



Mark Scheme (Results)

November 2021

Pearson Edexcel GCSE
In Religious Studies A (1RA0)
Paper 1: Area of Study 1- Study of Religion
Option 1A - Catholic Christianity

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General Marking Guidance

- All candidates must receive the same treatment. Examiners must mark the first candidate in exactly the same way as they mark the last.
- Mark schemes should be applied positively. Candidates must be rewarded for what they have shown they can do rather than penalised for omissions.
- Examiners should mark according to the mark scheme not according to their perception of where the grade boundaries may lie.
- There is no ceiling on achievement. All marks on the mark scheme should be used appropriately.
- All the marks on the mark scheme are designed to be awarded. Examiners should always award full marks if deserved, i.e. if the answer matches the mark scheme. Examiners should also be prepared to award zero marks if the candidate's response is not worthy of credit according to the mark scheme.
- Where some judgement is required, mark schemes will provide the principles by which marks will be awarded and exemplification may be limited.
- When examiners are in doubt regarding the application of the mark scheme to a candidate's response, the team leader must be consulted.
- Crossed out work should be marked UNLESS the candidate has replaced it with an alternative response.

Paper 1: Study of Religion 1A – Catholic Christianity Mark Scheme

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
1(a)	<p>AO1 3 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each point identified up to a maximum of three.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity (1) • The Holy Spirit gives guidance (1) • The Holy Spirit is a way God communicates with people (1) • The Holy Spirit is God’s presence on earth (1) • Holy Spirit inspired the Bible (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lists (maximum of one mark) 	3

Question number	Answer	Reject	
1(b)	<p>AO1 4 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for providing a reason/belief. Award a second mark for development of the reason/belief. Up to a maximum of four.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ascension confirmed the final payment for sin had been made (1) as Jesus is now seated at the right hand of the Father (1) • It allows Catholics to know the intercessory work of Jesus had begun (1), assuring Catholics they will always have access to the Father forever (1) • The Ascension reminds Catholics to share the Gospel until Jesus returns (1) Catholics know he will set all things right and bring people close to him for all eternity (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated reason/ development • Development that does not relate both to the reason given and to the question. 	4

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
1(c)	<p>AO1 5 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each way. Award further marks for each development of the way up to a maximum of four marks. Award one further mark for any relevant source of wisdom or authority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Baptism of Jesus shows that God is the Trinity (1) as the Father speaks, the Son is baptised, the Spirit descends in the form of a dove; (1) a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased' (Matthew 3:17) • Christians believe the Bible reveals God as one (1), Jesus stated the Greatest Commandment 'The most important one is this...the Lord is our God, the Lord is one' (Mark 12:29) (1) this confirms that God must therefore be unity (1) • The Bible shows clearly that Jesus referred to God as his Father (1) the Bible shows that Christians should pray to God as Father (1) 'He said to them, "When you pray, say: "Father, hallowed be your name" (Luke 11:2) (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated way/ development • Development that does not relate both to the way and to the question • Reference to a source of wisdom that does not relate to the ways given. 	5

Question number	Indicative content	Mark
1(d)	<p>AO2 12 marks, SPaG 3 marks</p> <p>Candidates must underpin their analysis and evaluation with knowledge and understanding. Candidates will be required to demonstrate thorough knowledge and understanding as well as accuracy of religion and belief when responding to the question and in meeting AO2 descriptors.</p> <p>AO2</p> <p>Arguments for the statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Catholic Church teaches that people will be judged by God and those people who die imperfect will need to go to purgatory for purification so entry to heaven is not direct unless you are perfectly pure • The sacrament of reconciliation frees a person from sin and makes them pure so there is no need for purgatory, as they will have died in 'God's grace and friendship' (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1023) • The Second Vatican Council taught that salvation for good people of other religions is possible but not guaranteed, meaning that they may still need purification so entry to heaven is not direct. <p>Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some Christians do not believe in purgatory, believing that is not based on the teachings of the Bible, but on Church teachings so when at judgement God will send the good straight to heaven • In the Bible Jesus said to the criminal 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.' (Luke 23:43) suggests that impure people can go directly to heaven • Some Christians do not believe in any form of Hell, they believe that people will have to work through many forms of heaven before they can reach God, so heaven is not direct. <p>Accept any other valid response.</p> <p>Candidates who do not consider different viewpoints within the religious tradition or non-religious viewpoints (as instructed in the question) cannot achieve marks beyond Level 2.</p>	15

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable response.
Level 1	1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information/issues are identified and make superficial connections among a limited range of elements in the question, underpinned by isolated elements of understanding of religion and belief. Judgements are supported by generic arguments to produce a conclusion that is not fully justified.
Level 2	4-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Superficial connections are made among many, but not all, of the elements in the question, underpinned by a limited understanding of religion and belief. Judgements of a limited range of elements in the question are made. Judgements are supported by an attempt to appraise evidence, much of which may be superficial, leading to a conclusion that is not fully justified.
Level 3	7-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deconstructs religious information/issues, leading to coherent and logical chains of reasoning that consider different viewpoints. These are underpinned by an accurate understanding of religion and belief. Connections are made among many, but not all, of the elements in the question. Constructs coherent and reasoned judgements of many, but not all, of the elements in the question. Judgements are supported by the appraisal of evidence, some of which may be superficial, leading to a partially justified conclusion.
Level 4	10-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critically deconstructs religious information/issues, leading to coherent and logical chains of reasoning that consider different viewpoints. These are underpinned by a sustained, accurate and thorough understanding of religion and belief. Connections are made among the full range of elements in the question. Constructs coherent and reasoned judgements of the full range of elements in the question. Judgements are fully supported by the comprehensive appraisal of evidence, leading to a fully justified conclusion.

SPaG

Marks		Descriptors
0 marks	No marks awarded	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The candidate writes nothing• The candidate's response does not relate to the question.• The candidate's achievement in SPaG does not reach the threshold performance level, for example errors in spelling, punctuation and grammar severely hinder meaning.
1 mark	Threshold performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates spell and punctuate with reasonable accuracy.• Candidates use rules of grammar with some control of meaning and any errors do not significantly hinder meaning overall.• Candidates use a limited range of specialist terms as appropriate.
2 marks	Intermediate performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates spell and punctuate with considerable accuracy.• Candidates use rules of grammar with general control of meaning overall.• Candidates use a good range of specialist terms as appropriate.
3 marks	High performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates spell and punctuate with consistent accuracy.• Candidates use rules of grammar with effective control of meaning overall.• Candidates use a wide range of specialist terms as appropriate.

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
2(a)	<p>AO1 3 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each point identified up to a maximum of three.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clothing with a white garment (1) • Sign of the cross on the forehead (1) • Anointing with oil (1) • Cleansing with water (1) • Lighting of the baptismal candle (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lists (maximum of one mark) 	3

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
2(b)	<p>AO1 4 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for providing a reason. Award a second mark for development of the reason. Up to a maximum of four.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholics pray to communicate with God (1) it is a form of worship which allows individuals to share life in conversation with God (1) • Praying can help people to put things into perspective (1) they remove themselves from external pressures (1) • Prayers of confession stop a person from bottling up feelings of guilt (1) it helps them come to terms with what they have done (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated reason/development • Development that does not relate both to the reason given and to the question. 	4

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
2(c)	<p>AO1 5 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each reason. Award further marks for each development of the reason up to a maximum of four marks. Award one further mark for any relevant source of wisdom or authority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For many people a pilgrimage allows them to feel closer to God (1) they visit places where Jesus lived (1) 'Pilgrimages are traditionally very special occasions for renewal in prayer' (Catechism of the Catholic Church 2691) (1) • Pilgrimage is important as it allows for renewing and strengthening of faith (1). The Catechism of the Catholic Church 2691 states that pilgrimage is a 'favourable place for prayer' (Catechism of the Catholic Church 2691) (1) giving time and space for prayer (1) • Pilgrimage is a public declaration of faith (1) after going on pilgrimage people may have a greater awareness for God (1) 'Pilgrimages evoke our earthly journey toward heaven' (Catechism of the Catholic Church 2691) (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated reason/ development • Development that does not relate both to the reason and to the question • Reference to a source of wisdom that does not relate to the reason given. 	5

Question number	Indicative content	Mark
2(d)	<p>AO2 12 marks</p> <p>Candidates must underpin their analysis and evaluation with knowledge and understanding. Candidates will be required to demonstrate thorough knowledge and understanding as well as accuracy of religion and belief when responding to the question and in meeting AO2 descriptors.</p> <p>AO2</p> <p>Arguments for the statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vincent Nichols suggests that Catholics prepare for their funeral and select liturgies and decide on the service, making such preparations can give peace of mind to the dying and the next of kin knowing all requirements will be met • The funeral liturgy is the source of hope for those who are mourning, in the liturgy they can see that their loved might live forever • The funeral rite confirms belief in the Paschal Mystery, 'The Christian who dies with Christ is away from the body and at home with the Lord' (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1681) reassuring non-believers of eternal life. <p>Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The funeral liturgy can be confusing for people who are unable to understand Catholic teaching on physical resurrection and spiritual resurrection • Planning a funeral whilst alive can mentally harm those who are vulnerable and are not able to accept their own mortality. It may be a distressing for the family who have not accepted the possibility of the death of a loved one • The Catholic liturgy can leave some people troubled that their loved one has not gone straight to heaven; the funeral liturgy prays for and hopes of eternal life straight away but does not guarantee it. <p>Accept any other valid response.</p> <p>Candidates who do not consider different viewpoints within the religious tradition or non-religious viewpoints (as instructed in the question) cannot achieve marks beyond Level 2.</p>	12

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable response.
Level 1	1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information/issues are identified and make superficial connections among a limited range of elements in the question, underpinned by isolated elements of understanding of religion and belief. Judgements are supported by generic arguments to produce a conclusion that is not fully justified.
Level 2	4-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Superficial connections are made among many, but not all, of the elements in the question, underpinned by a limited understanding of religion and belief. Judgements of a limited range of elements in the question are made. Judgements are supported by an attempt to appraise evidence, much of which may be superficial, leading to a conclusion that is not fully justified.
Level 3	7-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deconstructs religious information/issues, leading to coherent and logical chains of reasoning that consider different viewpoints. These are underpinned by an accurate understanding of religion and belief. Connections are made among many, but not all, of the elements in the question. Constructs coherent and reasoned judgements of many, but not all, of the elements in the question. Judgements are supported by the appraisal of evidence, some of which may be superficial, leading to a partially justified conclusion.
Level 4	10-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critically deconstructs religious information/issues, leading to coherent and logical chains of reasoning that consider different viewpoints. These are underpinned by a sustained, accurate and thorough understanding of religion and belief. Connections are made among the full range of elements in the question. Constructs coherent and reasoned judgements of the full range of elements in the question. Judgements are fully supported by the comprehensive appraisal of evidence, leading to a fully justified conclusion.

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
3(a)	<p>AO1 3 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each point identified up to a maximum of three.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary obeyed God's command (1) • Mary showed complete devotion to Jesus (1) • Mary was without sin (1) • Mary stood at the foot of the cross (1) • Mary helped to establish the early Church (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lists (maximum of one mark) 	3

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
3(b)	<p>AO1 4 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for providing a reason/belief. Award a second mark for development of the reason/belief. Up to a maximum of four.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who believe in Jesus are united by this one belief (1) all Christians share the same faith that Jesus is the Son of God (1) • The Church is one despite there being many differences in practice (1) as it allows them to achieve more as they work as a whole (1) • The Church is one as it is based on one baptism for the forgiveness of sin (1) which is inspired by the one Spirit (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated reason/development • Development that does not relate both to the reason given and to the question. 	4

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
3(c)	<p>AO1 5 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each reason. Award further marks for each development of the reason up to a maximum of four marks. Award one further mark for any relevant source of wisdom or authority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The magisterium makes sure that the teaching of the Church is updated (1) while at the same time not changing the teaching of the apostles (1) 'The task of interpreting the Word of God authentically has been entrusted solely to the magisterium of the Church' (Catechism of the Catholic Church 100) (1) • The magisterium is guided by the Holy Spirit (1) so its teachings must be holy and right; (1) 'This teaching office is not above the word of God, but serves it, teaching only what has been handed on, listening to it devoutly' (Dei Verbum 10) (1) • The magisterium can look at issues that did not exist in the time of Jesus and the apostles; (1) This is important because Catholics cannot look in the Bible for answers to issues like these; (1) 'Whoever listens to you listens to me; whoever rejects you rejects me; but whoever rejects me rejects him who sent me.' (Luke 10:16) (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated reason/ development • Development that does not relate both to the reason and to the question • Reference to a source of wisdom that does not relate to the reason given. 	5

Question number	Indicative content	Mark
3(d)	<p>AO2 12 marks, SPaG 3 marks</p> <p>Candidates must underpin their analysis and evaluation with knowledge and understanding. Candidates will be required to demonstrate thorough knowledge and understanding as well as accuracy of religion and belief when responding to the question and in meeting AO2 descriptors.</p> <p>AO2</p> <p>Arguments for the statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It has authority as it contains God’s commands on to behave in the Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount. These teachings are essential for Christians to know how to live and how to make decisions • Catholics believe that the Bible has is the best source of authority because is inspired by the Holy Spirit which means it comes from God and is therefore holy and considered authoritative by Catholics • Through using the Bible for worship, shared prayer and learning about God’s actions God’s word is revealed and people can learn how to live the type of life God wants them to in today’s world. <p>Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some Christians would argue it is not the best source of authority as they view the Bible as written by humans inspired by God but may need reinterpreting in light of the modern world • Christians have a number of sources which they can use to find out which is the right thing to do. The Church has many centuries of experience and tradition on which to draw, in addition Christians are able to seek help from professional clergy • Some Christians do not use the Bible in isolation as they believe people have a conscience and choose to apply situation ethics because it can take into account all aspects of a situation, and they believe it follows Jesus’ teachings. <p>Accept any other valid response.</p> <p>Candidates who do not consider different viewpoints within the religious tradition or non-religious viewpoints (as instructed in the question) cannot achieve marks beyond Level 2.</p>	15

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable response.
Level 1	1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information/issues are identified and make superficial connections among a limited range of elements in the question, underpinned by isolated elements of understanding of religion and belief. Judgements are supported by generic arguments to produce a conclusion that is not fully justified.
Level 2	4-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Superficial connections are made among many, but not all, of the elements in the question, underpinned by a limited understanding of religion and belief. Judgements of a limited range of elements in the question are made. Judgements are supported by an attempt to appraise evidence, much of which may be superficial, leading to a conclusion that is not fully justified.
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Level 4	10-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critically deconstructs religious information/issues, leading to coherent and logical chains of reasoning that consider different viewpoints. These are underpinned by a sustained, accurate and thorough understanding of religion and belief. Connections are made among the full range of elements in the question. Constructs coherent and reasoned judgements of the full range of elements in the question. Judgements are fully supported by the comprehensive appraisal of evidence, leading to a fully justified conclusion.

SPaG

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1 mark	Threshold performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates spell and punctuate with reasonable accuracy.• Candidates use rules of grammar with some control of meaning and any errors do not significantly hinder meaning overall.• Candidates use a limited range of specialist terms as appropriate.
2 marks	Intermediate performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates spell and punctuate with considerable accuracy.• Candidates use rules of grammar with general control of meaning overall.• Candidates use a good range of specialist terms as appropriate.
3 marks	High performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates spell and punctuate with consistent accuracy.• Candidates use rules of grammar with effective control of meaning overall.• Candidates use a wide range of specialist terms as appropriate.

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
4(a)	<p>AO1 3 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each point identified up to a maximum of three.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The chalice holds Jesus' blood (1) • The monstrance for the exposition of the blessed sacrament (1) • The cruets holds the sacramental wine and water (1) • A paten holds the Eucharist (1) • The ciborium is a covered cup (1) <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lists (maximum of one mark) 	3

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
4(b)	<p>AO1 4 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for providing a way. Award a second mark for development of the way. Up to a maximum of four.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholics may display an ICTHUS on their car (1). These are the first letters of the words: Jesus Christ, God's Son, Saviour (1) • Catholics may wear a cross (1) An empty cross reminds them that Jesus did not stay on the cross but came back to life (1) • Catholics will use the dove in paintings (1) to represent the Holy Spirit (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated way/ development • Development that does not relate both to the way given and to the question. 	4

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
4(c)	<p>AO1 5 marks</p> <p>Award one mark for each reason. Award further marks for each development of the reason up to a maximum of four marks. Award one further mark for any relevant source of wisdom or authority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The altar is a place of offering, (1) the gifts of bread and wine are brought and prayers of thanks are offered; (1) 'The altar is also the table of the Lord, to which the People of God are invited' (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1182) (1) • The tabernacle is where the consecrated hosts are put at the end of Mass (1) 'The dignity, placing, and security of the Eucharistic tabernacle should foster adoration before the Lord really present in the Blessed Sacrament of the altar' (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1183) (1) confirming that the reserved sacrament in the tabernacle reminds the worshipper of the sacrifice of Christ (1) • The lectern shows the Catholic belief that faith and truth come from the Bible (1) it is raised as it is a focus for worship during Mass; (1) 'The dignity of the Word of God requires the church to have a suitable place for announcing his message so that the attention of the people may be easily directed to that place during the liturgy of the Word' (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1184) (1). <p>Accept any other valid response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated reason/ development • Development that does not relate both to the reason and to the question • Reference to a source of wisdom that does not relate to the reason given. 	5

Question number	Indicative content	Mark
4(d)	<p>AO2 12 marks</p> <p>Candidates must underpin their analysis and evaluation with knowledge and understanding. Candidates will be required to demonstrate thorough knowledge and understanding as well as accuracy of religion and belief when responding to the question and in meeting AO2 descriptors.</p> <p>AO2</p> <p>Arguments for the statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passion Plays dramatically depicting the Passion of Jesus Christ, the special effects and the actors help share the liturgy of the Catholic Church, it will allow all people to access the trial, suffering and death of Jesus • The drama of the Easter Vigil shows the religious meaning, the lighting of the Paschal candle from the fire and entering into the darkened church clearly allows people to relate to the light of the resurrected Christ • Catholic worship is enhanced through the drama of reading, such as having various readers for each character when the Passion is read therefore strengthening belief. <p>Arguments against the statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passion plays have been created throughout the world, some featuring hundreds of actors, special effects and elaborate props, often attracting large crowds; the focus is on the performance not the story so do not express belief • Many dramatic events take place outside of the church, either in the street or church grounds, such as the lighting of the Paschal candle from a fire, this can cause people to lose sight of the religious belief behind event • Many Passion plays and biblical accounts have now become major films, for example, The Passion of the Christ and Noah. They frequently have incorrect details and distract from the true meaning of the narrative and belief. <p>Accept any other valid response.</p> <p>Candidates who do not consider different viewpoints within the religious tradition or non-religious viewpoints (as instructed in the question) cannot achieve marks beyond Level 2.</p>	12

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable response.
Level 1	1–3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information/issues are identified and make superficial connections among a limited range of elements in the question, underpinned by isolated elements of understanding of religion and belief. Judgements are supported by generic arguments to produce a conclusion that is not fully justified.
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Level 3	7–9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deconstructs religious information/issues, leading to coherent and logical chains of reasoning that consider different viewpoints. These are underpinned by an accurate understanding of religion and belief. Connections are made among many, but not all, of the elements in the question. Constructs coherent and reasoned judgements of many, but not all, of the elements in the question. Judgements are supported by the appraisal of evidence, some of which may be superficial, leading to a partially justified conclusion.
Level 4	10–12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critically deconstructs religious information/issues, leading to coherent and logical chains of reasoning that consider different viewpoints. These are underpinned by a sustained, accurate and thorough understanding of religion and belief. Connections are made among the full range of elements in the question. Constructs coherent and reasoned judgements of the full range of elements in the question. Judgements are fully supported by the comprehensive appraisal of evidence, leading to a fully justified conclusion.