

Teacher Resource Bank

GCSE Religious Studies (Specification B)

Additional Specimen Questions:

Unit 6 *Worship and Key Beliefs*

- Pilgrimage



There are 18 marks for each question.

3 Pilgrimage

Look at what Joseph says below.



- (a) Describe a place of pilgrimage in **each of the two religions** that you have studied. (6 marks)
- (b) Explain why religious people go on pilgrimage. (3 marks)
- (c) 'Going on pilgrimage is just like going on holiday.'
- What do you think? Explain your opinion. (3 marks)
- (d) 'The experience a pilgrim has is the most important thing about a pilgrimage; you can have this anywhere so the place itself is not important.'

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 6 *Worship and Key Beliefs*

Additional SPECIMEN Mark Scheme
Pilgrimage

June series

3 Pilgrimage

- 3 (a) Describe a place of pilgrimage in each of the two religions that you have studied.

Target: Knowledge of a place of pilgrimage

Mark each religion out of 3 marks.

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:

Buddhism	Birth place of the Buddha at Lumbini – pool and two temples in a remote setting / Bodhi tree where Buddha was enlightened at Bodhi Gaya – Mahabodhi Temple with 59 metre tower and image of the Buddha, many pilgrims in various coloured robes / temple of Buddha’s final Nirvana (death) at Kushinara – monasteries, huge burial mound, ruins of ancient stupas / other sites may be described.
Christianity	Birth place of Jesus at Bethlehem – Church of the Nativity over small cave marked with a star, Manger Square / sites of Jesus’ passion, death and crucifixion in Jerusalem – Mount of Olives, Via Dolorosa, Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Garden Tomb / St Peter’s in Rome and the great square where the Pope addresses pilgrims from a balcony of the Vatican / the Grotto of the Holy Virgin at Lourdes with its cave and miraculous spring – sick pilgrims arriving in wheelchairs and ambulances.
Hinduism	The city of Varanasi on the River Ganges where Shiva is said to have lived – the many temples, cremation sites, pilgrims / Riskikesh and Hardwar at the head of the Ganges with many ashrams and teaching centres / Prayag or Allahabad where the Rivers Ganges and Jumna meet – millions of pilgrims at Kumbh Mela / Mathura or Vrindabhan where Krishna was born – pilgrim route around the city.
Islam	Sites of the Hajj – the Ka-aba in Makkah, as-Safa and al-Marwa associated with Hagar and Ishmael, the plain of Arafat and Mount of Mercy, Mina and the three stone pillars associated with the prophet Ibrahim (Abraham) / the mosque and tomb of Muhammad in Madinah / the Dome of the Rock (where Muhammad’s footprint is preserved at the point where he ascended to Paradise in his ‘night journey’) and al-Aqsa mosques on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem.

Judaism Israel itself and Jerusalem in particular / the memorial to victims of the Holocaust and 'righteous Gentiles' at Yad Vashem / the Western Wall (last remaining wall of the temple) where thousands of pilgrims pray.

Sikhism The Golden Temple in Amritsar with its tank (pool) / causeway / domed temple and takht (throne) for the Guru Granth Sahib, the other four Takhts, e.g. at Kartapur associated with Guru Nanak and at Goindwal associated with Guru Amar Das.

Award a maximum of two marks for naming places of pilgrimage.

(6 marks) AO1

3 (b) Explain why religious people go on pilgrimage.

Target: Understanding of the reasons for pilgrimage

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:

See an important place in the history of their religion / experience being close to God / experience being united with other believers / receive healing or other help / receive forgiveness / earn merit / achieve good karma / demonstrate sacrifice and effort / commanded by the religion / make a fresh start in their spiritual 'pilgrimage'.

Award one mark per reason, up to a maximum of two, with further marks for explanation and development.

(3 marks) AO1

3 (c) 'Going on pilgrimage is just like going on holiday.'

What do you think? Explain your opinion.

Target: Personal opinion regarding the value of pilgrimage

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

Candidates may include some of the following points:

Pilgrimage is not a religious duty in some religions / involves site-seeing and learning about history / pilgrims return relaxed and with a new perspective on life.

Benefit of going on a pilgrimage is greater than a holiday / possibility of a religious experience or a miracle / effect of meeting others from the same religion / inspiration from visiting a place linked with a revered figure.

Credit any idea which is appropriate.

(3 marks) AO2

- (d) 'The experience a pilgrim has is the most important thing about a pilgrimage; you can have this anywhere so the place itself is not important.'

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 claim that the experience of pilgrimage is more important than the place where pilgrims go

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

You can still receive forgiveness or a healing without being in a special place / Christians say anyone can have a religious experience without going somewhere else to find it / if meeting other believers is important to a person, then he / she can do that in any place of worship without going on pilgrimage / all this adds up to the conclusion that one can have the same experience as pilgrims have, but without going on a pilgrimage.

Other views

The pilgrimage place is the most important thing about pilgrimage because that is why people go / the history of a place and its association with a holy person is what makes it special and attracts pilgrims to it / without this connection with the past you would not have the full pilgrimage experience / in Buddhism / Hinduism earning merit or good karma is the main motivation for going on pilgrimage / but this depends on going to a special place, so this shows the statement is wrong.

(6 marks) AO2