

Teacher Resource Bank

GCSE Religious Studies Specification A Unit 12 *Buddhism* Exemplar Scripts and Commentaries



The Assessment and Qualifications Alliance (AQA) is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (company number 3644723) and a registered charity (registered charity number 1073334). Registered address: AQA, Devas Street, Manchester M15 6EX.

Script 1

PART A

A1 Personal Duties

(a) Describe **one** method of Buddhist meditation. (2 marks)

Samatha meditation is where the mind is stilled to enable better concentration. To do this meditators may go through 4 pre-jhanas where breath-work is used and then go through the 8 jhanas ranging from sitting comfortably and quietly through to a sensation of sunyata (emptiness) where right concentration can be practised.

Commentary

A sound answer that is a sensible length.

(2 marks)

(b) Explain why Buddhists meditate. *(3 marks)*

To quote the Buddha himself Buddhists meditate "to calm the agitated monkey" and to still the mind. The second part of the 8 fold path is right thought, meditation is key to this aspect of the religion and therefore in the 4th noble truth to escape Dukkha and the world of Samsarah and re-birth. Meditation is also a good way to seriously contemplate the teachings of the religion and the Buddha.

Commentary

An excellent response that shows clear knowledge of why Buddhists meditate. Plenty of reference points in the response to achieve full marks.

(3 marks)

(c) 'Meditation is too difficult for most Buddhists.'

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

As I discussed earlier in Samatha meditation and the jhanas, many Buddhists complain they can't get to the higher levels. Also many Buddhists in the lay Sangha don't have the time or insentive that monastics do. Meditation can be very hard because it is difficult to focus internally with external distraction such as an awkward posture or distracting noise. However all Buddhists practise meditation at monastic level. In Zen Buddhism it is clearly defined as the central practise; Zen actually means "meditation". Even lay sangha often meditate, it is similar to prayer in that anyone can do it. Also there are numerous texts such as the Lotus Sutra which assist in how to meditate.

Commentary

This is a well argued response that easily reaches level 5. A secure level 6 answer might have given more in the way of arguments in agreement with the statement because as it stands there is just sufficient here. Maybe a conclusion would add something to the argument. Although not necessary for level 6 to be awarded, any conclusion should take the argument further in some way.

(5 marks)

A2 Worship and Festivals

- (a) Describe **two** ways in which a Buddhist might worship in a temple. (2 marks)
 - 1. Charity: Many Buddhists chant "Buddha, Dharma, Sagha," before meditation. Or in Tibet "Lama, Dharma, Sagha"
 - 2. Kneeling and bowing to a statue of Buddha. This shows reverance to the Buddha and his teaching.

Commentary

Sound understanding is shown. The answer is fully focussed on two ways in which Buddhists might worship in a temple.

(2 marks)

(b) 'It is better to worship in a temple than at home.'

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

The Buddha rupa often found in temples offer senses a good way to focus the mind in order to meditate in Buddhism. However, these are also found in homes. At Buddhist temples at selected times a spiritual leader or Arhat may provide guidance making worship easier and more focused. However, people are often more comfortable at home and there are less people in general there, and therefore less of a distraction. There is no requirement to go to the temple to meditate and so in that respect it isn't better.

Commentary

The points made by the candidate mostly focus on agreeing with the statement and to that end because there is only a minor reference towards the end of the responses suggesting an alternative view, the candidate scores a level 4. That said, the response the candidate gives in agreeing with the statement is very good.

(4 marks)

(c) 'Wesak has little importance for Buddhists.'

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

Wesak as a Buddhist festival has great importance for some Buddhists, most active and involved in the festivities are the lay sangha as in the Vinaya Pitaka monastics are forbidden from things like dancing and eating past noon. Wesak is a time for a more communal reverence to the triple gem of Buddha Dharma and Sangha and a time to unite Buddhists in the common aims of Wesak.

Commentary

Lack of development with this response on Wesak means the mark awarded is limited to level 3. It is too generalised but in part, well argued. The candidate might have commented on the fact that the festival recalls the Buddha's birth, enlightenment and death so remembers key moments for reflection in the Buddha's life. On the other hand it could be said that the celebration or remembrance of these events are less significant to a Buddhist when compared with the central practice of meditation or following the Buddhist dhamma (dharma).

A3 The Life of the Buddha and the Four Noble Truths

(a) Explain the importance of the four signs that the Buddha saw when he was a young man. *(4 marks)*

The Buddha saw; an old man, a sick man, a dead man and a holy man. This was the Buddha's first real, exposure to Dukkha and the suffering of the world. It encourged him to become ascetic for 6 years before becomming enlightened and taking the middle way (Magga). The 4 noble truths are often seen as the diagnosis and are for suffering. The Buddha saw Dukkha in the four signs, without the diagnosis of the world and realization that (as the first noble truth says) there is suffering, then there can be no cure and therefore there would have been no buddhist teachings.

Commentary

An excellent response here well deserving of full marks. The candidate states the four signs but clearly exemplifies their meaning and significance to Buddhists. Implicit reference to the Buddha seen as a 'good doctor for all the ills of the world' is good knowledge.

(4 marks)

- (b) Give the Four Noble Truths. (4 marks)
 - 1. There is suffering
 - 2. The origin of suffering are the three fires
 - 3. Suffering can be ended
 - 4. The path to the cessation of suffering.

Commentary

Accurate and exact.

(4 marks)

(c) 'Buddhism is a miserable religion because it focuses so much on suffering.'

What do you think? Exlain your opinion. (3 marks)

It is true that the three marks of existence, 4 noble truths and 8 fold paths all focus on suffering. However, the over-all intention of Buddhism is to escape the akusala of greed, hatred and delusion. In this respect it is a very optimistic religion concerned with enlightenment and Nirvana, defined apophatically as a place with no suffering.

Commentary

Good reference to some of the Buddha's main teachings that are relevant to this statement but the response also gives a well constructed alternative view to the statement posed.

A4 The Sangha

(a) Describe the ordination (initiation) ceremony for monks and nuns. (3 marks)

After months or even years training, in a ceremony monks and nuns are ordained. In Thailand they receive the famous saffron robes. They also undertake the rules of the maga to their level. (either Bhikkhu or Bhikkhuni). They may be blessed by the leader of the monestery to which they are associated before chanting and meditation.

Commentary

Well written description of the ordination ceremony with reference to a predominantly Buddhist country (not required but a useful addition). Mention of training, robes, rules and blessing are enough to secure the marks though the candidate could have gone on to suggest additional things that happen such as precept taking and the vows of celibacy, poverty and inoffensiveness.

(3 marks)

(b) 'Men and women are treated equally in Buddhism.'

What do you think? Explain your opinion. (3 marks)

I feel this depends on which part of Buddhism the quote refers. In Theravada monastric tradition men and women are treated differently with men higher in the hierarchy and women with more rules to follow.

However, in Zen both male and female monastics may marry and in Mahayana Buddhism, anyone can take the Bodhisattva path, regardless of stance in the sangha, age or gender.

Commentary

This response just misses out on full marks as it is limited, referring only to monastics. Lay people need mentioning for full marks.

(2 marks)

(c) Explain how lay Buddhists help to support the Sangha. *(6 marks)*

Buddhists lay people help the sangha in a number of ways, firstly, because monastics can't handle money lay people often deal with the day to day running of monastic institutions. They also offer alms which the monastic community can use ranging from food, to razor blades.

Because monks don't have jobs which pay money they often need the donations of lay sangha in order to sustain monastic buildings etc in order that the monastics can continue in their pursuit.

Just because Buddhists are members of the laity does not mean they can't instruct members of the monastics sangha in aspects of the religion, such as Zen flower arranging or painting.

Commentary

A very full and coherent response which includes mention of the additional precepts for monks and nuns and how they cannot handle money in Theravada Buddhism but the candidate, having started well goes on into an evaluative style of response which is not required in this descriptive orientated question hence achieving 5/6 marks.

(5 marks)

PART B

B5 Global Issues

(a) Explain Buddhist attitudes to racial and religious prejudice. (6 marks)

Buddhist attitudes to racial and religious prejudice is very clear. Buddhists should "accept all paths" according to famous leader Dogen. Whilst Buddhism is a missionary religion it is not forceful in this approach. There have been no religious wars in the past relating to Buddhism. Even when Tibetan Buddhism was forced from Tibet, the Dalai Lama and his followers were very passive. Tenzin Gyatso fled to India to avoid conflict. The Buddha said that "anyone with the right intention may tread the path of enlightenment." This seems to imply that there is a lack of prejudice in Buddhism. However there are tensions between the two sects of the religion. Mahayana branded Theravada "Hinayana" or "the lesser vehicle" around 2,100 years ago in 100 B.C.E. therefore we see the prejudices within Buddhism towards those of different religious practise.

Commentary

There is not quite sufficient detail or coherence for level 6, though it is a sound level 5. The second sentence with reference to Dogen in Zen Buddhism shows a candidate who has branched out and read widely. The third sentence is good to include a reference to Buddhism as a missionary religion though it does not force its views on others. Reference to the Buddha's teachings such as the Eightfold Path would have helped to have enhanced the breadth of what the candidate offers as well as the law of kamma (karma) perhaps. So although a good response, just not enough to warrant the awarding of full marks here.

(5 marks)

(b) 'For Buddhists, animals should be just as important as humans.'

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

There is no doubt that in Buddhism there is a great respect for life as a test and a way to be reborn in a higher realm. Hurting animals leads to Karmic effect which can be negative for humans. In the 5 precepts the precept to "observe the precept to obstain from taking life", applies to all "forms of life" from trees to animals to humans". However humans are catergorised as bringing more karmic effect. Also the virtousness of the being killed is taken into account. As humans are in a higher realm than animals it can be assumed they are more virtuous.

All Buddhists are vegetarian at the monastic level and a majority of the laity too. This shows a great respect for animals.

In the 8 fold path it speaks of "Samma Ajiva" or "right livelihood". Included in this is a life that respects other life in all forms. Hurting or killing even the smallest animal, especially with intention warrants unfavourable karmic effect and as Buddhists try to eliminate karmic effect as enlightened beings, (which they strive to be) then all life should be treated with equally high respect.

Commentary

Another mature response that 'flows' from start to end. A good evaluation style shows a balanced and authoritative approach with an excellent reference to the 5 moral precepts in Buddhism as well as kamma (karma). Vegetarianism and the ways Buddhists generally should live their lives all amount to a varied but nonetheless relevant evaluation response that deserves full marks.

(6 marks)

(c) Explain two ways in which Buddhists might show respect and concern for the poor. *(6 marks)*

The first way Buddhists may show concern for the poor is through charitable offerings. This can be through food, drink or money. All monastic Buddhists are essentially poor as the monestary takes all their monetary wealth upon being ordained and so they depend upon the donations and alms given by the lay sangha. In return for these skillful actions the laity receive merit and can be taught by the monastic sangha.

The second way Buddhists show respect and concern for the poor can be through accepting them in to monastic life, or into the monestery. In Thailand it is traditional that people who help run monesteries (serving meals and handling money) are often very poor and so the monastics act compassionately in offering them a job, food, and shelter. Whilst at the monestary, the educated monks and nuns can often spend time, in their compassion. Teaching the poor philosophy or language in order that they can find a vocation.

Commentary

There is not quite sufficient detail or coherence for level 6, though it is a sound level 5. Charity and noting monastic poverty are all credit worthy points made by the candidate and there is a good connection made with Thailand. Compassion and loving kindness (karuna and metta) are certainly relevant in how Buddhists should respond to the poor in society. More could have been made of the Buddhist ideal of ridding oneself of greed as a good starting point for Buddhist ethics on the poor in society.

(5 marks)

(d) 'You cannot live in today's world and avoid greed and desire.'

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

One of the three fives is "greed" or "desire" as it is sometimes called. The Buddha said that if you are successful in exstinguishing this tanha then you will become enlightened. However we live in a deeply greedy, often capitalist society where there desire for money isn't frowned upon, really it's encouraged. Even if we try to detach ourselves from greed somethings we simpy cannot not chose. Take for example food, this is beyond our mental strength as our body tells us we are hungry and desires food. Tenzin Gyatso however said that the enlightened being may wish for food, but "in the same sense not desire it at all". The enlightened mind has control over the body and is beyond the body. Also many Buddhists deliberately live away from the distractions of "todays world". In 2010 there are forests dwelling monks who don't have human contact for up to 6 months at a time. They have many desires and greeds associated with most people for food or sex for example.

Some critics of this view-point have emphasised the desire for enlightenment as a clear example of greed but most Buddhist discount this as an exception with no karmic effect.

Commentary

An excellent response that fulfils all the criteria for level 6. A balanced evaluative response here with plenty of evidence to support both sides of the argument. The response particularly benefits by referring to monastics who see bad karmic effects emanating from greed. (6 marks)

Quality of Written Communication

The standard of spelling, punctuation and grammar is high in the 6 mark evaluation responses and the meaning is clear.

Script 2

PART A

A1 Personal Duties

(a) Describe **one** method of Buddhist meditation (2 marks)

Samatha, or breathing meditation, focuses on the breathing of the subjects. A relaxed state and greater self awareness can be attained by merely sitting quietly and counting the breaths in and out. " Inhale, exhale, Inhale, ah."

Commentary

A sound answer with good description.

(2 marks)

(b) Explain why Buddhists meditate. *(3 marks)*

For buddhist practicioners meditation has its roots as a training on the eight fold path and contains both the perfecting of understanding and thought. They believe that meditation can reveal universal truths hidden from those consumed with the normal frantic life. The Buddha's meditation for 40 days and nights lead to his enlightenment and Buddhists wish to follow.

Commentary

This answer fulfils the criteria for level 3, referring to the Eightfold Path and truth in Buddhism and a reference to the Buddha's own meditation is certainly credit worthy.

(3 marks)

(c) 'Meditation is too difficult for most Buddhists.'

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

Meditation need not be an hour long undertaking, 5 minutes each day could prove useful and satisfactory to some. Similarly it need not be sitting eyes closed, mind empty. For example contemplating an unanswerable riddle or ko'an, making use of Kasinas, coloured shapes, and all of the Zen arts such as painting, flower arranging and tea parties, are forms of meditation. Buddhism is a highly adaptive religion and so it follows that meditation can be adapted to comply with the requirements and tastes of any practitioner. If one method proves too "difficult" another may take its place, nobody need have a problem.

Commentary

This clearly makes level 4. The problem with the answer is that it is one sided agreeing with the statement but not offering alternative views. The agreement with the statement is very well written with some good examples and reference points offered exemplifying how differing techniques and styles can be adapted to suit the practitioner. The candidate offers a number of descriptive examples of meditation techniques and implicitly implies that meditation is accessible for Buddhists but the response needed alternative views for further credit.

(4 marks)

A2 Worship and Festivals

(a) Describe **two** ways in which a Buddhist might worship in a temple. (2 marks)

1.For its first 500 years Buddhism was exclusively oral and therefore chanting is still an important part of worship for many sects.2.Meditation is the most common buddhist worship technique and this is often practised as a group activity within a temple.

Commentary

Both responses are accurate and credit worthy.

(2 marks)

(b) 'It is better to worship in a temple than at home.'

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

Sometimes the benefits of worshipping in a temple can be very appealing to worshippers. The surroundings may contain inspiring religious stimuli such as images or artifacts. Also, as a social species, the benefits of meeting like minded individuals can strengthen religious conviction. However, Buddhism focuses on a very personal journey and sometimes, by distancing oneself from a temple setting, one can return to this quest unhindered and in the comfortable surroundings of home. To attain enlightenment the Buddha left his home but never made use of a temple.

Commentary

There is plenty of credit worthy material here and a good balance between the benefits of worshipping in a temple compared with the benefits of worshipping elsewhere but in the argument against the statement there is really only one major point offered and no breadth in the response of reasoning why worshipping at home may be beneficial. Perhaps the candidate could have gone on to say that shrines can be set up at home; traditions in Buddhism can seem to suggest that 'treading the path alone' is the best route available to reach enlightenment etc.

(5 marks)

(c) 'Wesak has little importance for Buddhists.'

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

Wesak can peform the same tasks that a temple is also useful for. The focus on Buddhism that is prompted personally coupled with the sharing of this amongst peers can do much to strengthen religious conviction. Also events themselves can strengthen a Buddhist community with increased temple visits, increased interaction between monastics and the laity, and the renewing of vows. Many Buddhists see wesak as a time to pursure enactment of the 5 precepts with renewed vigour.

Commentary

A much generalised response with some good points made though these could have been offered on any festival and any aspect of worship. For marks above level three the candidate needs to make specific references to the actual festival of Wesak itself. For example there is nothing about what Buddhists actually do at Wesak which may be regarded as significant or important.

A3 The Life of the Buddha and the Four Noble Truths

(a) Explain the importance of the four signs that the Buddha saw when he was a young man. *(4 marks)*

The Buddha was a sheltered young man, his father deliberately removing all contact with anything negative or religious. Therefore imagine the impact that sickness, old age, death and worship had on Siddartha when Channa lead him through the streets for the first time. It is quite obvious how concepts such as Dukkha and annica, suffering and impermanence, thus became such an integral part of his thinking.

Commentary

Full marks are gained for a very full and accurate response. Reference to dukkha and anicca shows good use of technical terminology alongside a clear reasoning as to how the Four Signs the Buddha saw would have lead to the type of teachings he gave.

(4 marks)

- (b) Give the Four Noble Truths. (4 marks)
 - 5. Dukkha or suffering. We constantly suffer be it hidden or obvious to us.
 - 6. Samadaya or the causes of suffering. These can be various but all link to the 3 poisons
 - 7. Nirodha or the cessation of suffering. The message that suffering can be ended.
 - 8. Magga or the means to this end. This is the eightfold path which when followed, will lead to the ending of suffering.

Commentary

Excellent knowledge displayed here by the candidate. Not just the explanations but the pali words for each of the Noble truths given too.

(4 marks)

(c) 'Buddhism is a miserable religion because it focuses so much on suffering.'

What do you think? Explain your opinion. (3 marks)

Suffering is an integral part of everything that lives "survival of the fittest" is a good example of this, therefore Buddhism is more realistic than "miserable". Whilst many religions focus on death and an afterlife, Buddhism focuses on this life and the good which we can strive to attain within it. In my eyes this is a much more positive message then the 'wait until you die' approach.

Commentary

The candidate talks of realism in the Buddha's teaching and it is well structured with ideas developed maturely.

A4 The Sangha

(a) Describe the ordination (initiation) ceremony for monks and nuns. (3 marks)

After a trial period within a community many individuals may wish to become initiated into the monastic society. Vows are taken upon the 3 refuges, these are later often recited for strengthening the vows, clothes are disguarded for the robes of that particular sect and posessions are given up for essentials such as the alms bowls.

Commentary

Vows, robes and possessions are mentioned in a developed response but for full marks the candidate needed to say something of the actual rudiments of the ceremony maybe including shaving of the head, the blessings and accepting the three refuges as your guide.

(3 marks)

(b) 'Men and women are treated equally in Buddhism.'

What do you think? Explain your opinion. (3 marks)

The Buddha was keen to strike up an equality between Men and women within his sangha and as a result monks, and nuns coexsist today commonly in monastries. However there are differences between the two sexes and these manifest themselves in certain Buddhist ways. For example nuns have more rules and a longer initiation period. Therefore sexual equality is near though not absolute within the sangha.

Commentary

Sufficient justification to merit two out of three marks here but the candidate needed to link today into the response as currently it just focuses on when the Buddha set up the Sangha. References about the treatment of women in Buddhism, Buddhist leaders who are women today both in the monastic setting and as world leaders could have helped to enhance the overall response.

(2 marks)

(c) Explain how lay Buddhists help to support the Sangha. (6 marks)

The relationship between the laity and the monastic community mirrors a natural symbiotic relationship, each party being dependent on the other. For their part the lay buddhists community provides for the material needs of the sangha for example providing alms, food, enough for their survival as well as clothing and donations the laity can help to build temples and run a monastery. The laity also work within a monastery especially as a modern monastery in which funding and financial management may prove crucial but be unbefitting of a sangha member. The laity essentially form the crucial buffer between the monastic society and the outside world.

Commentary

This merits level 6 for the detail contained in the response, but its structure suggests maturity and a very good command of the material. There are plenty of reference points such as donations and what type these might be as well as the work undertaken by many lay Buddhists in the monastery and how the lay community can provide a link with the outside world are all credit worthy points made.

(6 marks)

PART B

B5 Global Issues

(a) Explain Buddhist attitudes to racial and religious prejudice. (6 marks)

The Buddha wanted his message to be spread across the world, adapted where difficulty was found, to reach every race on earth. He lived at a prosperous time in India in which trading routes would have no doubt brought him contact with many races and religious convictions, all of which he showed respect. Buddhists are none violent but this does not mean that they will not stand up for their beliefs. Famously communism has found reason to defy the religion and as a result it has been banned in both China and Vietnam at times. None violent protest has resulted in violence being shown to them but Buddhism remains a religion proud in its views on racial and religious coexsistence.

Commentary

There is considerable relevance in this response. Non violence and reference to current affairs show a good level of maturity and a pleasing command of material with the foresight to mention the situation at the time of the Buddha too. Perhaps a little more could have been said for full marks on some particular Buddhist teachings such as eliminating the six delusions from your life and how ignorance in particular can lead to prejudice. Teachings of the Eightfold Path on Right Speech and Right Action could have been detailed to earn additional credit.

(5 marks)

(b) 'For Buddhists, animals should be just as important as humans.'

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

The wheel of Samsara, with its stages of life based on the concept of karma, places the animal kingdom below that of humans. This then would appear to show an obvious hierarchy in the system. However, if you are to believe in the wheel of samsara and all that entails, then surely it could be used as proof in the opposite direction. If your mother, husband or best friend could realistically now be a worm, then would you not want to show said worm as much respect as any human? For the Buddha, humans can become animals, animals can become humans and therefore the two, as living organisms, deserve equal respect.

Commentary

Although there is some good development of points made the response comes across as quite generalised and is, therefore, awarded level 4. The first precept could have been discussed as this involves non harm to all creatures and the fact that many Buddhists are vegetarian could have been included. Equally, the candidate could have argued that some monks eat meat, indeed whatever is offered as if they refused they would be breaking the vow of inoffensiveness. Karuna and metta only really relate for some Buddhists to humans not animals.

(4 marks)

(c) Explain two ways in which Buddhists might show respect and concern for the poor. *(6 marks)*

Buddhists are a charitable bunch and as a result the poor can expect fair treatment at their hands. If you think about it, few are poorer than the sangha and these are provided for by generous donations from the laity. Food and clothing are given but also the poor are seen as equal to the rich in buddhism and will be treated with the respect due to any other human being. Buddhism can not only materially aid the poor but also spiritually enable them via teaching and the passing on of the Buddhuist faith.

Commentary

There is some reference to the monastic life and how they have to rely on donations but it is considerably underdeveloped and the response seems to end abruptly with little note made of campaigning and ridding oneself of greed, hatred and desire. The response seems too short and lacking in depth to gain more than level three marks.

(3 marks)

(d) 'You cannot live in today's world and avoid greed and desire.'

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

Certainly in the wake of a banking fiasco, enabled by unbelievable greed and desire, and in a world were "sex sells", it would appear that greed and desire are unavoidable. We're a capitalist world and capitalism is greed. More importantly however we're in a globally communicatable world in which the acceptance of greed and desire is quickly spread faster than any disease. Nowhere can possibly be free of its oppression? It would be easy to believe so but there are refuges from its effects and they're commonly known as the Buddha, Sangha and Dharma or the three refuges. The largely uncorrupted environment of a Buddhist monastery is the perfect place for preparing the space that will be free of greed and desire, the mind. With proper practise of the Buddhist path, freedom from both can be attained and thus you can exsist in the modern world, unbothered by the negative forces it champions.

Commentary

The answer fulfils the level 5 criteria but lacks the additional discussion and depth required for level 6. There is a very mature and forthright start to the response and much more could have been made of the lack of corruption with many monks seemingly just following a path to enlightenment and not at all consumed by greed. Reference could have been much more detailed about the spiritual side to life and how faith in the path and what it will lead to supersedes all monetary possessions.

(5 marks)

Quality of Written Communication

The standard of spelling, punctuation and grammar is high in the 6 mark evaluation responses and the meaning is clear.