



Pearson  
Edexcel

## Mark Scheme (Results)

Summer 2019

Pearson Edexcel GCE  
In Religious Studies (8RS0/4A)  
Paper 4 Study of Religion  
Option A Buddhism

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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.

Question number	Indicative content
1	<p>8 marks AO1</p> <p><b>AO1 will be used by candidates to demonstrate knowledge, understanding and specialist language and terminology when responding to the question.</b></p> <p><b>Candidates may refer to the following.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Buddha saw the four sights of an old man, an ill man, a dead man and a holy man.</li> <li>• He left a life of luxury to live life as an ascetic.</li> <li>• He discovered that neither excess nor renunciation was the answer to suffering, rather the Middle Way.</li> <li>• He achieved Enlightenment under a Bodhi Tree overcoming the daughters of Mara.</li> <li>• He preached his first sermon at the Deer Park in Benares.</li> </ul>

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A narrow range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are selected but are unlikely to be used appropriately or accurately (AO1).</li> <li>• Knowledge and understanding addresses a narrow range of key religious ideas and beliefs with some inaccuracies (AO1).</li> <li>• Provides a superficial understanding of key religious ideas and beliefs (AO1).</li> </ul>
Level 2	3-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are selected, most of which are used appropriately with some inaccuracies (AO1).</li> <li>• Knowledge and understanding addresses a narrow range of key religious ideas and beliefs (AO1).</li> <li>• Develops key religious ideas and beliefs to show a depth of understanding (AO1).</li> </ul>
Level 3	6-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A wide range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are carefully selected and used appropriately, accurately and sustained throughout (AO1).</li> <li>• Knowledge and understanding addresses a broad range of key religious ideas and beliefs (AO1).</li> <li>• Comprehensively develops key religious ideas and beliefs to show a depth of understanding (AO1).</li> </ul>

Question number	Indicative content
2	<p>3 marks AO1, 6 marks AO2</p> <p><b>AO1 will be used by candidates to underpin their analysis and evaluation. Candidates will be required to demonstrate knowledge and understanding using specialist language and terminology when responding to the question, and in meeting AO2 descriptors described below.</b></p> <p><b>Candidates may refer to the following in relation to AO1.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Five Precepts were outlined by the Buddha.</li> <li>• Following the Five Precepts and their positive expressions brings punna kamma.</li> <li>• The precept of not to harm any living thing underpins ahimsa.</li> </ul> <p><b>AO2 requires candidates to develop their answers showing analytical and evaluative skills to address the question. Such responses will be underpinned by their use of knowledge and understanding.</b></p> <p><b>Candidates may refer to the following in relation to AO2.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Five Precepts can be seen to underpin all moral action; therefore they are an integral part of the Eightfold Path suggesting their importance in living one of the three aspects of the path.</li> <li>• As the goal of Buddhism is to overcome suffering, the application of the Five Precepts strives to remove the possibility of suffering from peoples' lives, therefore it is central to achieving the goal.</li> <li>• The principle of avoiding intoxicants can be seen to be important as the breaking of it may lead to a clouded mind, allowing craving and the breaking of other precepts.</li> <li>• The Five Precepts help Buddhists to work towards Enlightenment, therefore they are important as they enable Buddhists to avoid excess which may in turn lead to negative kamma.</li> <li>• The Five Precepts are only outward actions, as such their importance is often overstated because Buddhism focuses on the inner search for Enlightenment which can only be gained through meditation.</li> </ul> <p>Candidates who show achievement only against AO1 will not be able to gain marks beyond the top of Level 1.</p>

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A narrow range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are selected but are unlikely to be used appropriately or accurately (AO1).</li> <li>• Information/issues are identified (AO2).</li> <li>• Judgements are supported by generalised arguments (AO2).</li> </ul>
Level 2	4-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are selected most of which are used appropriately with some inaccuracies (AO1).</li> <li>• Deconstructs religious information/issues which lead to a simplistic chain of reasoning (AO2).</li> <li>• Judgements of a limited range of elements in the question are made (AO2).</li> </ul>
Level 3	7-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A wide range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are carefully selected and used appropriately, accurately and sustained throughout (AO1).</li> <li>• Critically deconstructs religious information/issues leading to coherent and logical chains of reasoning (AO2).</li> <li>• Constructs coherent and reasoned judgements of the full range of elements in the question (AO2).</li> </ul>

Question number	Indicative content
3	<p>4 marks AO1, 6 marks AO2</p> <p><b>AO1 will be used by candidates to underpin their analysis and evaluation. Candidates will be required to demonstrate knowledge and understanding using specialist language and terminology when responding to the question, and in meeting AO2 descriptors described below.</b></p> <p><b>Candidates may refer to the following in relation to AO1.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Three Vehicles are representative of different traditions of Buddhism.</li> <li>• Each of the Three Vehicles have sub groups such as Zen within Mahayana.</li> <li>• The idea of the Three Vehicles is traditionally rejected by Theravadan Buddhists.</li> </ul> <p><b>AO2 requires candidates to develop their answers showing analytical and evaluative skills to address the question. Such responses will be underpinned by their use of knowledge and understanding.</b></p> <p><b>Candidates may refer to the following in relation to AO2.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Due to the negative nature of the term Hinayana as the lesser vehicle the term Theravada (way of the Elders) is used by some, therefore it is argued that the idea of the Three Vehicles is pejorative and should be rejected.</li> <li>• The monastic and ordination rules within the traditions are virtually the same, and the teachings overlap to a great extent and therefore the idea of the Three Vehicles could be seen to be an artificial separation.</li> <li>• Theravada Buddhists would see their expression as the closest to the life of the Buddha, and the teachings of the councils; the rejection of the idea of the vehicles would therefore recognise this and later additions as unnecessary.</li> <li>• Mahayana Buddhists see the development of their traditions as drawing on earlier practices and a rediscovery of Buddhist teaching and practice; therefore the idea of the Three Vehicles offers a clear delineation of belief.</li> </ul> <p>Candidates who show achievement only against AO1 will not be able to gain marks beyond the top of Level 1.</p>

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A narrow range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are selected but are unlikely to be used appropriately or accurately (AO1).</li> <li>• Information/issues are identified (AO2).</li> <li>• Judgements are supported by generalised arguments (AO2).</li> </ul>
Level 2	4-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are selected, most of which are used appropriately with some inaccuracies (AO1).</li> <li>• Deconstructs religious information/issues which lead to a simplistic chain of reasoning (AO2).</li> <li>• Judgements of a limited range of elements in the question are made (AO2).</li> </ul>
Level 3	7-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A wide range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are carefully selected and used appropriately, accurately and sustained throughout (AO1).</li> <li>• Critically deconstructs religious information/issues leading to coherent and logical chains of reasoning (AO2).</li> <li>• Constructs coherent and reasoned judgements of the full range of elements in the question (AO2).</li> </ul>



Question number	Indicative content
4(a)	<p>8 marks AO1</p> <p><b>AO1 will be used by candidates to demonstrate knowledge, understanding and specialist language and terminology when responding to the question.</b></p> <p><b>Candidates may refer to the following.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The first Noble Truth is that suffering is a part of everyday life (dukkha).</li> <li>• The second Noble Truth is that the cause of suffering is craving or desire (samudaya).</li> <li>• The third Noble Truth is that suffering can be ended by the cessation of desire (nibbana).</li> <li>• The fourth Noble Truth is the Middle Way as the solution to suffering (magga).</li> <li>• The Four Noble Truths follow the structure of a medical diagnosis for suffering.</li> </ul>

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A narrow range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are selected but are unlikely to be used appropriately or accurately (AO1).</li> <li>• Knowledge and understanding addresses a narrow range of key religious ideas and beliefs with some inaccuracies (AO1).</li> <li>• Provides a superficial understanding of key religious ideas and beliefs (AO1).</li> </ul>
Level 2	3-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are selected, most of which are used appropriately with some inaccuracies (AO1).</li> <li>• Knowledge and understanding addresses a narrow range of key religious ideas and beliefs (AO1).</li> <li>• Develops key religious ideas and beliefs to show a depth of understanding (AO1).</li> </ul>
Level 3	6-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A wide range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are carefully selected and used appropriately, accurately and sustained throughout (AO1).</li> <li>• Knowledge and understanding addresses a broad range of key religious ideas and beliefs (AO1).</li> <li>• Comprehensively develops key religious ideas and beliefs to show a depth of understanding (AO1).</li> </ul>

Question number	Indicative content
4(b)	<p>5 marks AO1, 15 marks AO2</p> <p><b>AO1 will be used by candidates to underpin their analysis. Candidates will be required to demonstrate knowledge and understanding using specialist language and terminology when responding to the question, and in meeting AO2 descriptors described below.</b></p> <p><b>Candidates may refer to the following in relation to AO1.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Metta, karuna and khanti are aspects of the Eightfold Path.</li> <li>• Metta, karuna and khanti are essential to the overcoming of suffering.</li> <li>• Metta, karuna and khanti enable a person to gain punna kamma.</li> </ul> <p><b>AO2 requires candidates to develop their answers showing analytical and evaluative skills to address the question. Such responses will be underpinned by their use of knowledge and understanding.</b></p> <p><b>Candidates may refer to the following in relation to AO2.</b></p> <p>Candidates who show achievement only against AO1 will not be able to gain marks beyond the top of Level 1.</p> <p>Candidates who do not address all three elements cannot go beyond the top of level 3.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The application of metta makes someone less selfish and focused on their own suffering therefore suggesting, through its application, that it is through the application of such that the reality of suffering expressed in the first Noble Truth can be overcome.</li> <li>• Khanti suggests that a person is able to achieve the right mindfulness outlined in the fourth Noble Truth, this therefore enables equanimity of mind in the search for Enlightenment.</li> <li>• In seeking to overcome suffering which is central to the Four Noble Truths the application of khanti therefore enabling a Buddhist to recognise the time needed in this life and perhaps future rebirths to achieve moksha.</li> <li>• The Four Noble Truths stand as the source of all other Buddhist teachings, and therefore as teachings of the Buddha the relationship is highly significant.</li> <li>• The Four Noble Truths stand independent of all other teachings, while other teachings may be derived from them therefore they do not need relating to other teachings to remain important.</li> <li>• As outlines of the Three-fold Way Buddhists are able to see immediately the relationship between these principles and the living of the Middle Way expressed in the Fourth Noble Truth therefore highlighting their significance.</li> </ul>

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A narrow range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are selected but are unlikely to be used appropriately or accurately (AO1).</li> <li>• Information/issues may be selected (AO2).</li> <li>• Makes basic connections between a limited range of elements in the question (AO2).</li> <li>• Judgements are supported by generic arguments (AO2).</li> <li>• Judgements are made with no attempt to appraise evidence (AO2).</li> </ul>
Level 2	6-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A limited range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are selected, some of which are used appropriately with some inaccuracies (AO1).</li> <li>• Deconstructs religious information/issues (AO2).</li> <li>• Makes connections between a limited range of elements in the question (AO2).</li> <li>• Judgements of a limited range of elements in the question are made (AO2).</li> <li>• Judgements made with little or no attempt to appraise evidence (AO2).</li> </ul>
Level 3	11-15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are selected, most of which are used appropriately with some inaccuracies (AO1).</li> <li>• Deconstructs religious information/issues, which lead to a simple chain of reasoning (AO2).</li> <li>• Makes connections between many but not all of the elements in the question (AO2).</li> <li>• Judgements of a limited range of elements in the question are made (AO2).</li> <li>• Judgements are supported by an attempt to appraise evidence (AO2).</li> </ul>
Level 4	16-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A wide range of knowledge, specialist language and terminology are carefully selected and used appropriately, accurately and sustained throughout (AO1).</li> <li>• Critically deconstructs religious information/issues leading to coherent and logical chains of reasoning (AO2).</li> <li>• Makes connections between the full range of elements in the question (AO2).</li> <li>• Constructs coherent and reasoned judgements of the full range of elements in the question (AO2).</li> <li>• Reasoned judgements are fully supported by the comprehensive appraisal of evidence (AO2).</li> </ul>