



**General Certificate of Secondary Education
2012**

Religious Studies

Paper 2(a)

**The Christian Church with a
focus on the Catholic Church**

[GRS21]

TUESDAY 15 MAY, AFTERNOON

MARK SCHEME

General Marking Instructions and Mark Grids

Introduction

Mark schemes are intended to ensure that the GCSE examination is marked consistently and fairly. The mark schemes provide markers with an indication of the nature and range of candidates' responses likely to be worthy of credit. They also set out the criteria that they should apply in allocating marks to candidates' responses. The mark schemes should be read in conjunction with these marking instructions.

Assessment objectives

Below are the assessment objectives for GCSE Religious Studies.

Candidates must:

- describe, explain and analyse, using knowledge and understanding (AO1); and
- use evidence and reasoned argument to express and evaluate personal responses, informed insights and differing viewpoints (AO2).

AO1 and AO2 are interrelated and connections must be made.

Quality of candidates' responses

In marking the examination papers, examiners should be looking for a quality response reflecting the level of maturity which may reasonably be expected of a 16-year-old which is the age at which the majority of candidates sit their GCSE examinations.

Flexibility in marking

Mark schemes are not intended to be totally prescriptive. No mark scheme can cover all the responses which candidates may produce. In the event of unanticipated answers, examiners are expected to use their professional judgement to assess the validity of answers. If an answer is particularly problematic, then examiners should seek the guidance of the Supervising Examiner.

Positive marking

Examiners must be positive in their marking, giving appropriate credit for description, explanation and analysis, using knowledge and understanding and for the appropriate use of evidence and reasoned argument to express and evaluate personal responses, informed insights and differing viewpoints. Examiners should make use of the whole of the available mark range of any particular question and be prepared to award full marks for a response which is as good as might reasonably be expected of a 16-year-old GCSE candidate.

Awarding zero marks

Marks should only be awarded for valid responses and no marks should be awarded for an answer which is completely incorrect or inappropriate.

Types of mark scheme

Mark schemes for questions which require candidates to respond in extended written form are marked on the basis of levels of response which take account of the quality of written communication.

Other questions which require only short answers are marked on a point for point basis with marks awarded for each valid piece of information provided.

Levels of response

Questions requiring candidates to respond in extended writing are marked in terms of levels of response. In deciding which level of response to award, examiners should look for the “best fit” bearing in mind that weakness in one area may be compensated for by strength in another. In deciding which mark within a particular level to award to any response, examiners are expected to use their professional judgement. The following guidance is provided to assist examiners.

- **Threshold performance:** Response which just merits inclusion in the level and should be awarded a mark at or near the bottom of the range.
- **Intermediate performance:** Response which clearly merits inclusion and should be awarded a mark at or near the middle of the range.
- **High performance:** Response which fully satisfies the level description and should be awarded a mark at or near the top of the range.

Quality of written communication

Quality of written communication is taken into account in assessing candidates’ responses to all tasks and questions that require them to respond in extended written form. These tasks and questions are marked on the basis of levels of response. The description for each level of response includes reference to the quality of written communication. Where the quality of content is not matched by the quality of written communication, marks awarded will not exceed maximum for Level 2.

For conciseness, quality of written communication is distinguished within levels of response as follows:

Level 1: Quality of written response is limited.

Level 2: Quality of written response is satisfactory.

Level 3: Quality of written response is of a high standard.

In interpreting these level descriptions, examiners should refer to the more detailed guidance provided below:

AO1: [5] marks

A [0] mark will be awarded if the answer is inappropriate.

Level 1 (Limited) ([1])

The candidate gives a basic answer with limited description, explanation and analysis using little knowledge and understanding. There is only a limited selection and use of an appropriate form and style of writing. The organisation of material may lack clarity and coherence. There is little use of specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar may be such that intended meaning is not clear.

Level 2 (Satisfactory) ([2]–[3])

The candidate gives a satisfactory answer with appropriate description, explanation and analysis using some knowledge and understanding. There is a reasonable selection and use of an appropriate form of style and writing. Relevant material is organised with some clarity and coherence. There is some use of appropriate specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently competent to make meaning clear.

Level 3 (High) ([4]–[5])

The candidate gives a competent answer with very good description, explanation and analysis using knowledge and understanding throughout. The candidate successfully selects and uses an appropriate form and style of writing. Relevant material is organised with a high degree of clarity and coherence. There is widespread use of appropriate specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar are of a consistently high standard to make meaning clear.

AO2: [5] marks

A [0] mark will be awarded if the answer is inappropriate.

Level 1 (Limited) ([1])

The candidate uses a basic selection of evidence and gives limited reasoned arguments to express and evaluate personal responses, informed insights and differing viewpoints. There is a limited selection and use of an appropriate form and style of writing. The organisation of material may lack clarity and coherence. There is little use of specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar may be such that intended meaning is not clear.

Level 2 (Satisfactory) ([2]–[3])

The candidate uses a satisfactory selection of evidence and gives good reasoned arguments to express and evaluate personal responses, informed insights and differing viewpoints. There is a reasonable selection and use of an appropriate form and style of writing. Relevant material is organised with some clarity and coherence. There is some use of appropriate specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently competent to make meaning clear.

Level 3 (High) ([4]–[5])

The candidate uses a very good selection of evidence and gives well formed and reasoned arguments to express and evaluate personal responses, informed insights and differing viewpoints. The candidate successfully selects and uses an appropriate form and style of writing. Relevant material is organised with a high degree of clarity and coherence. There is widespread use of appropriate specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar are of a consistently high standard to make meaning clear.

AO2: [10] marks

A [0] mark will be awarded if the answer is inappropriate.

Level 1 (Limited) ([1]–[3])

The candidate uses a basic selection of evidence and gives limited reasoned arguments to express and evaluate personal responses, informed insights and differing viewpoints. There is a limited selection and use of an appropriate form and style of writing. The organisation of material may lack clarity and coherence. There is little use of specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar may be such that intended meaning is not clear.

Level 2 (Satisfactory) ([4]–[7])

The candidate uses a satisfactory selection of evidence and gives good reasoned arguments to express and evaluate personal responses, informed insights and differing viewpoints. There is a reasonable selection and use of an appropriate form and style of writing. Relevant material is organised with some clarity and coherence. There is some use of appropriate specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently competent to make meaning clear.

Level 3 (High) ([8]–[10])

The candidate uses a very good selection of evidence and gives well formed and reasoned arguments to express and evaluate personal responses, informed insights and differing viewpoints. The candidate successfully selects and uses of an appropriate form and style of writing. Relevant material is organised with a high degree of clarity and coherence. There is widespread use of appropriate specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar are of a consistently high standard to make meaning clear.

Section A

AVAILABLE
MARKS

Answer **all** questions.

1 Church Buildings

- (a) (i) The sermon/homily is preached from here.
(AO1) [1]
- (ii) Bread and wine are placed here.
(AO1) [1]
- (iii) People confess their sins.
(AO1) [1]
- (iv) Consecrated bread is kept here.
(AO1) [1]
- (v) Used for baptisms.
(AO1) [1]
- (b) Answers may include:
- a church is a place where Catholics feel close to God
 - to attend weekly/daily Mass
 - to meet fellow worshippers
 - for many Catholics the church building is where they feel safe
 - Catholics pray here.
- Accept valid alternatives
Mark in levels
(AO1) [5]
- (c) Answers may include:
- many churches cannot accommodate up-to-date technology, e.g. powerpoints, modern music groups
 - some church buildings were built many centuries ago and have uncomfortable seating, therefore making Mass less enjoyable.
- On the other hand:
- the church buildings reflect the beliefs of the church and therefore should not be changed
 - older church buildings have been able to accommodate worshippers for years so why change them now?
- Accept valid alternatives
Mark in levels
(AO2) [5]

15

2 Worship

(a) (i) Any two of the following:

- Our Father
- Hail Mary
- Glory Be
- Hail Holy Queen (Salve Regina)
- Creed

(AO1)

[2]

(ii) Joyful, Sorrowful and Glorious Mysteries.

(AO1)

[3]

(b) Answers may include:

- many young people don't understand what that Priest is talking about in the homily/sermon
- the readings are too old and therefore are not relevant to life today
- very few young people take part in the ceremony
- music/hymns can be seen as out-of-date
- very little modern technology is used during the Mass.

On the other hand:

- many churches do use modern music/hymns, e.g. folk groups
- more young people are taking an active role in the mass, e.g. through the John Paul II Award
- special youth Masses are held throughout the year
- many Priests try to accommodate all age groups in their services.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[10]

15

3 Sacraments of Initiation

(a) Answers may include:

- confirmation takes place during the Mass after the homily
- presentation of the candidates
- renewal of Baptismal promises
- the laying on of hands
- anointing with chrism.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO1)

[5]

(b) Answers may include:

- confirmation is the fulfilment of Baptism
- the oil of chrism is used in both ceremonies
- at baptism the godparents and parents make promises on behalf of the child, at confirmation the young person makes these promises themselves
- presence of the Holy Spirit

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO1)

[5]

(c) Answers may include:

- the person will understand the sacrament more
- the person can make the choice for themselves
- the ceremony will be more meaningful.

On the other hand:

- the person may be too embarrassed to make his or her confirmation when they're older
- it has always been a tradition in the church to receive confirmation when you're at primary school

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[5]

15

4 Church Government

(a) Answers may include:

- the organisation and delivery of church services
- to carry out key ceremonies, e.g. baptism, confession, marriages, funerals
- to look after the spiritual needs of their parishioners
- pastoral care of their parishioners, e.g. visit the sick and housebound, help those in need
- to be involved in various committees, e.g. boards of governors.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO1)

[5]

(b) Answers may include:

- most church leaders do not engage in inappropriate behaviour and are good honest role models
- church leaders do try to connect with young people through youth groups, e.g. Boys and Girls Brigade
- church leaders follow the example of Jesus to help others in need and encourage young people to do the same
- some churches have salaried youth workers who relate well to young people.

On the other hand:

- recent revelations of clergy abuse towards children
- allegations of clergy misusing church funds
- young people see church leaders as being out of touch and too old to relate to.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[10]

15

Section A

60

Section B

AVAILABLE
MARKS

5 The Role of the Church in Contemporary Society

- (a) Mark in levels according to the knowledge and understanding shown about the chosen organisation, e.g. Corrymeela
Accept valid alternatives
Mark in levels
(AO1) [5]

- (b) Answers may include:
- community events can be held here, e.g. music festivals/concerts
 - setting up of community services to support groups for the elderly, homeless, mother and toddler, youth
 - may also employ members of the local community if the church building is a tourist attraction, (e.g. a famous person may be buried in the graveyard)
 - it could have a central geographical position in the community
 - religious benefits.
- Accept valid alternatives
Mark in levels
(AO1) [5]

- (c) Answers may include:
- church feels that it should concentrate on pastoral needs of people
 - it can be controversial and highlight splits on some issues between different denominations, e.g. abortion
 - sermon should concentrate on religiousness to build up Kingdom of God.

On the other hand:

- the church should highlight the moral teachings of the Bible and show how Christ's teaching applies to moral issues
- Old Testament prophets spoke out of moral issues involving justice and so should the church today
- Jesus commented on immoral behaviour, e.g. traders in Temple
- people today need guidance on moral issues and church should do this.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[10]

20

6 Sacrament of the Sick

(a) Answers may include:

- blessing with holy water
- confession
- readings
- prayers
- laying on of hands
- anointing
- final prayers

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO1)

[5]

(b) Answers may include:

- Jesus forgave the Paralyse man's sins and he was healed of his illness
- Jesus often laid hands on the sick
- the Letter of James mentions the use of holy oil, praying for the sick and forgiveness of sins
- many people share in the suffering of Jesus
- many people believe in the miracles of Jesus and that they too may be cured of their illness
- faith is important in order to be healed.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO1)

[5]

(c) Answers may include:

- Catholics must follow the teachings of Jesus and show concern for others
- Catholics can't receive all seven sacraments
- you can only celebrate some sacraments once, therefore all sacraments are not seen as equal in importance
- you can be a good person without going to mass.

On the other hand:

- celebrating the sacraments are central to Catholic belief
- each sacrament builds on the other
- sacraments are celebrated during the key stages of life thus emphasising their importance.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[10]

20

7 Church Festivals

(a) Answers may include:

- a period of 40 days to reflect on the time Jesus spent in wilderness and to prepare for his death and resurrection
- people fast and practice penance, as a time of self examination
- prayer at individual and corporate level with a focus on confession to be ready to celebrate his resurrection
- a focus on Bible Study – retracing the sacrifice Jesus made and what it means
- spiritual services during Holy Week to remember the key events leading up to Jesus' death and how it overcame sin.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO1)

[5]

(b) Answers may include:

- they remember important Christians who have led holy lives
- Saints are remembered for their good acts and examples
- Catholics believe that Saints are intercessors and therefore they can help in their act of prayer.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO1)

[5]

(c) Answers may include:

- Christmas has become more commercialised and some Christians have allowed themselves to be drawn into this
- children tend to associate Christmas more with Santa Claus rather than the birth of Jesus
- some people are more concerned with parties and presents
- shops have Christmas departments open from August
- Christmas cards contain cartoon characters rather than religious images
- some businesses have “banned” the giving of Christmas cards so as not to offend other religious groups.

On the other hand:

- you can still give presents and join in church celebrations as well
- schools and churches have nativity plays and carol services
- Christians are reminded of Jesus' poor background as they help others, e.g. appeals such as the Salvation Army, SVP and the Shoe Box appeal
- many Christians still send religious Christmas cards.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[10]

AVAILABLE
MARKS

20

Section B

40

Total

100