

Teacher Resource Bank

GCE Religious Studies

Unit 1G: *New Testament*

Additional Specimen Questions



**GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION
ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY**



**RELIGIOUS STUDIES UNIT G
NEW TESTAMENT**

RSS07

ADDITIONAL SPECIMEN QUESTIONS

For this paper you must have:

- an 8 page answer book.

You are permitted the use of a Bible, which may include the Apocrypha.

Time allowed: 1 hour 15 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book.
The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is **RSS07**.
- Answer **two** questions.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 90.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- In each question, part (a) tests your knowledge and understanding, while part (b) tests your skills of reasoning and evaluation.
- You will be marked on your ability to use English, to organise information clearly and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Answer **two** questions.

- 1** (a) Examine the possible reasons for translating the original Greek synoptic texts. *(30 marks)*
- (b) 'A translation can never be the word of God.'
- To what extent do you agree with this claim? *(15 marks)*
-
- 2** (a) Explain the theology and teaching found in the accounts of the healing of Legion. *(30 marks)*
- (b) 'The purpose of the synoptic gospel accounts of healings was to show that Jesus was the Messiah.'
- To what extent do you agree with this claim? *(15 marks)*
-
- 3** (a) *(30 marks)*
- (b) *(15 marks)*
-
- 4** (a) *(30 marks)*
- (b) *(15 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS



GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION ADDITIONAL SPECIMEN MARK SCHEME NEW TESTAMENT RSS07

Mark schemes are normally prepared by the Principal Examiner and considered, together with the relevant questions, by a panel of subject teachers. When published, a mark scheme normally includes any amendments made at the standardisation meeting attended by all examiners and is the scheme which was used by them in the examination. The standardisation meeting ensures that the mark scheme covers the candidates' responses to questions and that every examiner understands and applies it in the same correct way. As preparation for the standardisation meeting each examiner analyses a number of candidates' scripts: alternative answers not already covered by the mark scheme are discussed at the meeting and legislated for. If, after this meeting, examiners encounter unusual answers which have not been discussed at the meeting they are required to refer these to the Principal Examiner.

It must be stressed that a mark scheme is a working document, in many cases further developed and expanded on the basis of candidates' reactions to a particular paper. Assumptions about future mark schemes on the basis of this year's document should be avoided; whilst the guiding principles of assessment remain constant, details will change, depending on the content of a particular examination paper.

RSS07: New Testament

- 1 (a) **Examine the possible reasons for translating the original Greek synoptic texts.**

Lower level answers will be more narration with little reference to reasons for translating. Candidates, for example, may make some brief reference to need to spread gospel message to wider communities than Greek speaking. However expect a list of various translations, such as the Jerome's Latin Vulgate and the Peshitta. Candidates may make very general statements such as the Bible being the most translated book in the world.

Higher level answers will focus more on the possible reasons for translating the original Greek. This could include the spread of the church to Egypt so an Egyptian (or Coptic) version was needed. Another reason candidates might refer to is the need for a standard text that could be recognized and used by everyone.

Top level answers will clearly focus on the reasons. Answers will be more developed and be supported by examples. Expect discussion about the importance of reading the gospels in own language and the gospels as the word of God. The answer will have both breadth and depth.

(30 marks) AO1

- (b) **'A translation can never be the word of God.'**

To what extent do you agree with this claim?

Lower level answers will tend to present only one side. The view will be more factual than showing any process of reasoning. If, for example, the view taken is that a translation can never be the word of God, then expect some basic reasons, e.g. difficulties of translating into another language, the problem that we do not have the original manuscripts.

Higher level answers will either show more process of reasoning or present two views. For example, the difficulties of translating into another language may be illustrated and then linked to why this would imply that the translation is not the word of God. Reference might be made to the problems of cultural understanding. If one view only is presented then there should be clear reasoning why the alternative view is rejected. Candidates that argue that it is the word of God may refer to the work of the Holy Spirit or that the problems of translation can be overcome.

Top level answers will show clear reasoning and awareness of more than one view. The candidate will be aware of the strengths and weaknesses of both views and show evidence of some reflection on the views expressed. There will be an appropriate conclusion.

(15 marks) AO2

2 (a) Explain the theology and teaching found in the accounts of the healing of Legion.

Lower level answers will be more narration with little reference to theology or teaching. Candidates, for example, may make some brief reference to Jesus' power over evil spirits or the recognition of Jesus by the evil spirits. However, these points are unlikely to be developed. Points will be stated rather than explained.

Higher level answers will focus more on the theology and the teaching, than actual narration of the healing. Expect candidates to allude to the text rather than give narration of story. However, the coverage may be limited and possibly only one of either theology / teaching will be addressed. Candidates may refer to the teaching about the person and work of Jesus, such as the recognition of Jesus as Son of the Most High God. Other candidates may focus on the teaching about evil spirits.

Top level answers will clearly focus on the theology and teaching, covering both aspects. Expect reference to the significance of Jesus' conversation with the evil spirits and his commands to Legion to tell others. The material will be supported by the candidate alluding to relevant parts of the account of the healing. The answer will have both breadth and depth and cover the whole account rather than just one section of it.

(30 marks) AO1

(b) 'The purpose of the synoptic gospel accounts of healings was to show that Jesus was the Messiah.'

To what extent do you agree with this claim?

Lower level answers will tend to present only one side. The view will be more factual than showing any process of reasoning. Expect examples to be listed of healings where Jesus is portrayed as Messiah.

Higher level answers will either show more process of reasoning or present two views. If only one view is given, e.g. agreement with the claim, then there should be clear reasoning of how the healings show Jesus as Messiah, and some development of how that is identified as the purpose of the account.

Top level answers will show clear reasoning and awareness of more than one view. For instance, other purposes may be identified, or that no purpose can be known unless the author states it. The candidates will be aware of the strengths and weaknesses of the claim and show evidence of some reflection on the views expressed. There will be an appropriate conclusion.

(15 marks) AO2