

Teacher Resource Bank

GCSE Religious Studies (Specification A)

Additional Specimen Questions:

Unit 3 *Roman Catholicism*

- The Eucharist



PART B

There are 24 marks for each question.

B The Eucharist

- (a) Explain how **each** of the following titles helps Roman Catholics to understand Holy Communion:

The Mass,
The Eucharist.

(6 marks)

- (b) 'Taking the Eucharist only on special occasions makes it more meaningful.'

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

(6 marks)

- (c) Describe the ways in which Roman Catholics receive the Eucharist.

(6 marks)

- (d) 'Receiving the Eucharist is the closest a Christian can get to Jesus.'

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

(6 marks)



General Certificate of Secondary Education

Religious Studies
Full or Short Course
Specification A

Unit 3 *Roman Catholicism*

Additional SPECIMEN Mark Scheme
The Eucharist

June series

B The Eucharist

- (a) Explain how each of the following titles helps Roman Catholics to understand Holy Communion:

**The Mass,
The Eucharist.**

Target: Knowledge and understanding of the different names for the celebration of the Eucharist

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:

The Mass

The Mass was once said in Latin with the last phrase 'Ite missa est' meaning 'Go you are sent' / at the end of the service (Mass) the congregation are sent to continue their Christian mission having been strengthened by the body and blood of Jesus in the way that they live their lives and in the way that they treat other people, especially those in need / term used by Roman Catholics and some Anglicans / for most Roman Catholics, going to Mass and receiving the bread and wine are at the centre of their lives as Christians.

Eucharist

Comes from the Greek word for 'thanksgiving' / it is the term used particularly by Roman Catholics and Anglicans / draws attention to the fact that believers give thanks for the blessings that they share through this sacrament / by sharing bread and wine Christians are giving thanks for the sacrifice Jesus made for them / he gave up his life to bring people back to God / he became the sacrificial lamb / name used for the central prayer that includes the consecration of the bread and wine.

Maximum Level 4 if only one title explained.

(6 marks) AO1

(b) 'Taking the Eucharist only on special occasions makes it more meaningful.'

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

Target: Evaluation of the importance of receiving the Eucharist frequently

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

Christians can take the Eucharist for granted if it becomes too common / Jesus never said how often we should re-enact his final meal / people would appreciate the Eucharist more and prepare better for receiving if it were less frequent / the Eucharist has lost its meaning and is simply another part of the weekly act of worship / too many people receive Communion today without ever stopping to think about its meaning / it could become a meaningless and empty ritual if received too often – some Protestant denominations only receive once or twice a month, e.g. Baptists and Methodists / some denominations do not receive the Eucharist at all, e.g. Salvation Army and Quakers.

Other views

Christians can feel the presence of God every time they receive Communion and be strengthened by it / the Eucharist is spiritual food for everyday life and therefore cannot be taken too often / Christians need to be continually reminded of the sacrifice Jesus made for them and share in this event by carrying out his instructions to remember it / Jesus told Christians to "Do this in memory of me" / they are obliged to regularly obey his command / it has been an important aspect of the life of the Roman Catholic Church for centuries to receive the Eucharist / receiving the Eucharist is the highlight and focal point of the celebration of Mass / people might only go to Church on these special occasions and neglect their faith if the Eucharist were not offered.

(6 marks) AO2

(c) Describe the ways in which Roman Catholics receive the Eucharist.**Target: Knowledge and understanding of how Roman Catholics receive the Eucharist**

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:

Eucharistic ministers receive bread and wine from the priest / congregation come out of seats and in lines approach the altar / kneel or stand in a line or in a circle around the altar / priest or eucharistic minister takes bread out of chalice or appropriate dish between thumb and first and second finger / holds bread up in front of communicant and says "The Body of Christ" / communicant's response is "Amen" / communicant receives by mouth or by hand from priest or eucharistic minister / communicant returns to seat and gives thanks to God / wine (the blood of Christ) is generally not offered at daily or Sunday Masses as congregation is too large / generally offered on special occasions, e.g. weddings, etc. / Communion can be brought to people in their seats if unable to walk to altar / Communion can also be brought to the home of those who are sick by the priest or eucharistic minister / Roman Catholics can receive once a day but mostly on Sundays during the Mass.

(6 marks) AO1

(d) 'Receiving the Eucharist is the closest a Christian can get to Jesus.'

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

Target: Evaluation of the impact of receiving the Eucharist

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	
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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

Christians believe that by receiving the Eucharist they are receiving the actual body and blood of Jesus – Transubstantiation (Roman Catholic belief) – spiritual food / others believe that the Eucharist is only a symbol of Jesus' body and blood – Real Presence (belief of many Anglicans) although there is no actual change in the bread and wine they do believe that Jesus is present as they receive it and that 'receiving' brings them closer to Jesus.

Other views

Others feel that they can get just as close to Jesus through prayer / reading the Bible / listening to the Word of God in Church services / doing good for others, e.g. charity work, missionary work, voluntary work / self sacrifice, e.g. Lent, CAFOD or Trocaire / going on a pilgrimage or retreat / through receiving any of the sacraments – reconciliation, confirmation, etc. / for many Protestants, the bread and wine are just symbols of Jesus' saving death, so direct religious experience (through prayer, a vision, etc.) would bring them closer to Christ.

(6 marks) AO2