



ASSESSMENT and
QUALIFICATIONS
ALLIANCE

Mark scheme

June 2003

GCE

Religious Studies

Unit RS08

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Levels of Response descriptors in A2 examinations

Marks for 10-mark questions are shown in brackets

Level	Quality of Written Communication in AO1 and AO2	AO1	AO2	Marks
5	Highly appropriate form and style of writing; clear and coherent organisation of information; appropriate and accurate use of specialist vocabulary; good legibility and high level of accuracy in spelling, punctuation and grammar.	A thorough treatment of the topic, which may be in depth or breadth. Information is accurate and relevant. A thorough understanding is shown through good use of relevant evidence and examples. Where appropriate good knowledge and understanding of diversity of views and / or scholarly opinion is demonstrated.	A very good response to issue(s) raised. Different views, including where appropriate those of scholars or schools of thought, are discussed and evaluated perceptively. Effective use is made of evidence to sustain an argument. Systematic analysis and reasoning leads to appropriate conclusions. There may be evidence of independent thought.	17-20 [9-10]
4	Appropriate form and style of writing; clear and coherent organisation of information; appropriate and accurate use of specialist vocabulary; good legibility and high level of accuracy in spelling, punctuation and grammar.	A generally thorough treatment of the topic. Information is accurate and relevant. Good understanding is demonstrated through use of relevant evidence and examples. Where appropriate, alternative views and / or scholarly opinion are satisfactorily explained.	A good response to issue(s) raised. Different views, including where appropriate those of scholars or schools of thought, are discussed. A process of reasoning leads to an appropriate conclusion. There may be some evidence of independent thought.	13-16 [7-8]
3	Mainly appropriate form and style of writing; generally clear and coherent organisation of information; mainly appropriate and accurate use of specialist vocabulary; good legibility and fairly high level of accuracy in spelling, punctuation and grammar.	A satisfactory treatment of the topic. Information is mostly accurate and relevant. A reasonable understanding is demonstrated through use of some relevant evidence and examples. Where appropriate, some familiarity with diversity of views and / or scholarly opinion is shown.	A satisfactory response to issue(s) raised. Views are explained with some supporting evidence and arguments, and some critical analysis. A conclusion is drawn that follows from some of the reasoning.	9-12 [5-6]
2	Form and style of writing appropriate in some respects; some of the information is organised clearly and coherently; some appropriate and accurate use of specialist vocabulary; satisfactory legibility and level of accuracy in spelling, punctuation and grammar.	A superficial answer, which includes some key facts and demonstrates limited understanding using some evidence / examples. Where appropriate, brief reference may be made to alternative views and / or scholarly opinion.	Main issue is addressed with some supporting evidence or argument, but the reasoning is faulty, or the analysis superficial or only one view is adequately considered.	5-8 [3-4]
1	Little clarity and coherence in organisation; little appropriate and accurate use of specialist vocabulary; legibility and level of accuracy in spelling, punctuation and grammar barely adequate to make meaning clear.	Isolated elements of accurate and relevant information. Some signs of understanding. Evidence and examples are sparse.	Some simple reasons or evidence are given in support of a view that is relevant to the question.	1-4 [1-2]
0	Little clarity and coherence in organisation; little appropriate and accurate use of specialist vocabulary; legibility and level of accuracy in spelling, punctuation and grammar barely adequate to make meaning clear.	Nothing of relevance.	No valid points made.	0

Unit 8: Studies in the New Testament

- 1 (a) *Examine the interpretation of the Healing of the Crippled Man (John 5¹⁻¹⁸).*

Crippled man

Possible areas for comment include:

Superiority of Christianity over Judaism:

five porticoes / 38 years symbolism / waters unable to cleanse

Person of Jesus

knowledge

faith and belief

relationship with Father

power and authority of Jesus

authority over Sabbath

Good Shepherd (Sheep Gate)

Sent One (Siloam)

Life giving word

Maximum Level 3 if only discussed superiority over Judaism.

(20 marks) AO1

- (b) *“The signs in John’s Gospel are full of symbolism.” Examine this statement and assess the extent to which the signs can be regarded as historical.*

Signs

Comment on word “signs” as pointers.

Illustration from signs of symbolism.

Comment on “full” (across breadth of the signs and within the individual sign).

Maximum Level 3 if not referred to text.

(10 marks) AO1

Discussion on issue of historicity of signs.

Not historical – artificial story / not in Synoptics / symbolic only / supernatural

Historical – different source/symbolism can also be historical / five pillars / detailed and specific people / places

(20 marks) AO2

- 2 (a) *Examine the meaning of the claims made of Jesus as “the Bread of Life” and the “the Door of Sheep” in John’s Gospel.*

“I am” sayings

Possible areas include:

“I am” meaning ego eimi / Exodus 3:14

Sacrificial

Old Testament Moses link / Passover / Manna

Messianic

Eternal life bringer

Door for salvation

Giver of abundant life

Sheepfold

Thieves and robbers

Maximum Level 3 if only one claim examined.

(20 marks) AO1

- (b) *“The purpose of the discourses in John’s Gospel is to reveal the work of Jesus.”
With reference to material not so far discussed in part (a), explain this statement and assess the view that this is the main purpose of John’s discourses.*

Purpose to reveal work of Jesus

Using examples from other discourses to show how they reveal the work of Jesus

Maximum Level 4 if only one discussed.

(10 marks) AO1

Other purposes

e.g. Link to John 20:30-31

Unfolding Christology

Sacramental

Some discussion about the word “main” purpose

(20 marks) AO2

- 3 (a) *Examine the main features of John's Passion narrative.*

Passion

Possible areas include:

Some differences between other Gospel accounts:

length of narrative with Jesus teaching privately rather than publicly
 No account of the Last Supper bread and wine
 No account of formal trial
 Different date for crucifixion
 Conversation with Pilate

Some special features:

Irony
 Fulfilment of Scripture
 Flow of blood and water
 The power of Jesus versus powerlessness of authorities
 Jesus speaks to mother
 It is accomplished
 Reappearance of Nicodemus

Jesus' death presentation

Cross as throne
 Titles on Cross
 Crown of thorns
 Robes
 Lifted up
 Return to the Father

Narration with comment maximum Level 3.

(20 marks) AO1

- (b) *“The eschatology in John's Gospel is concerned with present salvation not future judgement.”
 Explain this statement and assess the extent to which it is true.*

Eschatology

Explanation of terms
 present salvation - gives life / never die / present tense / now is
 Future Judgement – future tenses / last day
 Evidence from the text

(10 marks) AO1

Also future salvation and present judgement
 Present yet future – inaugurated eschatology
 Weight of emphasis?

(20 marks) AO2