

## *Teacher Resource Bank*

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

## Additional Specimen Questions:

### *Unit 7 Philosophy of Religion*

- The Compatibility of Science and Religion



## PART B

There are 24 marks for each question.

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### B The Compatibility of Science and Religion

(a)(i) Outline the Darwinian view of evolution. *(3 marks)*

(a)(ii) Outline a fundamentalist view of evolution. *(3 marks)*

(b) 'Science and religion can never work together.'

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to religious arguments in your answer. *(6 marks)*

(c) Explain the role of humanity as shown in **at least one** creation story. *(6 marks)*

(d) 'There is no need for God in creation.'

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to religious arguments in your answer. *(6 marks)*



**General Certificate of Secondary Education**

**Religious Studies**  
**Full or Short Course**  
*Specification A*

**Unit 7**     *Philosophy of Religion*

Additional SPECIMEN Mark Scheme  
The Compatibility of Science and  
Religion

*June series*

**B The Compatibility of Science and Religion**

**(a)(i) Outline the Darwinian view of evolution.**

**Target: Knowledge and understanding of the Darwinian view of evolution**

<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:

Started with simple organisms that gradually got more complex / the survival of the fittest / that which was best adapted to the environment reproduced and gradually brought about major changes and differentiation of the species, including humanity.

**(3 marks) AO1**

**(a)(ii) Outline a fundamentalist view of evolution.**

**Target: Knowledge and understanding of fundamentalist view of evolution**

<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:

Bible says that God made everything in a simple, single act of creation / the theory of evolution questions the truth of God as expressed in the Bible / there is no evidence that is full and coherent that supports the theory of evolution / each animal, but especially human beings, are too complex just to have gradually evolved; they need a special creation / the human soul could not have emerged, it has to have been created.

**(3 marks) AO1**

**(b) ‘Science and religion can never work together.’**

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

**Target: Evaluation of the compatibility of science and religion**

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**

Science looks at facts, religion looks at faith / they come from different angles and can never come up with the same answer / one of them must always give way to the other, and since science can demonstrate what it says by experiment, science should be followed / religion will always call the work of God the things that it cannot explain / religion is blind to things that are not in agreement with it.

**Other views**

“Science without religion is lame, religion without science is blind.” (Einstein) / they come from different angles but can each throw separate lights onto a topic giving better understanding overall / they are both gifts from God to the human race – ignoring either faith or reason is to ignore what God has offered, etc.

**(6 marks) AO2**

**(c) Explain the role of humanity as shown in at least one creation story.**

**Target: Knowledge and understanding of the role of humanity according to a religious creation story**

<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
<b>Level 4</b>	A clear knowledge and understanding with some development.	4 marks
<b>Level 5</b>	A detailed answer with some analysis, as appropriate.	5 marks
<b>Level 6</b>	A full and coherent answer showing good analysis, as appropriate.	6 marks

Candidates may include some of the following points:

e.g.

**Genesis 1**

man made last after everything else-was ready to receive him. Made in the image and likeness of God, showing his special role and a nature that is different to all the rest of creation. Equality of man and woman. Duty of procreation. Authority over rest of creation.

**Genesis 2**

man made from dust but has the breath of God in him to give him life – different to all other creatures / placed in garden to look after it / all other animals made for man and named by him – showing his superior role but also his role as guardian / rest of creation made as a home for man, etc.

Any relevant creation story that includes the role of man can be credited, even if the role of man is simply another part of creation with no privileges, as could be interpreted from some of the Hindu creation stories.

N.B. The question does not require the candidates to specify which creation stories are being dealt with, so a general answer covering a lot of viewpoints but without reference to particular stories is acceptable for full marks. As all the creation stories share a lot of ideas, it is possible to answer this question fully with reference to only one creation story, but there has to be real depth for full marks.

**(6 marks) AO1**

**(d) 'There is no need for God in creation.'**

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

**Target: Evaluation of the role of God in creation**

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. <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.
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**

Science and the Big Bang show that the universe and the world happened gradually, not as the result of a single act / if this is the case, nothing needs to be explained by bringing in an outside force, things just happened of their own accord / there is no evidence of God as creator, but there is sufficient evidence of the development of the universe and the development of the galaxies, etc.

**Other views**

While science can show how things have changed, it cannot explain why things are as they are / there had to have been a starting point, at least to keep things in being / if there is no God, then there is nothing / without God, there is no explanation of why things are, etc.

**(6 marks) AO2**