



Mark Scheme (Results)

Summer 2024

Pearson Edexcel GCSE

In Religious Studies B

PAPER 2: Area of Study 2 – Religion, Peace & Conflict

Option 2B – 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 2: Religion, Peace & Conflict: 2B - Christianity Mark Scheme

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"> • Christians believe in heaven (1) • Most Christians believe in hell (1) • Some Christians believe in purgatory (1) • Christians believe there is life after death (1) • Most Christians believe that those who sin will be punished (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"> • Some Christians believe that the biblical accounts of Creation are metaphorical (1). They are written to show the nature of God (1) • Some Christians may believe that the biblical accounts are literal (1). They describe exactly how God created the universe (1) • Some Christians believe that the accounts contain some literal truths (1). They think that each day could be understood to mean several years (1). <p>Candidates who do not consider different ways within Christianity cannot be awarded more than 2 marks.</p> <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 solution. Award further marks for each development of the solution 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"> • One Christian solution to the problem of evil is that it is a way to test people (1), to see if they choose to do good or evil (1). The psalmist records 'Blessed are those whose ways are blameless, who walk according to the law of the Lord.' (Psalm 119:1) (1) • Another Christian solution is the free will argument (1), that all people have the choice to cause suffering or not (1). St Paul taught 'Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended' (Romans 13:3) (1) • Some Christians respond that evil is simply an absence of good (1). St Augustine refers to it as a privation, an absence of goodness (1), and this teaches humanity that they need to do good (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated solution / development • Development that does not relate both to the solution given and to the question • Reference to a source of wisdom that does not relate to the solution 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"> • Some Christians regard the resurrection of Jesus as the event that provides evidence that Jesus is both human and divine, without it Jesus would have simply been regarded as a holy man or teacher • Some Christians teach that the resurrection enabled Jesus to return to his disciples and teach more explicitly about who he is, this enabled Christians to know more about the person of Jesus • Some Christians may feel that the resurrection revealed the person of Jesus completely, for example, in the Road to Emmaus his followers only recognised him when he allowed them to. <p>Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some Christians may feel that all of the events in the life of Jesus build an understanding of the person of Jesus. His teachings and actions show his divinity without need of the resurrection • Some Christians would maintain that the resurrection alone would have not been sufficient to know all about the person of Jesus, events such as the crucifixion are needed to show his fully human nature • Some Christians will say that that faith is needed to fully comprehend the person of Jesus, that all the events in the Bible and all Church teachings combine for a complete understanding of the person of Jesus. <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"> • Some Christians believe that people suffer to test their faith (1) • Some Christians believe that suffering is a result of the Fall (1) • Some believe that it is to encourage them to turn to God (1) • Some believe they suffer due to sinful choices (1) • Some Christians believe that suffering is the result of injustice (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 belief. Award a second mark for development of the belief. Up to a maximum of four marks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most Christians believe that justice is righteousness (1), which is a characteristic of God (1) • Most Christians believe that true justice comes from God (1). Human justice can be flawed (1) • Most Christians would explain that justice is when all of humanity receive what is due to them (1), the Catechism explains 'Society ensures social justice when it provides the conditions that allow associations or individuals to obtain what is their due' (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1928) (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
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"> Some Christians may argue that the use of the death penalty is acceptable (1), if a person takes a life, they should lose theirs (1). Genesis teaches 'Whoever sheds human blood, by humans shall their blood be shed' (Genesis 9:6) (1) Some Christians argue that the death penalty should not be used (1). They believe that as God made life it should not be taken (1). 'Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people' (Leviticus 19:18) (1) They may argue that it goes against the sanctity of life (1), life is holy and should not be interfered with (1). 'You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgement.' (Matthew 5:21) (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
2(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 936" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="412 579 1208 674">• Some Christians would argue that society should punish people who do wrong as it is the only way that they will change and hopefully reform and change them for the better <li data-bbox="412 674 1289 810">• Some Christians would say that people who do wrong need to be punished by society in order to learn that what they have done is unacceptable and they need to learn what actions are acceptable and which are not <li data-bbox="412 810 1307 936">• Some Christians would teach that to protect the population, they need to ensure that criminals will not repeat their offences, and this may mean that they need to punish them by removing them from society. <p data-bbox="363 968 876 999">Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="412 999 1289 1356" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="412 999 1289 1125">• Some Christians believe that people who do wrong do not need to be punished, instead they need forgiveness. Jesus taught 'if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.' (Matthew 6:15) <li data-bbox="412 1125 1289 1220">• Some Christians argue that the Lord's Prayer, which all Christians use, instructs them to forgive wrongdoers and so it would be hypocritical not to do so <li data-bbox="412 1220 1273 1356">• Christians may explain that society should not punish people who do wrong, instead they should aim to find out why they commit crimes, and to solve the criminals' problems, as this shows love for neighbour. <p data-bbox="363 1419 802 1451">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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christians may attend midnight Mass (1) • They may watch nativity plays (1) • They may have a crib in their home (1) • They may give presents (1) • They may send Christmas cards (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"> • Some Christians celebrate two sacraments as they believe only two are biblical (1), Baptism and Eucharist were celebrated by Jesus (1) • Some Christians believe that only two are required for salvation (1), that they are part of the covenant with God (1) • Some Christians would argue that only two are sources of grace (1), they believe the others are empty celebrations (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"> • Christians may use the Lord's Prayer because Jesus said to (1), he taught his disciples that this was the way that they should pray (1). 'This, then, is how you should pray: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,"' (Matthew 6:9) (1) • It may be used because it is a prayer that all Christians can say (1), it describes what joins them (1). 'Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name' (Lord's Prayer) (1) • It may be used because it contains several types of prayer (1) such as petition (1); 'Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil' (Lord's Prayer) (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="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="362 583 431 615">AO2</p> <p data-bbox="362 617 818 648">Arguments for this statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="410 651 1284 968" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="410 651 1284 772">• Some Christians believe that it is important to make a pilgrimage to Jerusalem to visit and experience the places where Jesus lived and died, this helps them understand their faith better <li data-bbox="410 779 1284 869">• Most Christians believe that a pilgrimage to Jerusalem will help them deepen their faith, that they can develop a closer relationship to God by being where he sacrificed his Son <li data-bbox="410 875 1284 968">• Many Christians believe that a pilgrimage to Jerusalem is a faith journey, and that the Second Coming of Christ will be in Jerusalem, so it is the holiest place to be. <p data-bbox="362 1003 878 1035">Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="410 1037 1284 1354" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="410 1037 1284 1159">• Some Christians would say that there is no need to make any pilgrimages, including those to Jerusalem, as no place is closer to God than another, so they should pray where they are <li data-bbox="410 1165 1284 1255">• Some Christians may maintain that pilgrimages to Jerusalem are not needed, the life of Jesus can be studied using the Bible and this brings people close to God <li data-bbox="410 1262 1284 1354">• Some Christians maintain that pilgrimage to Jerusalem is simply an expensive holiday, it is not a spiritual event and is not required by the Christian faith. <p data-bbox="362 1390 805 1421">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.
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- non-religious views
- philosophical arguments
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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 believe they should work for peace (1) • Christians are taught that peace comes from Jesus (1) • Christians should live in peace with others (1) • Christians believe that Jesus came to bring peace to all (1) • 'The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace' (Galatians 5:22) (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"> • Christians may oppose the use of weapons of mass destruction because they kill indiscriminately (1) 'You shall not murder' (Exodus 20:13) (1) • Most believe that weapons of mass destruction cannot meet the conditions of a Just War (1) because they kill innocent civilians (1) • Many Christians believe that they may be used as a threat but not be deployed (1) as they destroyed land and infrastructure (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 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"> • Most Christians believe the Just War theory is important because it provide guidelines for an ethical war (1). It limits the evils a war may cause (1). St Paul explained, 'For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason.' (Romans 13:4) (1) • Some may feel that the Just War theory is important because it describes conditions that may justify the use of force (1), leading to less violence in the long term (1). 'There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under the heavens... a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build' (Ecclesiastes 3:1-3) (1) • Most Christians would teach that the the Just War theory is important because wars are prevented (1), the conditions can never be fulfilled (1). Matthew teaches 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.' (Matthew 5:9) (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
4(d)	<p data-bbox="363 260 558 289">AO2 12 marks</p> <p data-bbox="363 323 1305 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="363 518 428 548">AO2</p> <p data-bbox="363 552 812 581">Arguments for the statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="412 585 1305 936" style="list-style-type: none"> • Some Christians would argue that conflict always causes violence and James explains that 'You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight.' (James 4:2) • Some non-religious people might suggest that once people cannot use peaceful means to agree a compromise, they remain in conflict, they will be driven to solve their differences by violence • Some Christians argue that because Jesus came to change things, he brought conflict. Matthew teaches that Jesus shows that the conflict he causes will result in violence, 'I did not come to bring peace, but a sword' (Matthew 10:34). <p data-bbox="363 970 878 999">Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul data-bbox="412 1003 1292 1354" style="list-style-type: none"> • Many Christians believe that conflict does not have to cause violence. By 'speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.' (Ephesians 4:15) • Non-religious people might believe that conflict does not have to result in violence because with skilled negotiations most conflicts can reasonably be overcome • Some Christians may argue that conflict can be overcome by following the teachings of Jesus who was a peacemaker, and this is exemplified in the success of pacifists such as Martin Luther King. <p data-bbox="363 1388 802 1417">Accept any other valid response.</p> <p data-bbox="363 1451 1240 1514">Candidates who do not consider non-religious points of view (as instructed in the question) cannot achieve marks beyond Level 2.</p>	12

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	0	No rewardable response.
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