

Teacher Resource Bank

GCSE Religious Studies (Specification A)

Additional Specimen Questions:

Unit 10 *Judaism*

- The Synagogue and Worship



PART B

There are 24 marks for each question.

B The Synagogue and Worship

(a) Explain the use of tefillin in daily prayer. *(4 marks)*

(b) Explain how the features and symbols of a synagogue reflect temple worship. *(4 marks)*

(c) 'Private prayer is more meaningful than communal worship.'

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

(d)(i) Explain the role of the rabbi within a community. *(4 marks)*

(d)(ii) 'We do not need to wear special items when we pray. All that matters is that we are sincere about what we say.'

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



General Certificate of Secondary Education

Religious Studies
Full or Short Course
Specification A

Unit 10 *Judaism*

Additional SPECIMEN Mark Scheme
The Synagogue and Worship

June series

Part B

B The Synagogue and Worship

(a) Explain the use of tefillin in daily prayer.

Target: Knowledge and understanding of the use of tefillin

| 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 |

Candidates may include some of the following points:

Tefillin also known as phylacteries (Greek) / Aramaic word for prayers / reference to passages from the Shema, etc. written on kosher parchment and put inside / tefillin manufactured and written by a Sofer (scribe) / worn every week day for morning prayers by men and boys who have reached bar mitzvah / not worn on Shabbat or festivals / worn on left arm nearest to heart (emotional centre) and on forehead (intellectual centre).

(4 marks) AO1

(b) Explain how the features and symbols of a synagogue reflect temple worship.

Target: Knowledge and understanding of the contents and historical significance of the Synagogue

| 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 |

Candidates may include some of the following points:

Central feature of synagogue is ark (aron hakodesh) – reminder of Ark of Covenant which was central feature of temple / contains the Sefer Torah scrolls – Ark of Covenant contained the tablets of the Ten Commandments represented today by stone feature above the ark in synagogue / everlasting lamp burns above the ark – symbolic of the menorah that burned constantly in the temple / central platform or bimah where the Torah is read is a reminder of the altar or Mizbeach that was the central feature of the courtyard of the temple / ladies section in an Orthodox synagogue reminds us of the Ezrat Nashim or women’s courtyard in the Temple.

(4 marks) AO1

(c) 'Private prayer is more meaningful than communal worship.'

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

Target: Evaluation of different attitudes to communal as opposed to private prayer

| 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

Some may live in an isolated situation, unable to attend a communal service / some people find communal services noisy and distracting / significant numbers of people may not be able to follow Hebrew well enough to take sufficient meaning from communal worship / private prayer has less structure and is therefore more likely to be more suited to some individual situations.

Other views

Prayer with a quorum (minyan) is preferable to private prayer / communal prayer can be very uplifting / certain dates in the Jewish calendar demand communal worship, e.g. celebrations, etc. / Kaddish (memorial prayer for the dead) cannot be said without a minyan, i.e. communally.

(6 marks) AO2

(d)(i) Explain the role of the rabbi within a community.

Target: Knowledge and understanding of the role of a rabbi

| 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 |

Candidates may include some of the following points:

Lead services / preach sermons on various occasions / set religious standard for community / represent community within the wider community / offer guidance on matters of Halacha in all forms / give lectures (shiurim) / weddings / funerals / bar and bat mitzvah graduation ceremonies.

(4 marks) AO1

- (d)(ii) **'We do not need to wear special items when we pray. All that matters is that we are sincere about what we say.'**

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

Target: Evaluation of different attitudes to use of formal religious dress as opposed to informality

| 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

God understands the sincere prayers of all people at any time / too much reliance on religious items may distract people from the real purpose of prayer / these items can be very expensive to purchase and this may be a prohibiting factor for some people.

Other views

The religious items are commandments mentioned in the Torah – there is no option / the items create a focus for prayer / the services are more dignified / the wearing of certain items is a part of a chain of tradition.

(6 marks) AO2