

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

Additional Specimen Questions:

Unit 2 *Religion and Life Issues*

- Religion and Planet Earth



There are 18 marks for each question.

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## 2 Religion and Planet Earth

Look at the drawing, below.



- (a) Explain what is meant by global warming. *(2 marks)*
- (b) Explain **two** reasons why many religious believers are concerned about climate change. *(4 marks)*
- (c) 'Planet Earth is God's world.'
- What do you think? Explain your opinion. *(3 marks)*
- (d) Explain actions religious people might take to look after the planet. *(3 marks)*
- (e) 'It's more important to enjoy life than to worry about using up the world's resources.'
- 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 B*

**Unit 2**      *Religion and Life Issues*

**Additional SPECIMEN Mark Scheme**  
**Religion and Planet Earth**

*June series*

## 2 Religion and Planet Earth

- 2 (a) Explain what is meant by global warming.

**Target: Understanding of the term global warming**

The scientific concept that the world is getting warmer / because of the build up of greenhouses gases in the atmosphere.

Credit examples, e.g. melting of ice caps, increase in CO<sub>2</sub> in atmosphere because of emissions from cars, etc.

**(2 marks) AO1**

- 2 (b) Explain two reasons why many religious believers are concerned about climate change.

**Target: Understanding of why religious believers are concerned about the effects of climate change**

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:

The effects of climate change on life, e.g. loss of life, food shortages, devastation of livelihoods because of severe weather, droughts, floods, famine, destruction of crops, effects on plants and animals / long term effects / religious reasons – stewardship, dominion, responsibility, etc.

**(4 marks) AO1**

**2 (c) 'Planet Earth is God's world.'**

**What do you think? Explain your opinion.**

**Target: Evaluation of whether or not the world belongs to God**

<b>Levels</b>	<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Marks</b>
<b>0</b>	Unsupported opinion or no relevant evaluation.	0 marks
<b>Level 1</b>	Opinion supported by simple reason.	1 mark
<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.	3 marks

Candidates may include some of the following points:

God / Allah created the world – religious beliefs about the origins of life / wasn't an accident but was designed / belongs to God / God is in all sentient life / idea of awe and wonder / reference to sacred writings.

God might not exist / where is the evidence that the world belongs to God / caused by the Big Bang – an accident / humans rule the world – so it belongs to us / God is in heaven (paradise).

**(3 marks) AO2**

**3 (d) Explain actions religious people might take to look after the planet.**

**Target: Understanding of how religious people could help to protect the planet**

<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:

Avoid polluting the world / recycle / reduce carbon footprint – reduce use of car, use renewable energy, turn off lights, use energy saving bulbs / encourage sustainable development / plant trees / protest when necessary / join action groups such as Greenpeace and religious organisations which raise awareness / encourage others to protect the planet, etc.

**(3 marks) AO1**

**3 (e) 'It's more important to enjoy life than to worry about using up the world's resources.'**

**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 importance of enjoyment and the world's resources**

Levels	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**

Life is too short / only live once / cannot be thinking of the future all the time / won't affect me / need to have a good time / other resources will be found / God gave humans dominion, so we can do what we want / Hindu aim in life – Kama.

**Other views**

Not necessary mutually exclusive / need to be concerned for future generations / natural resources will run out, e.g. oil / needs careful managing – idea of good stewardship / khalifahs (guardians) / Genesis 1 – put in charge to look after the world / interdependence of everything / responsible to God / selfishness affects others / Golden Rule (in all religions) / karma / reincarnation / seeking too much pleasure – craving results in suffering.

**(6 marks) AO2**