



Rewarding Learning

**General Certificate of Secondary Education
2016**

Religious Studies

Paper 2(A)

The Christian Church with a Focus on
the Catholic Church

[GRS21]

MONDAY 16 MAY, MORNING

**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 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 Prayer & Worship

(a) (i) Answers may include any three of the following:
Adoration, Contrition/Confession, Petition, Thanksgiving, Intercession,
Supplication
Accept valid alternatives
(AO1) [3]

(ii) Answers may include one of the following:
Apostles Creed or Nicene Creed
(AO1) [1]

(iii) Answers may include one of the following:
Bible, candle, icons, statues, religious art, rosary beads, prayer books
Accept valid alternatives
(AO1) [1]

(b) Answers may include:

- Jesus taught this prayer to his first disciples as a pattern for all prayer
- The words of the prayer express some of the main beliefs for Christians
- This prayer unites all Christians together
- Different types of prayer are used in the Lord’s Prayer, e.g. thanksgiving, praise, confession
- This prayer honours God.

Accept valid alternatives
Mark in levels
(AO1) [5]

(c) Answers may include:

- It is a waste of time as there is no God, prayer is just talking to yourself
- A lot of unanswered prayers shows proof that prayer is a waste of time
- It is better to show your love of neighbour by helping them than wasting time praying for them. Actions speak louder than words.

On the other hand:

- Prayer is the main way to improve one’s relationship with God
- God answers prayers in ways that can improve people’s lives. God always knows what is best
- Praying for others is a way of showing your love for your neighbour
- Praying brings comfort and hope to many people in their daily lives.

Accept valid alternatives
Mark in levels
(AO2) [5]

15

2 Sacraments of Initiation

AVAILABLE
MARKS

(a) (i) Answers may include the following:

Bishop
(AO1)

[1]

(ii) Oil of Chrism, a name, sign of cross, laying on of hands, renewal of promises, sign of peace

(AO1)

[3]

(iii) 11 year old

Accept valid alternatives
(AO1)

[1]

(b) Answers may include:

Agree

Baptism is more important because:

- The child is brought into the Christian family
- It has been tradition from early times to baptise babies at an early age
- It is a public sign that the child will be brought up in the Christian environment
- It is a sign of commitment of the parents to the child. Godparents also make a commitment to help the child develop spiritually
- Baptism protects the child against evil and it is believed that if baby dies it will go to heaven
- Baptism cleanses original sin
- By receiving Baptism you can receive other sacraments. You can be baptised but not confirmed: cannot be confirmed if not baptised.

On the other hand:

Confirmation is more important because:

- It is an opportunity to declare personal commitment to God and live according to the teachings of Christ in a public setting
- Baptism is the first sacrament of initiation – confirmation completes the process and it affirms the candidate as a full member of the Church. As a result they are closer to God
- The baptismal promises made for them at baptism are now renewed personally
- The Holy Spirit is received through the laying on of hands and anointing. The gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit will enable them to fulfil their vocation
- They receive the strength and courage needed to be a witness to the message of Christ in their everyday lives
- They are personally called to act as a witness to the Gospel values
- Many are baptised but do not practise their faith; therefore confirmation provides them with an opportunity to complete that which was begun at baptism.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[10]

15

3 Sacraments of Healing

AVAILABLE
MARKS

(a) Answers may include:

- Greeting: Priest will sprinkle Holy water on the sick person and explain them and explain the sacrament
- Confession: the sick person confesses their sins
- Scripture reading – listen to God’s word
- Prayers of intercession – prayer for those who care for the sick
- Laying on of Hands – Priest lays hands on the sick, to call down the spirit
- Prayer of thanksgiving and blessing of holy oil
- Anointing – priest anoints the sick person on the forehead and hands
- Prayer after the anointing
- The Our Father is said and a final blessing.

Mark in levels

(AO1)

[5]

(b) Answers may include:

- The sacrament’s purpose is to bring comfort and hope to the person who is sick
- The sacrament allows the person to trust in God
- It gives them strength to overcome their temptation to despair or to feel anxious about death
- It allows them to share in the suffering of Christ and learn more about him. Some may report that they feel the presence of Christ
- It allows them to make a fresh start
- It gives them an inner peace and an ability to cope
- For some the sacrament is preparation for death, it allows them to make amends with God. It brings spiritual healing.

Mark in levels

(AO1)

[5]

(c) Answers may include:

Agree:

- It frees the person from sin
- It restores their relationship with God
- It allows the person to make a fresh start
- The person will receive God’s forgiveness and feel renewed

On the other hand:

- Some Catholics feel that they don’t have to tell the priest their sins as it is between them and God
- Some can be too embarrassed to admit they have done wrong
- Some feel afraid to tell the priest their sins in case he is angry with them
- Some feel there should be general absolution instead of individual confession.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[5]

15

4 Festivals

(a) Answers may include:

A description from Acts 2:1–8

1 When the day of Pentecost came, all the believers were gathered together in one place. 2 Suddenly there was a noise from the sky which sounded like a strong wind blowing, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 Then they saw what looked like tongues of fire which spread out and touched each person there. 4 They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to talk in other languages, as the Spirit enabled them to speak. 5 There were Jews living in Jerusalem, religious people who had come from every country in the world. 6 When they heard this noise, a large crowd gathered. They were all excited, because all of them heard the believers talking in their own languages. 7 In amazement and wonder they exclaimed, these people who are talking like this are Galileans! 8 How is it, then, that all of us hear them speaking in our own native languages?

Mark in levels
(AO1)

[5]

(b) Answers may include:

- The week before Easter is called 'Holy Week'. This is one of the most important weeks in the Christian calendar as it reminds Christians of the suffering and death of Jesus
- Holy Week and Easter Sunday is the basis of the Christian Faith. We are followers of Christ because of his death and resurrection
- On the Thursday, Christians remember the Last Supper. The Last Supper is a very important event for Christians because Jesus commanded his followers to do this in memory of him. Today Christians celebrate the Eucharist as a re-enactment of the Last Supper
- Christians are reminded of Jesus' anxiety in the Garden of Gethsemane before he was arrested, revealing the human side of Jesus. This brings hope and comfort to Christians
- On Good Friday Christians remember Jesus' death
- Some churches celebrate the Stations of the Cross – remembering the long walk from the trial to the site of crucifixion which Jesus had to make
- Easter Sunday is the key day in the Church's year because Jesus is risen from the dead and the world has been saved
- The emphasis is on new life – so this is an appropriate time to celebrate baptisms.

On the other hand:

- All festivals are important to Christians as they are a reminder of the life of Jesus, e.g. Christmas is very important because it celebrates the birth of Jesus
- Advent and Lent are important for Christians as they are times of preparation and renewal
- Pentecost is important as it celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit and birth of the Christian Church
- Saints Days are important as they are a reminder of significant key people in the Church.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels
(AO2)

[10]

15

Section A

60

AVAILABLE
MARKS

Section B

**AVAILABLE
MARKS**

Assessment of Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar

If the answer does not address the question then no SPaG marks are available. If the candidate has attempted to answer the question but produced nothing of credit, SPaG marks may still be awarded.

Threshold performance [1]

Candidates spell, punctuate and use the rules of grammar with reasonable accuracy in the context of the demands of the question. Any errors do not hinder meaning in the response. Where required, they use a limited range of specialist terms appropriately.

Intermediate performance [2]–[3]

Candidates spell, punctuate and use the rules of grammar with considerable accuracy and general control of meaning in the context of the demands of the question. Where required, they use a good range of specialist terms with facility.

High performance [4]–[5]

Candidates spell, punctuate and use the rules of grammar with consistent accuracy and effective control of meaning in the context of the demands of the question. Where required, they use a wide range of specialist terms adeptly and with precision.

5 Sacrament of Marriage

(a) Answers may include:

- The Catholic Church teaches that marriage has four main principles:
 - It is permanent – life long. A commitment is made and should not be broken. Man must not separate what God has joined together
 - It is life-giving. Couples may be blessed with the ability to procreate, fulfilling God’s command to be fruitful and multiply
 - Marriage is exclusive between one man and one woman. Adultery is a sin and breaks the commandment. Christ’s love for his people is faithful and unbroken therefore the couple’s love for each other must reflect Christ’s love. It must be based on respect and trust
 - God has poured his grace and blessing upon the couple during the sacrament. A bond or unity is created between the couple and also between God. Marriage must be permanent and unbreakable. Marriage is a gift from God.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO1)

[5]

(b) Answers may include:

- An annulment is when a marriage is null and void
- An annulment is when a valid marriage has not taken place to begin with
- An annulment is only given in very special circumstances, e.g. they did not consummate the marriage
- A divorce is a legal end to a marriage
- The Catholic Church does not allow divorce, it believes it is a grave offence against the natural law
- Divorce is a rejection of the marriage vows.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO1)

[5]

(c) Answers may include:

Agree:

- It is a waste of money because couples already know each other before getting engaged
- Couples today live together before marriage
- Couples today do not take the course seriously. They don't need people to tell them how to love one another.

Disagree:

- Marriage is a sacrament and a serious commitment and so preparation is needed
- It allows couples to reflect on what marriage involves
- It allows them to focus on practical issues and expectations of married life.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[10]

20

AVAILABLE
MARKS

6 Church Government

(a) Answers may include:

Candidates will outline the role of a priest

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, both in the church and the wider community.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO1)

[5]

(b) Answers may include:

- To prevent false teaching and to maintain unity
- To create a strong organisation with good structure
- It gives individuals responsibility
- It will have a clear line of command
- It will also ensure beliefs are set out clearly
- It stresses the importance of the 'priesthood of all believers'.

[5]

(c) Answers may include:

- It would enrich his life experience and feed directly into his pastoral work
- It would give him vital experience that would help him to help others
- It would give an important focus in his life
- The Catholic Church accepts married priests who convert from other Churches
- Many of Jesus' disciples were married, e.g. Simon Peter had a mother-in-law
- He may become lonely or feel isolated or vulnerable as a result of celibacy.

On the other hand:

- He agreed at his ordination to serve God and his community unconditionally
- Jesus expected a total commitment from his disciples and this required them to sacrifice family and friends
- It would be consciously deciding to forsake his God-given gift of sexuality and his power to be creative in favour of another calling
- He needs to be focused on his vocation and a family could mean his loyalties are divided and his ability to serve his parish is weakened
- He already has his extended family and his parish is also his family.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[10]

AVAILABLE
MARKS

20

7 The Role of the Church in Contemporary Society

(a) Answers may include:

- The Church can provide Outreach programmes for young people
- Youth work, e.g. Youth Clubs, Scouts & Guides, football clubs, and drop-in centres, children's liturgies
- Offers clubs and societies, e.g. bowling, photography, film club, drama, arts and crafts
- Support groups – counselling or advice sessions
- Summer Schemes for a variety of age groups.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO1)

[5]

(b) Answers may include:

- Provides a safe place for people to express themselves
- Provides opportunity for dialogue between people from different religious backgrounds – bringing about peace and unity
- Supports victims of violence and injustice
- Christians learn to disagree without being disagreeable, offering respect, empathy and tolerance
- People learn and have a better understanding of each other's differences
- Brings people together – friendships develop.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO1)

[5]

(c) Answers may include:

- Attitudes towards issues such as sex before marriage, divorce, abortion, euthanasia and homosexuality have changed in society yet the Church is strongly against these changes. This presents a major moral challenge for the Church
- Many of the moral issues today are not directly mentioned in the Bible and therefore this leads to differences in opinion
- The church needs to move with the times and change its views on modern day moral issues
- People today want freedom to make their own decisions, they do not want the Church to tell them what to do

- People today lack faith and so look to secular society for guidance
- People today expect the church to re-evaluate its opinions on the issues that cause most debate in the world today. Many consider the Church to be prejudiced in a modern world
- Church attendance has dropped in recent years – this is a major challenge as people no longer feel the need to belong to the church in a secular society
- Society’s values are moving further away from Biblical ideals.

On the other hand:

- Many people have great respect for the Church and follow the traditional opinions of the Church regarding moral, social and cultural values
- The Church is guided and inspired by God and so it is important to follow Church tradition
- The moral and social values of the Church are based on biblical teachings.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[10]

20

Section B

40

SPaG

5

Total

105

**AVAILABLE
MARKS**