work to end inequality, that disparity between people can only be solved by governments and politicians who can change the laws and punish people who discriminate. <p data-bbox="363 1451 802 1482">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. |
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- different views within the religion
- non-religious views
- philosophical arguments
- ethical arguments.