

## *Teacher Resource Bank*

# **GCSE Religious Studies (Specification A)**

## Additional Specimen Questions:

### Unit 4 *Roman Catholicism: Ethics*

- Christian Reconciliation



## PART B

There are 24 marks for each question.

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### B Christian Reconciliation

(a)(i) In the Parable of the Forgiving Father (the Lost Son) how does the father show that he has forgiven his son? *(3 marks)*

(a)(ii) Explain why some Roman Catholics believe that they should try to be peacemakers. *(6 marks)*

(b) 'The Sacrament of Reconciliation is no longer relevant for Roman Catholics.'

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) Explain why some people break the law. *(3 marks)*

(d) 'The death penalty is the only way to deal with some criminals.'

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 4**      ***Roman Catholicism: Ethics***

**Additional SPECIMEN Mark Scheme**  
**Christian Reconciliation**

*June series*

## B Christian Reconciliation

- (a)(i) **In the Parable of the Forgiving Father (the Lost Son) how does the father show that he has forgiven his son?**

**Target: Knowledge of Luke 15** <sup>11-32</sup>

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:

Runs to greet his son / embraces and kisses him / calls for best robe, ring and sandals / orders fatted calf to be killed and feast to be prepared / explains to older son.

**(3 marks) AO1**

- (a)(ii) **Explain why some Roman Catholics believe that they should try to be peacemakers.**

**Target: Knowledge and understanding of reasons why Roman Catholics should support peacemaking**

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:

Teaching of Jesus / examples from the life of Jesus, e.g. in the Garden of Gethsemane, from the Cross / Church teachings on peace / "Blessed are the peacemakers" / example of many saints and role models in the history of the Church / responsibility to play a part in the perfecting of creation / effects of lack of peace in personal and public areas of life / all are called to be peacemakers.

**(6 marks) AO1**

**(b) 'The Sacrament of Reconciliation is no longer relevant for Roman Catholics.'**

**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 relevance of the Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Level	Criteria	Marks	Quality of Written Communication
<b>0</b>	Unsupported opinion or no relevant evaluation.	0 marks	The candidate's presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar seriously obstruct understanding.
<b>Level 1</b>	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.
<b>Level 2</b>	Opinion supported by one developed reason or two simple reasons.	2 marks	
<b>Level 3</b>	Opinion supported by one well developed reason or several simple reasons. <b>N.B. Candidates who make no religious comment should not achieve more than Level 3.</b>	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.
<b>Level 4</b>	Opinion supported by two developed reasons with reference to religion.	4 marks	
<b>Level 5</b>	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.
<b>Level 6</b>	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**

Just a formula of words / feel no different after / hard for a person to talk to someone they hardly know about things that trouble them deeply / hardly anyone goes now / people don't need someone to forgive them / some things too serious to forgive / old style "confession" intimidating / priests do not understand how people live.

**Other views**

Modern celebration more accessible / confessor / penitent relationship can be helpful / clearing of conscience / keeps one in touch with Church community / Easter duty rule and tradition / prepares for other Sacraments / help in times of personal difficulty / absolution gives chance for fresh start / help given with putting right the damage caused by sin.

**(6 marks) AO2**

**(c) Explain why some people break the law.**

**Target: Knowledge and understanding of reasons for law-breaking**

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

Candidates may include some of the following points:

Lack of moral education / drug or alcohol addiction / mental illness / poverty / bad example / lack of control of emotions / protest or rebellion.

**(3 marks) AO1**

(d) **‘The death penalty is the only way to deal with some criminals.’**

**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 whether the death penalty is the only way to deal with criminals**

Level	Criteria	Marks	Quality of Written Communication
<b>0</b>	Unsupported opinion or no relevant evaluation.	0 marks	The candidate’s presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar seriously obstruct understanding.
<b>Level 1</b>	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.
<b>Level 2</b>	Opinion supported by one developed reason or two simple reasons.	2 marks	
<b>Level 3</b>	Opinion supported by one well developed reason or several simple reasons. <b>N.B. Candidates who make no religious comment should not achieve more than Level 3.</b>	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.
<b>Level 4</b>	Opinion supported by two developed reasons with reference to religion.	4 marks	
<b>Level 5</b>	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.
<b>Level 6</b>	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**

“An eye for an eye.....” / protection for society from dangerous criminals / acts as a deterrent / long history of capital punishment / modern science makes mistakes less likely / cheaper than imprisonment / shows society’s abhorrence of some crimes / kinder than a lifetime in prison.

**Other views**

Who decides which crimes will carry the death penalty? / ineffective as deterrent, e.g. U.S.A. and gun crime / creates martyrs especially in cases seen as having a religious, political or racial context / damages more innocent people such as the offender’s family / “thou shalt not kill” so seems to make society like the offender / possibility of executing the wrong person / Evangelium Vitae / respect for life / rules out the possibility of reformation.

**(6 marks) A02**