

Teacher Resource Bank

GCSE Religious Studies (Specification A)

Additional Specimen Questions:

Unit 2 Christianity: Ethics

- Prejudice and Discrimination



PART B

There are 24 marks for each question.

B Prejudice and Discrimination

(a)(i) Explain what is meant by 'prejudice' **and** 'discrimination'. (3 marks)

(a)(ii) Explain why some people are prejudiced against other races. (3 marks)

(b) 'Discrimination is the greatest evil in the modern world.'

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to Christian arguments in your answer.

(6 marks)

(c) Explain Christian teachings about prejudice and discrimination. (6 marks)

(d) 'Violence is the best way to stop discrimination.'

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to Christian arguments in your answer.

(6 marks)



General Certificate of Secondary Education

Religious Studies
Full or Short Course
Specification A

Unit 2 ***Christianity: Ethics***

Additional SPECIMEN Mark Scheme
Prejudice and Discrimination

June series

Part B

B Prejudice and Discrimination

(a)(i) Explain what is meant by ‘prejudice’ and ‘discrimination’.

Target: Understanding of the terms ‘prejudice’ and ‘discrimination’

Levels	Criteria	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.	0 marks
Level 1	Something relevant or worthy of credit.	1 mark
Level 2	Elementary knowledge and understanding, e.g. two simple points.	2 marks
Level 3	Sound knowledge and understanding.	3 marks

Prejudice is prejudging / coming to unfavourable conclusions about people without any good reasons / holding biased opinions about someone / judging someone unfairly.

Discrimination is acting on prejudice / treating people unfairly because of their race, gender, religion, etc.

(3 marks) AO1

(a)(ii) Explain why some people are prejudiced against other races.

Target: Understanding causes of racial prejudice

Levels	Criteria	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.	0 marks
Level 1	Something relevant or worthy of credit.	1 mark
Level 2	Elementary knowledge and understanding, e.g. two simple points.	2 marks
Level 3	Sound knowledge and understanding.	3 marks

Candidates may include some of the following points:

Fear / ignorance / stereotyping / needing someone on whom to blame social ills / a bad experience at the hands of one person of a different race leading to the feeling that all must be the same / influence of the media, especially popular journalism / influence of parents and peers / xenophobia.

(3 marks) AO1

(b) 'Discrimination is the greatest evil in the modern world.'

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to Christian arguments in your answer.

Target: Evaluation of discrimination as the greatest evil in the modern world

Level	Criteria	Marks	Quality of Written Communication
0	Unsupported opinion or no relevant evaluation.	0 marks	The candidate's presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar seriously obstruct understanding.
Level 1	Opinion supported by simple reason.	1 mark	The candidate presents some relevant information in a simple form. The text produced is usually legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar allow meaning to be derived, although errors are sometimes obstructive.
Level 2	Opinion supported by one developed reason or two simple reasons.	2 marks	
Level 3	Opinion supported by one well developed reason or several simple reasons. N.B. Candidates who make no religious comment should not achieve more than Level 3.	3 marks	The candidate presents relevant information in a way which assists with the communication of meaning. The text produced is legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently accurate not to obscure meaning.
Level 4	Opinion supported by two developed reasons with reference to religion.	4 marks	
Level 5	Evidence of reasoned consideration of two different points of view, showing informed insights and knowledge and understanding of religion.	5 marks	The candidate presents relevant information coherently, employing structure and style to render meaning clear. The text produced is legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently accurate to render meaning clear.
Level 6	A well-argued response, with evidence of reasoned consideration of two different points of view showing informed insights and ability to apply knowledge and understanding of religion effectively.	6 marks	

Candidates may include some of the following points:

Agree

Against Christian teachings / denial of other humans as made in God's image and as of equal value in his sight / causes terrible misery / leads people to persecute and kill / leads to attempted genocide / results in victims having low esteem, possibly killing themselves / encourages climate of fear and hatred / creates injustice / at the root of most other moral evils.

Other views

There are other bigger threats to the well-being of humanity, e.g. greed and materialism of developed world has led to global poverty – shows no love for one's neighbour / same moral evils have resulted in climate change which threatens the existence of the planet / disrespect for sanctity of life shown in the number of abortions / education is making people more aware of discrimination and will in time reduce it.

(6 marks) AO2

(c) Explain Christian teachings about prejudice and discrimination.**Target: Understanding of Christian teachings on prejudice and discrimination**

Levels	Criteria	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.	0 marks
Level 1	Something relevant or worthy of credit.	1 mark
Level 2	Elementary knowledge and understanding, e.g. two simple points.	2 marks
Level 3	Sound knowledge and understanding.	3 marks
Level 4	A clear knowledge and understanding with some development and / or analysis.	4 marks
Level 5	A detailed answer with some development and / or analysis.	5 marks
Level 6	A full and coherent answer showing good development and / or analysis.	6 marks

Candidates may include some of the following points:

Parable of the Good Samaritan teaches that one's neighbour includes everyone, regardless of race, culture or creed / Jesus' example – he treated everyone as a human being of value, e.g. Levi, Zacchaeus, sinful woman, Roman centurion and his sick servant, Syro-Phoenician woman / women were chosen to be the witnesses of the Resurrection / women played important roles in the Early Church, e.g. Phoebe in Rome and Prisca in Corinth and Ephesus / Peter's vision at Joppa taught him that God makes no racial distinctions / Christ 'has broken down the dividing wall of hostility' between Jews and non-Jews (Ephesians 2¹⁴) / statement in Galatians that within the Church social, racial and gender distinctions are of no significance / to be no discrimination against the poor (James 2¹⁻⁹) / statements of Christian denominations denounce prejudice and discrimination, e.g. 'Every form of social or cultural discrimination...on the grounds of sex, race, colour, social conditions, language or religion, must be curbed and eradicated as incompatible with God's design' (Catechism of Catholic Church).

(6 marks) AO1

(d) 'Violence is the best way to stop discrimination.'

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to Christian arguments in your answer.

Target: Evaluation of violence as a means to end discrimination

Level	Criteria	Marks	Quality of Written Communication
0	Unsupported opinion or no relevant evaluation.	0 marks	The candidate's presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar seriously obstruct understanding.
Level 1	Opinion supported by simple reason.	1 mark	The candidate presents some relevant information in a simple form. The text produced is usually legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar allow meaning to be derived, although errors are sometimes obstructive.
Level 2	Opinion supported by one developed reason or two simple reasons.	2 marks	
Level 3	Opinion supported by one well developed reason or several simple reasons. N.B. Candidates who make no religious comment should not achieve more than Level 3.	3 marks	The candidate presents relevant information in a way which assists with the communication of meaning. The text produced is legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently accurate not to obscure meaning.
Level 4	Opinion supported by two developed reasons with reference to religion.	4 marks	
Level 5	Evidence of reasoned consideration of two different points of view, showing informed insights and knowledge and understanding of religion.	5 marks	The candidate presents relevant information coherently, employing structure and style to render meaning clear. The text produced is legible. Spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently accurate to render meaning clear.
Level 6	A well-argued response, with evidence of reasoned consideration of two different points of view showing informed insights and ability to apply knowledge and understanding of religion effectively.	6 marks	

Candidates may include some of the following points:

Agree

Non-violent methods take too long and lead to unnecessary misery / such methods seen as sign of weakness and as justifying discriminatory behaviour, and therefore intensifying it / violence is the only method some people understand / in the 1st century BCE violence was effective in stopping persecution of the Jews.

Other views

Violence just makes things worse and lowers the person to the level of the discriminator / Jesus said, 'Those who take the sword die by the sword' / the example of Martin Luther King shows what can be achieved through non-violence – it takes time, but patience is a virtue / evil can only be neutralised through love / Jesus said, 'Love your enemy' – violence is not loving.

(6 marks) AO2