

Examiners' Report
June 2018

GCSE Religious Studies A 1RA0 4B

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Introduction

GCSE (9-1) Religious Studies

Religious Studies A Paper 4: Area of Study 4 – Textual Studies 4B – The Qur'an.

The paper contributes to 25% of the overall award. The assessment consists of two questions, candidates must answer both questions. The details of the assessment content is provided in the specification. Centres are to use this rather than other published resources when planning the course content.

Question 1 (a)

Candidates were assessed on Section One: Beliefs and Teachings of Islam - bullet point 1.5 'Creation'.

The question asked was 'Outline three Islamic teachings about creation in the Qur'an'

Candidates are asked to 'Outline' on part (a) questions. Therefore, lists can reach a maximum of one mark.

GENERIC advice for centres to what constitutes a list.

An example:

Outline 3 characteristics of God:

- **God is creator** (1 mark)
- **God is creator**, judge and lawgiver (1 mark for list or sentence)
- **God is creator**, busy and distant.(1 mark for the sentence identifying one correct piece of information)
- Busy, distant and **God is creator**, (1 mark for the sentence identifying one correct piece of information)
- Creator, judge, lawgiver (1 mark for list)
- Creator, busy, distant (0 Marks) (all three elements need to be correct for 1 mark)
- Creator, judge, distant (0 marks)

The candidate is awarded 3 marks.

1 (a) Outline **three** Islamic teachings about creation in the Qur'an.

(3)

Muslims believe Allah created the world in six days. He created humans so they can be vicegerents on Earth. He created Angels to worship Him alone.



The candidate answers outlining three teachings in three sentences (3).



Candidates should write in three full sentences to gain full marks.

The candidate is awarded 2 marks.

1 (a) Outline **three** Islamic teachings about creation in the Qur'an.

(3)

Allah created the world in ~~3~~⁶ days.
Allah created all humans
and the sky.



The candidate outlines two teachings in two sentences (2).

The candidate is awarded 2 marks.

1 (a) Outline **three** Islamic teachings about creation in the Qur'an.

(3)

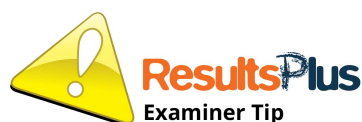
Allāh created the world in seven days.

Allāh created humans as vicegerents of the world.

Allāh created the world so that Muslims could be grateful to Allāh and be in awe of his power.



The candidate outlines two teachings in sentences (2)
The first point is not credited as the Quran states six days of creation.



Candidates must refer to Islamic teachings about creation.

Question 1 (b)

Candidates were assessed on Section One: Beliefs and Teachings of Islam - bullet point 1.4 'how believers are described'.

The question asked was 'Explain two ways believers are described in the Qur'an'.

Candidates are asked to 'Explain two' on part (b) questions. Therefore, two reasons are required, and both need to be developed for 4 marks. Development consists of a piece of extra information, a reference to a source of wisdom, a quote or examples. The development must be of the reason given and to the question asked.

The candidate is awarded 3 marks.

(b) Explain **two** ways believers are described in the Qur'an.

(4)

Belivers are described in the quran as the followers of the right path and stood firm on it and if a disbeliever tried to take them from the right path refused.

Belivers are also described in the quran as the ones who pay Charity, pray Salah and dont commit Adeltury they are the ones who follow the righteous path.



The candidate gives one developed reason and one reason.

Reason one 'followers of the right path' (1) this is developed by 'stood firm on it' (1).

Reason two 'ones who pay charity' (1) this is developed by a development that has already been credited in this response so cannot be credited twice (0).



In developing their responses candidates should not repeat the same points.

The candidate is awarded 2 marks.

(b) Explain **two** ways believers are described in the Qur'an.

(4)

- Believers are described as Ahl-ul-jannah (the people of heaven).
- They are also described as people who do good and justice.
- They are also righteous people
- The closest people to Allah

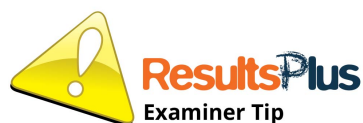


The candidate gives two reasons.

Reason one 'Ahl-ul-jannah' (1).

Reason two 'do good and justice' (1).

There are further reasons that cannot be credited.
No reasons are developed.



Candidates should be taught to develop reasons by giving extra information, referring to a source of wisdom, quote or example.

The candidate is awarded 4 marks.

(b) Explain **two** ways believers are described in the Qur'an.

(4)

One way believers are described in the Qur'an is as the ones who 'establish prayer'. These who believe are the ones who perform their five daily prayers and worship God in their daily routine.

Another way in which believers are described in the Qur'an is as those who 'believe in the unseen and those who believe in the hereafter'. The believers believe in things that can't be seen such as angels, God and ^{the} belief in afterlife.



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Examiner Comments

The candidate gives two developed reasons.

Reason one 'ones who establish prayer' (1) this is developed by 'worship God in their daily routine' (1).

Reason two 'believe in the unseen (1) this is developed by 'angels, God and the belief in the afterlife' (1).

Question 1 (c)

Candidates were assessed on Section One: Beliefs and Teachings of Islam - bullet point 1.8 'Shari'ah law... expressed in the lives of Muslims today.'

The question asked was 'Explain two reasons why Shari'ah law is important for a Muslim today.'

Candidates are asked to 'Explain two' on part (c) questions. Therefore, two reasons are required, and both need to be developed for 4 marks. Development consists of a piece of extra information, a reference to a source of wisdom, a quote or examples. The development must be of the reason given and to the question asked.

The reasons then should be supported with a 'reference to a source of wisdom', this must support the reason given and cannot be awarded twice. Therefore, if it is used as development it does not gain a second mark for the source.

GENERIC advice for centres to what constitutes a source of wisdom

- *The candidates do not have to reference a quote or quote it word for word.*
- *If examiners are unsure they will use a search engine. Enter the gist of the paraphrase and 'Qur'an' or 'Muslim teaching'.*
- *If the candidate states that it is in Qur'an 2:18 and then states another verse – then this can be awarded. We are not holding candidate to 'verses' but it must be the correct book/person.*
- *If the candidate gives the paraphrase and then puts (Qur'an 2:18) in brackets the paraphrase can have the mark and the bracketed reference is ignored.*
- *If a candidate quotes Qur'an and it was hadith or vice versa; and the quote is not accredited to them, it is not awarded.*

The candidate is awarded 5 marks.

(c) Explain **two** reasons why Shari'ah law is important for a Muslim today.

In your answer you must refer to a source of wisdom and authority.

(5)

One reason why Shari'ah law is important for Muslims today is because it is based on the Quran and the Sunnah, which means it provides Muslims with guidance on how to lead a good life. In the Quran, it states "Obey Allah and obey the Messenger", therefore showing the importance of Shari'ah law for Muslims.

Another reason why Shari'ah law is important is because ~~it is~~ the laws can prevent Muslims from committing crime. For example, the law about cutting off the hand of whoever steals could help Muslims avoid going on the wrong path.



The candidate gives two developed reasons; with reference to a source of wisdom.

Reason one 'based on the Quran and the sunnah' (1) this is developed by 'how to lead a good life' (1) further developed by reference to the source of wisdom (1).

The reference was found to be accurate after using a search engine and links to the reason.

Reason two 'prevent Muslims from committing crime' (1) this is developed by 'helps Muslims avoid going on the wrong path' (1).



Some candidates attempted to force a source of wisdom that they had learned into every answer. This often meant they did not answer the question at all. The reference needs to be part of the answer as in this example.

The candidate is awarded 4 marks.

(c) Explain **two** reasons why Shari'ah law is important for a Muslim today.

In your answer you must refer to a source of wisdom and authority.

(5)

Sharia Law is important for Muslims because the laws are taken from the Quran. The Quran is the ~~highest~~ ^{highest} source of authority in Islam and is the literal word of God given to Prophet Muhammed in cave Hira by Angel Jibreel. By following the Sharia Law, they're doing what God has commanded.

Sharia Law is also believed to create a stable and just society, if followed properly. This is important for a Muslim today because there is a lot of poverty and so Muslims believe ^{that} by following ~~them~~ ^{the laws}, we may be able to eradicate poverty.



The candidate gives two developed reasons.

Reason one 'taken from The Quran' (1) this is developed by 'highest source of authority' (1).

Reason two 'stable and just society' (1) this is developed by 'eradicate poverty' (1).



Candidates must refer to a source of wisdom that relates to the reasons given for full marks.

Question 1 (d)

The focus of the marking changes from AO1 to AO2 on the part (d) questions. The candidates are being assessed on AO2 Analyse and evaluate aspects of religion and belief. This constitutes 50% of the overall mark.

The question is '**Evaluate**' this statement **considering the arguments for and against** and reach a **justified conclusion** – there must some consideration of the arguments (appraise the arguments to gain the higher grades). Many candidates do excellent answers giving reasons for and against but not analysing or evaluating them. Formulas and writing frames restricted the flow of the arguments restricting candidates' progression to the higher levels.

We are now marking using levels and award a best fit according to the level descriptors.

Candidates were assessed on Section One: Beliefs and Teachings of Islam - bullet point 1.6 'The nature and importance of justice as outlined in the Qur'an'.

Please note that, neither in the bullet point, nor on the question are candidates required to give a non-religious response. Candidates must respond to the question asked.

The question asked was "Human justice should be based on the justice of Allah. "Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you should:

- refer to the Qur'an
- refer to different Muslim points of view
- reach a justified conclusion.

The candidate is awarded Level 1 and was awarded 3 marks. The SPAG mark was 2 making the total mark for this response 5.

***(d) "Human justice should be based on the justice of Allah."**

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you should:

- refer to the Qur'an
- refer to different Muslim points of view
- reach a justified conclusion.

(15)

Allah is said to be omnipotent and has power over everything. In the quran it says "Allah judges them by what he has revealed". Allah judges our actions.

Justice represents fairness and the quran also considers justice to be a supreme virtue.

Allah says in the quran "God commands justice and fair dealing" (Quran 16:90)

Justice is an obligation and injustice is forbidden.

Shariah law is following just Allah's rule and he sets the rules to create peace.



Part (d) questions are not point marked– the level should be decided first using the level descriptors. After a best fit is found a mark within the level is awarded.

The candidate gained level 1 because the candidate made superficial connections using a limited range of the elements.

They did not give a fully justified conclusion, and therefore provide evidence within level 1.

The candidate demonstrates isolated understanding of religion.

The candidate provides evidence suggesting the highest level because they fulfil all the descriptors of this level but do not make it into the next one.

SPAG

The candidate was awarded 2 marks because:

- The candidate spells and punctuates with considerable accuracy.
- The candidate uses rules of grammar with general control of meaning overall.

The candidate is awarded Level 3 and was awarded 7 marks. The SPAG mark was 3 making the total mark for this response 10 marks.

*** (d) "Human justice should be based on the justice of Allah."**

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you should:

- refer to the Qur'an
- refer to different Muslim points of view
- reach a justified conclusion.

(15)

Some Muslims may agree with this statement because Allah is just and they believe that they should follow Allah's actions and be just in their lives and in everything they do. In the Qur'an it states "And if you are judging between two people then do so with justice". This clearly shows that Muslims should be fair and just like Allah.

Another reason why some Muslims may agree is because on the Day of Judgement, one of the questions that Allah will ask is that, "were you just in everything you did". This shows Muslims that they should practice this as they will be questioned about their actions and decisions by Allah.

However some Muslims may disagree with the statement because they believe that human justice should be based on the choice of humans and their free will. They believe that humans should be given the choice on how they ^{should} judge in their every day lives. It should be based on what they think is right and wrong. If Allah gave them

the knowledge, then they should be able to use that knowledge and judge fairly.

In conclusion looking at both sides of the argument, I think that the strongest side of the argument is the one that agrees with statement. This is because I believe that their points were put across strongly, and ~~be~~ muslims should follow Allah's path and be just in everything they do.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

Part (d) questions are not point marked – the level should be decided first using the level descriptors. After a best fit is found a mark within the level is awarded.

The candidate gained Level 3 because the candidate has an accurate understanding of religion and belief. Connections are made among many, but not all, of the elements in the question.

The candidate provides evidence suggesting the lowest mark of the level because judgements are supported by limited appraisal of arguments in the conclusion, some of which is superficial, leading to a partially justified conclusion.

SPAG

The candidate was awarded 3 marks because:

- The candidate spells and punctuates with consistent accuracy.
- Candidate uses rules of grammar with effective control of meaning overall.
- Candidate uses a wide range of specialist terms as appropriately.



Candidates should not argue that the statement is true or false but why the reasons given for can be disputed by the alternative opinion. Why do one group of Muslims say one thing and the other group say their argument is incorrect, or is weak?

The candidate is awarded Level 1 and was awarded 3 marks. The SPAG mark was 3 making the total mark for this response 6 marks.

*(d) "Human justice should be based on the justice of Allah."

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you should:

- refer to the Qur'an - S1-49.
- refer to different Muslim points of view ✓
- reach a justified conclusion.

(15)

'Human justice should be based on the justice of Allah' Muslims believe that Allah is just and expect Muslims to be just to one another. In the Quran Surah 5 ayah 49 it says 'You should judge between them by what Allah has revealed' ~~this shows~~

Shariah law gives families values to follow, it helps them to follow non-Muslim law without breaking Shariah laws.

However most non-Muslims believe that Shariah law is a violent system based on hardship and punishment. This is a misunderstanding by non-Muslims about the translation of Muslim Shariah law.

Shariah law is following just ordered by Allah, the creator. of this word ~~who~~^{so} he is one to put rules ~~so~~ to create peace and harmony.

Muslims believe that by being just will

allow peace ~~in~~ among people and also help early life.



Part (d) questions are not point marked – the level should be decided first using the level descriptors. After a best fit is found a mark within the level is awarded.

The candidate gained Level 1 because the candidate made superficial connections using a limited range of the elements.

They have isolated elements of understanding of religion.

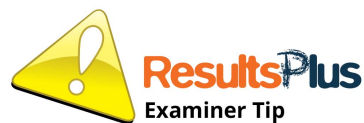
The non-Muslim views are not considered as this answer requires different Muslim views.

The candidate provides evidence suggesting the highest mark of the level because they fulfil all the descriptors of this level but do not make it into the next one.

SPAG

The candidate was awarded 3 marks because:

- The candidate spells and punctuates with consistent accuracy.
- Candidate uses rules of grammar with effective control of meaning overall.
- Candidate uses a wide range of specialist terms as appropriately.



It is possible to achieve 3 marks for SPAG for a low scoring answer.

Question 2 (a)

Candidates were assessed on Section Two: Lives of the Prophets and Others - bullet point 2.4 'The Prophet Yusuf: the events of his life and teachings in the Qur'an'.

The question asked was 'Outline three events from the life of Yusuf in the Qur'an'.

Candidates are asked to 'Outline' on part (a) questions. Therefore, lists can reach a maximum of one mark.

GENERIC advice for centres to what constitutes a list.

An example:

Outline 3 characteristics of God:

- **God is creator** (1 mark)
- **God is creator**, judge and lawgiver (1 mark for list or sentence)
- **God is creator**, busy and distant.(1 mark for the sentence identifying one correct piece of information)
- Busy, distant and **God is creator**, (1 mark for the sentence identifying one correct piece of information)
- Creator, judge, lawgiver (1 mark for list)
- Creator, busy, distant (0 Marks) (all three elements need to be correct for 1 mark)
- Creator, judge, distant (0 marks)

The candidate is awarded 3 marks.

2 (a) Outline three events from the life of Yusuf in the Qur'an.

(3)

One event was that he was almost seduced by the minister's wife.

Another event was that his brothers threw him in the well because they were jealous.

• finally, he had a dream that the sun, moon and stars bowed down to him.



The candidate answers outlining three events in sentences (3).

The candidate is awarded 2 marks.

2 (a) Outline **three** events from the life of Yusuf in the Qur'an.

(3)

One event of the life of Yusuf (a.s.) is that he was pushed into the well by his brothers - Another event was when he was then recovered from the well by a group of travellers who sold him - Lastly, an event of the life of Yusuf (a.s.) was when he became king.



The candidate answers outlining two events in sentences (2).



Yusuf did not become king. Candidates need to recount events in his life as described in the Qur'an.

The candidate is awarded 0 marks.

2 (a) Outline **three** events from the life of Yusuf in the Qur'an.

(3)

~~Two~~ ~~to~~ Three of the events from the life of Yusuf is he was killed by his brother, he ~~was~~ had the best manners and he was role model to everyone at his time.



The candidate outlines no accurate information (0).



Only responses that describe events in the life of Yusuf are credited.

Question 2 (b)

Candidates were assessed on Section Two: Lives of the Prophets and Others - bullet point 2.5 'The prophet Dawud...the significance of his example for Muslims today'.

The question asked was 'Explain two reasons why Dawud is important for Muslims today'.

Candidates are asked to 'Explain two' on part (b) questions. Therefore, two reasons are required, and both need to be developed for 4 marks. Development consists of a piece of extra information, a reference to a source of wisdom, a quote or examples. The development must be of the reason given and to the question asked.

The candidate is awarded 2 marks.

(b) Explain **two** reasons why Dawud is important for Muslims today.

↳

Tawrat

(4)

One reason why Dawud (a.s) is important for Muslims today is because the holy books was revealed to him - The book of guidance which is very important as he taught to mankind.

Also, Dawud (a.s) is important because he is a prophet of God - Allah specifically chose Dawud (a.s) -



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate gives two reasons.
Reason one 'holy books was revealed to him' (1)
Reason two 'Prophet of God' (1)



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Candidates should be taught to develop reasons by giving additional information, reference to a source of wisdom, a quote or examples.

The candidate is awarded 4 marks.

(b) Explain **two** reasons why Dawud is important for Muslims today.

(4)

Dawood showed muslims that we should always rely on God as when he went into battle, most of his army turned back and left but he was steadfast in God.

Dawud (A.s.) ~~brought down~~ was sent one of the Holy Books, the Zaboor known as the psalms and Muslims believe in all the Holy Books are from God but now have been altered.



The candidate gives two developed reasons.

Reason one 'rely on God' (1) this is developed by 'steadfast in God' (1).

Reason two 'sent one of the Holy Books' (1) this is developed by 'Muslims believe in all the Holy Books are from God' (1).

Question 2 (c)

Candidates were assessed on Section Two: Lives of the Prophets and Others - bullet point 2.3 'The Prophet Ismail... his importance as a messenger of Allah.'

The question asked was 'Explain two ways the life of prophet Ismail shows he was sent from Allah.'

Candidates are asked to 'Explain two' on part (c) questions. Therefore, two reasons are required, and both need to be developed for 4 marks. Development consists of a piece of extra information, a reference to a source of wisdom, a quote or examples. The development must be of the reason given and to the question asked.

The reasons then should be supported with a 'reference to a source of wisdom', this must support the reason given and cannot be awarded twice. Therefore, if it is used as development it does not gain a second mark for the source.

GENERIC advice for centres to what constitutes a source of wisdom

- *The candidates do not have to reference a quote or quote it word for word.*
- *If examiners are unsure they will use a search engine. Enter the gist of the paraphrase and 'Qur'an' or 'Muslim teaching'.*
- *If the candidate states that it is in Qur'an 2:18 and then states another verse – then this can be awarded. We are not holding candidate to 'verses' but it must be the correct book/person.*
- *If the candidate gives the paraphrase and then puts (Qur'an 2:18) in brackets the paraphrase can have the mark and the bracketed reference is ignored.*
- *If a candidate quotes Qur'an and it was hadith or vice versa; and the quote is not accredited to them, it is not awarded.*

The candidate is awarded 4 marks.

(c) Explain **two** ways the life of the prophet Ismail shows he was sent from Allah.

In your answer you must refer to a source of wisdom and authority.

(5)

Ho Ismail was known to be a good prophet and wise, we know this by when Allah told Ibrahim to slaughter his son prophet Ismail didn't object and obeyed because he said that if Allah told you to do this then by all means do it. Surah "Safat" 101:107 "Allah saw "O, I've seen a dream and it says that I would slaughter u in my dream" and Ismail said "O father do what Allah told u and don't disobey his orders". Ismail also ~~for~~ 107 build the Kaabah.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate gives one developed way with reference to a source of wisdom, and another way.

Reason one 'didn't object' (1) reversed developed by 'good prophet' (1) this is further developed with reference to a source of wisdom, Surah 37 Safat (1).

The reference was found to be accurate after using a search engine.

Reason two 'Ismail also build the Kaabah' (1).



Examiners and teachers are advised to not dismiss unfamiliar quotes without checking them first.

The candidate is awarded 3 marks.

(c) Explain **two** ways the life of the prophet Ismail shows he was sent from Allah.

In your answer you must refer to a source of wisdom and authority.

(5)

- Ismail (AI) was the son of prophet Ibrahim and was a patient & god fearing man so when his father was ordered to kill him, Ismail didn't object.
- In the Quran, He is said to be a sincere muslim (Surah Maryam)
- ~~He~~ He built the Kaaba with his father



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate gives one developed way and one way.

Reason one 'Ismail didn't object'(1) reverse developed by 'patient and god-fearing man' (1).

Reason two 'a sincere muslim' (1).



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Examiner Tip

It is not enough to write the reference in brackets. The source of wisdom should be explained /linked to the reason.

The candidate is awarded 4 marks.

(c) Explain **two** ways the life of the prophet Ismail shows he was sent from Allah.

In your answer you must refer to a source of wisdom and authority.

(5)

When Ismail was approached about the dream of him being slaughtered by his father, he submitted and said do what you have been commanded to.

Ismail along with his father Ibrahim (A.S) rebuilt the Ka'bah.

"And mention when Abraham and Ismail laid the foundations of the House." Surah 2:198



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Examiner Comments

The candidate gives two developed ways.

Reason one 'he submitted' (1) this is developed by reference to a source of wisdom 'do what you have been commanded' (1).

This is a reference to the Quran Surah 37 when Ibrahim was asked to sacrifice Ismail.

Reason two 'rebuilt the Kabah' (1) this is developed by the source of wisdom (1).

The reference given was found to be inaccurate, however the quote is found elsewhere in the Quran so can be credited.



Candidates can paraphrase and use alternative wording and translations. Exact reference is not required but if candidates are giving the source as 'Quran' or 'Hadith' they must not mistake the Quran for Hadith and vice versa.

When chapter and verse are given for an unfamiliar quote examiners and teachers are advised to check this alongside a general search for the quote as sometimes quotes are correct and can be credited even when the reference may not be.

Question 2 (d)

The focus of the marking changes from AO1 to AO2 on the part (d) questions. The candidates are being assessed on AO2 Analyse and evaluate aspects of religion and belief. This constitutes 50% of the overall mark.

The question is '**Evaluate**' this statement **considering the arguments for and against** and reach a **justified conclusion** – there must be some consideration of the arguments (appraise the arguments to gain the higher grades). Many candidates do excellent answers giving reasons for and against but not analysing or evaluating them. Formulas and writing frames restricted the flow of the arguments restricting candidates' progression to the higher levels.

We are now marking using levels and award a best fit according to the level descriptors.

Candidates were assessed on Section Two: Lives of the Prophets and Others - bullet point 2.2 'The Prophet Ibrahim... the significance of his example for Muslims today'.

Please note that, neither in the bullet point, nor on the question are candidates required to give a non-religious response. Candidates must respond to the question asked.

The question asked was "The prophet Ibrahim is the best example for Muslims to follow. "Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you should:

- refer to the Qur'an teachings
- reach a justified conclusion.

The candidate is awarded Level 3 and was awarded 7 marks.

(d) "The prophet Ibrahim is the best example for Muslims to follow."

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you should:

- refer to the Qur'an teachings
- reach a justified conclusion.

(12)

Some Muslims may agree with the statement because they believe that Prophet Ibrahim was a good ^{Prophet.} example. There were many events in his life for e.g. when he had to sacrifice his son. And Muslims can follow his actions and put it into practice in their daily lives. Prophet Ibrahim has taught Muslims to be patient, just, caring. And that is why they believe he is the best example to follow.

However some Muslims may disagree with the statement because they believe that ~~A~~ all the prophets are ~~of~~ equally the best examples. They all came down to preach the same message. And all faced hardships in their lives. Allah appointed each and everyone a prophet. They are all good examples.

Another reason why some Muslims may disagree with the statement is because they might believe that the Prophet Muhammad is the best example to follow. This is because he is the last messenger and in the Qur'an he is mentioned

many times as "Allah's messenger" "The seal of the Prophets" and "Muhammed, the best of creation". This shows that Muslims should follow his examples:

In conclusion, looking at both sides of the argument, I think that the strongest side of the argument is the one that disagrees with the statement. Because as a Muslim myself, I believe that Allah's Prophets are equal and they are all the best examples.



Part (d) questions are not point marked – the level should be decided first using the level descriptors. After a best fit is found a mark within the level is awarded.

The candidate gained Level 3 because the candidate has an accurate understanding of religion and belief. Connections are made among many, but not all, of the elements in the question.

The candidate provides evidence suggesting the lowest mark of the level because judgements are supported by limited appraisal of arguments in the conclusion, some of which may be superficial, leading to a partially justified conclusion.

The candidate is awarded Level 3 and was awarded 7 marks.

(d) "The prophet Ibrahim is the best example for Muslims to follow."

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you should:

- refer to the Qur'an teachings
- reach a justified conclusion.

(12)

One reason why muslims would agree is because in the Quran it states "for the prophets and their stories are examples for the believers." This shows that Ibrahim is the best example for muslims to follow as he is a prophet and ^{was} sent down by Allah.

Another reason why some may agree is because hajj is based on events of the prophet Ibrahim. During hajj muslims are tested by travelling and doing certain events like stoning the pillars. This is all derived from the life of Ibrahim and so if muslims can follow his example at the time of hajj which is "muslims duty to Allah" then he is the best example to follow all the time.

Some may disagree and say the prophet ^(pbuh) is the best example to follow as he is the universal prophet, ~~was~~ for all times and all people whereas Ibrahim ^{is} has not been stated as universal and therefore is not the best example to follow.

Some may disagree and say Ibrahim is not the best example ^{to follow} as his life is not used as a source of authority in Shariah law whereas prophet Muhammad's was. The shariah is seen as the perfect guide for every muslim so if he was the best example then his entire life would be ^{the} basis of Shariah law.

To conclude, I think my strongest point is that the prophet ^{Muhammed} is the best example because he is the universal prophet. This is because the ^{Muhammed} prophet was the seal of the prophets ~~and~~ and so he ~~was~~ has a higher status and was a more complete prophet than Ibrahim. I think my weakest point is that Ibrahim is the best example because in the Quran it states that the "prophets are examples for the believers". This is because although the prophets are the best examples, they are not ruled to be the best as some have ~~character~~ ^{single} attributes that others don't therefore it is hard to pinpoint ^{example} one prophet as the best.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

Part (d) questions are not point marked – the level should be decided first using the level descriptors. After a best fit is found a mark within the level is awarded.

The candidate gained Level 3 because the candidate has an accurate understanding of religion and belief. Connections are made among many, but not all, of the elements in the question.

The candidate provides evidence suggesting the lowest mark of the level because judgements are supported by limited appraisal of evidence, some of which may be superficial, leading to a partially justified conclusion.

The candidate is awarded Level 2 and was awarded 6 marks.

(d) "The prophet Ibrahim is the best example for Muslims to follow."

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you should:

- refer to the Qur'an teachings
- reach a justified conclusion.

(12)

Prophet Ibrahim's ^(A) life story is a interesting & excellent one and is idolized by Muslims in all around. ~~that~~ what I mean by idolized in this sense is that all Muslims ~~to~~ wish to lead a life as good and as righteous and obedient as Ibrahim's (A).

There were many things he did that serve as guidance for Muslims. For example he built the Ka'bah with his son when asked to by Allah, he defied his father and his people, refusing to conform to their ideas of god, he broke all of the idols that were persons to the people & confronted them, he trusted in Allah when he was put in the fire as well as when Allah asked to kill his son & leave his wife & son in the middle of a desert. There are so many other examples he set for Muslims to follow to lead a good Muslim life as he did.

However he is not the Best example for Muslims, ^{although} he is one of the Best. Above him is the prophet Mohammed (Saw) and he is a better example for Muslims.

As mentioned in the Quran & hadiths, we may follow Ibrahim's actions during Hajj and other aspects of life, but ultimately the muslim nation today idolizes & follows Prophet Mohammed (saw)'s example and rules and guidance along side the Holy Quran.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

Part (d) questions are not point marked – the level should be decided first using the level descriptors. After a best fit is found a mark within the level is awarded.

The candidate gained Level 2 because connections are made among many, but not all, of the elements in the question; judgements are supported by an attempt to appraise evidence, much of which is superficial.

The candidate provides evidence suggesting the highest mark of the level because they fulfil the all the descriptors of this level but do not make it into the next one.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

There are no SPAG marks for this question.

Paper Summary

Based on their performance on this paper, candidates are offered the following advice:

- Avoid attaching extra sheets to your examination paper. If possible continue writing on the blank spaces within the scannable pages.
- When answering the part (a) questions write three full sentences.
- The source of wisdom offered to support answers in part (c) questions must be relevant to the question and support the reason given. Exact verse numbers are not required but the source/person must be correctly referenced.
- The part (d) questions ask for evaluation, after considering the evidence. The higher grades are achieved if the evidence/reasons (knowledge and understanding) given is appraised for its value as part of deciding the evaluation. This does not necessarily have to be in the conclusion.
- On part (d) questions the bullet points indicate the viewpoints that can be awarded in the answer.
- Candidates should read the questions carefully, answer the question asked fully.

Grade Boundaries

Grade boundaries for this, and all other papers, can be found on the website on this link:

<http://www.edexcel.com/iwantto/Pages/grade-boundaries.aspx>

