

Examiners' Report
June 2018

GCSE Religious Studies B 1RB0 3G

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Introduction

GCSE (9-1) Religious Studies

Religious Studies B Paper 1: Area of Study 3 – Study of Religion Option 3G – Sikhism.

The paper contributes to 50% of the overall award. The assessment consists of four questions, candidates must answer all four 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.

The area of study comprises a study in depth of Sikhism as a lived religion within the United Kingdom and throughout the world, and its beliefs and teachings on life, specifically about Philosophy of Religion and issues of equality and social justice.

On the whole, the candidates' knowledge of Sikhism, including Sikh beliefs and Living a Sikh life, was of a high standard.

Section 2 and 4 were not of a high standard, however most candidates made an attempt to answer most of the questions asked, although more of a Sikh input would have been more beneficial. A lot of answers were generic and lacked divergent views.

Question 1 (a)

Candidates were assessed on Section One: Sikh Beliefs. Bullet point 1.3 - 'The purpose and significance of life as an opportunity to unite with God'.

The question asked was:

"Outline three ways a Sikh will try to unite with God".

Candidates are asked to 'Outline' on (a) questions. Therefore, lists can reach a maximum of three marks.

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)

Sikhs try to seek union with god through different ways. For example 'naam japna', this is saying and repeating gods name, 'kirat karna' and 'vand ke chakna' are also ways Sikh try to unite and be one with god.



The candidate achieved 3 marks.

The candidate outlined three ways :

1. Naam japna
2. Kirat Karna
3. Vand chakna

Although two are not mentioned in the markscheme they are credit-worthy, as it related to becoming a Gurmukh and hence uniting with God.



Centres should teach from the specificaton and students should write in three full sentences to gain full marks.

- By doing Sewa
- Praying to God



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate achieved 2 marks.

The candidate gave 2 simple ways

1. Sewa
2. praying to God

One way is by praying. The second way is by becoming one with God.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate achieved 1 mark.

The candidate gave one simple way

1. Praying

The second part is just repeating the question.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Candidates could be taught to write 3 separate sentences

Question 1 (b)

Candidates were assessed on Section One: Sikh Beliefs. Bullet point 1.2 - 'God as Creator'.

The question asked was:

"Explain two Sikh teachings about God as Creator".

Candidates are asked to 'Explain two' on (b) questions.

Therefore, two teachings 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.

Ik Onkar explains that there is only one God
which teaches equality, Nibau and Nerver is
without fear & and without hate which shows
that God cannot hate or fear and he is
all loving.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate achieved 0 marks.

Although this is part of the Mool mantar, it is not relevant to the question on God as Creator.

Question 1 (c)

Candidates were assessed on Section One: Sikh Beliefs. Bullet point 1.6 - 'The oneness of humanity: how the equality of all humans is shown in the Guru Granth Sahib'.

The question asked was:

"Explain two ways equality is shown in the Guru Granth Sahib".

Candidates are asked to 'Explain two' on (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 'Bible' or 'Christian teaching'.
- If the candidate gives the paraphrase and then puts (Guru Granth Sahib 15) in brackets the paraphrase can have the mark and the bracketed reference is ignored.
- If a candidate quotes Guru Nanak and it was Guru Gobing Singh or vice versa; and the quote is not accredited to them, it is not awarded.

Equality is shown in the Guru Granth Sahib through the teaching explaining how everyone is; 'fashioned from the same clay'. This shows the idea that everyone ~~is~~ comes from the same origin, regardless of who they are, thus everyone is equal as we are all God's children. Furthermore, in the Mool Mantar it states that God is Nirrair; without hate, implying that all Sikhs should follow this and should not show hatred towards anyone as we are all equal.



The candidate achieved 5 marks.

The candidate gave 2 developed reasons with a source of wisdom.

1. Everyone is 'Fashioned from the same clay' (source of wisdom), this shows that everyone comes from the same origin regardless of who they are developed by, therefore everyone is equal as we are all God's children.
2. The Mool mantar states that God is without hate, developed by, implying that all Sikhs should follow this and not show hatred to anyone as we are all equal.



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.

Questions need to be read thoroughly. Some candidates did not reference the link to the Guru Granth Sahib and wrote about how Sikhs show equality in general.

Question 1 (d)

The focus of the marking changes from AO1 to AO2 on the (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 gave excellent answers giving reasons for and against but not analysing or evaluating them. Formulas and writing frames restricted the flow of the arguments restricting student's 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: Sikh Beliefs Bullet point 1.1. 'The nature of God: how the characteristics of God are shown in the Mool Mantar.... and why the Characteristics are important and why the Mool Mantar are important for Sikhs'.

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 Mool Mantar explains everything Sikhs need to know about God."

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you should:

- refer to Sikh teachings
- reach a justified conclusion.

The mool To many Sikhs Mool Mantar explains everything about God.

The mool Mool Mantar presents the characteristics of God. The Mo also teaches Sikh about God stating words and phrases such as God being eternal, the creator of the world. To add to why the Mool Mantar explains everything about God is how G. God lived a G. ramble life which Sikhs can participate / replicate that in their own lives.



The candidate achieved 4 marks.

The candidate reached level 1 and was awarded 1 mark and then given 3 marks for SPAG.

The candidate gained Level 1 because:

Information/issues are identified and the answer is very superficial, hence the lower end of the level.

SPAG was awarded 3 marks, in this example, because

- The candidate spells and punctuates with considerable accuracy.
- The candidate uses rules of grammar with general control of meaning overall.
- The candidate uses a good range of specialist terms as appropriately.



Prepare students to 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 Sikhs say one thing and the other group say their argument is incorrect, or is weak?

The Mool Mantar is used to describe the attributes of God. It was the first thing that Guru Nanak said when he emerged from the ~~water~~ river 3 days after he disappeared. It explains how there is one God, which means that we are all equal. It also says Satnaam which is his name is true. The Mool Mantar also explains how God is without fear and without hate through the words Nirbhay and Nirver. It also describes how there is no beginning or end to God he was never born and shall never die, which is also represented by one of the 5 Ks which is the Kara. Sikhs ~~believe~~ believe that there is only one God and ~~that~~ ^{that} he is the giver and the taker of life. They believe that the Mool Mantar is the description of God even though it is not physically describing him. So many Sikhs would agree with this statement, this is because ~~the~~ Guru Nanak disappeared for 3 days into the river and came back and the first words that he said was the Mool Mantar and described it as a message from God.

However some Sikhs may be against this statement and say that there is much more about God that we don't know, and that this is only a very vague description. There is also a lot more written about God in the Guru Granth Sahib.



The candidate achieved 6 marks in total.

The candidate reached level 1 and was awarded 3 marks and then given 3 marks for SPAG.

The candidate achieved a Level 1 because:

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.



Teach the candidates to look at the statement and critically deconstruct religious information leading to coherent and logical chains of reasoning.

This candidate wrote about Guru Nanak which does not analyse or evaluate the statement.

SPAG was awarded 3 marks, in this example, because:

- The candidate spells and punctuates with considerable accuracy.
- The candidate uses rules of grammar with general control of meaning overall.
- The candidate uses a good range of specialist terms as appropriately.

Question 2 (a)

Candidates were assessed on Section Two: Philosophy of Religion. Bullet point 2.5 - Sikh attitudes towards religious experience: the nature of a religious experience within Sikhism.....'

The question asked was:

"Outline three examples of religious experiences in Sikhism".

Three examples of religious experiences in Sikhism

are:

- Amrit (Baptism)

- Wedding

- ~~Fun~~ Festivals



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate achieved 0 marks.

The candidate did not fully understand the question.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Candidates should be trained to write three separate sentences to encourage them to outline three examples.

Candidates should understand what a religious experience is.

Guru Nanak's river experience meeting with God.

The Milk and Blood Sakhi where from the roti of an honest man came milk and from a disloyal man came blood.

When Guru Nanak stopped a boulder with his hand and left an imprint, in which everyone's hands



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate gained 3 marks.

The candidate gave 3 examples of a religious experience in Sikhism.

1. Guru Nanak and the river experience
2. Guru Nanak and the boulder
3. The blood and milk sakhi



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

A lot of candidates could only give 2 examples. This area of the specification needs to be developed by teachers.

Question 2 (b)

Candidates were assessed on Section Two: Practices. Bullet point 2.6 - 'The Design argument and its use in Siukhismand what it shows about the nature of God'.

The question asked was:

"Explain two things the design argument shows about the nature of God".

Candidates are asked to 'Explain two' on (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 design argument shows that God is all powerful. This is due to the fact that he created all in existence with an intended design, thus showing his omnipotence - as the design argument suggest all things are created. It also shows that God is omniscient. This is due to the fact that all creation has an intricate design, which must have been tailored and thought of by an all knowing being - hence proving God's omniscience.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate achieved 4 marks.

The candidate gave 2 developed answers.

1. Design argument shows that God is all powerful developed by, 'He created all in existence with an intended design thus showing his omnipotence'.
2. It also show God is omniscient, due to the fact that all creation has an intricate design developed by 'it must have been tailored and thought of by an all knowing being'.



Although a generic answer, it illustrates a Sikh belief in God as a designer and His nature. A related Sikh answer could be that: The design of the world shows that the designer is involved in his creations developed by Sikh scriptures show that God is still involved in human life.

Question 2 (c)

Candidates were assessed on Section Two: Philosophy of Religion. Bullet point 2.7 - 'The cosmological argument..... Sikh responses to non-religious arguments against the cosmological argument'

The question asked was:

"Explain two Sikh responses to non-religious arguments against the cosmological argument".

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

Some candidates were not prepared for this question and did not fully understand it.

Atheist and humanists have similar views but Sikhs say
God had created himself.



The candidate achieved 1 mark.

One very simple response.

1. Sikhs believe God created himself.



Candidate must be prepared for the whole breadth and depth of the specification in order to achieve higher grades. It is best to check that materials used in school cover the specification.

This candidate's knowledge was limited.

An argument against the cosmological argument would be that the first cause of the universe was a spontaneous event. Sikhs would argue that God was the first cause as he is the creator - 'Ik Onkar.' Another argument would be that, ~~God~~ who caused God, to which Sikhs would argue that God created God as in the ~~no~~ Mool Mantar it states that God is self-existent - "saihhong," - and so he is his own creation.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate achieved 5 marks.

The candidate made good use of the Mool Mantar to answer the question and gave 2 developed reasons with a source of wisdom.

1. Sikhs would argue that God was the first cause developed by 'as he is the creator'. The reference by 'Ik Onkar'
2. Who created God, Sikhs would answer God created God developed by 'in the Mool Mantar it states that God is self-existing and is therefore his own creation'.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Centres will find it beneficial to look at the mark schemes after an examination period to gain an insight into how they could be marked.

Question 2 (d)

The focus of the marking changes from AO1 to AO2 on the 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 gave excellent answers giving reasons for and against but not analysing or evaluating them. Formulas and writing frames restricted the flow of the arguments restricting student's 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: Philosophy of Religion Bullet point 2.8 - 'Religious upbringing: how a Sikh upbringing provides a basis for a belief in God'.

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:

"A religious upbringing leads to belief in God".

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you should:

- refer to Sikh teachings
- reach a justified conclusion.

Once a baby is born, many parents take the baby to the gurdwara and take part in a naming ceremony which is where the head granthi (similar to priest) will come and ~~do~~ do ardas and read a hukamnama (this is the bottom line of a random page in the ~~guru~~ ^{Guru Granth Sahib} recited) and this naming ceremony introduces a baby into the Sikh life and also introduces the baby to god.

Furthermore if a baby is brought up taking part in events held by the gurdwara such as Sikhi Camp and Punjabi class then it is more likely that the child would be brought up ~~as~~ religiously therefore allowing the child to ~~believe~~ believe in god from a young age. Guru Gobind Singh ji's sons were brought up as Sikhs and they had such a strong connection they ~~set~~ gave their life to fight for Sikh rights.

Therefore in conclusion I agree with the statement as being brought religiously will result in the child believing in god ~~from~~ a young age



The candidate achieved 3 marks.

DO NOT point mark – the level should be decided first using the level descriptors. After a best fit is found, award a mark within the level.

The candidate is reached Level 1 and was awarded 3 marks

The candidate gained Level 1 because:

The knowledge and understanding are isolated (superficial). The arguments for the statement are not underpinned by religious beliefs or teachings. There is a simple 'for' but no 'against' given.

There are no judgements made.

The conclusion is not justified.

The candidate is awarded 3 marks at the top of the mark range because most of the demands of the level descriptor are met.



Try to avoid descriptions of a Sikh religious upbringing as this does not answer the statement which is asking for an evaluation. A02 not A01.

Question 3 (a)

Candidates were assessed on Section Three: Living the Sikh Life. Bullet point 3.1 - 'features of the gurdwara:..... how and why objects of devotion are used within the gurdwara'

The question asked was:

"Outline three objects of devotion found in the gurdwara".

- G Guru Granth Sahib

- Rumala to cover the Guru Granth Sahib

-



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate achieved 2 marks.

1. Guru Granth Sahib
2. Rumala



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Three separate sentences are a good rule.

The chaur sahib used to fan the Guru Granth Sahib.

The guru Granth Sahib, used to pray from.

The palaki sahib which is the platform the guru Granth Sahib rests on at a higher level than everyone else is sitting at.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate achieved 3 marks.

3 distinct objects used in devotion were shown

1. Guru Granth Sahib
2. Chauri
2. Palaki

The candidate achieved 3 marks

Guru Granth Sahib Ji is an object of devotion, langar is also an object of devotion as well as 'Parsaad' (not religious sweet). These are all objects of devotion found in a gurdwara.



One alternative answer from the mark scheme that is credit-worthy.

1. Guru Granth Sahib
2. Langar
3. Karah Prashad (not in mark scheme)



The mark scheme is a guide, there are other answers that are credit-worthy as shown in this example.

Question 3 (b)

Candidates were assessed on Section Three: Living the Sikh Life. Bullet point 3.3 - 'Langar: the history of the langar.... the nature and purpose of langar'.

The question asked was:

"Explain two reasons langar is important for Sikhs".

Candidates are asked to 'Explain two' on (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.

On the whole this question was well answered.

Because it was established by Guru Nanak Dev Ji to show people that everything sits on the same level (floor) and eat the same food sitting to whoever. This shows equality. Another reason would be that people cook and clean there for people, again showing sewa which were the exact teaching of the Guru.



The candidate achieved 4 marks.

The candidate gave 2 developed answers.

1. Established by Guru Nanak developed by 'to show that everyone sits on the same level and the same food showing equality.'
2. People cook and clean there, developed by 'showing sewa which were the exact teaching of the Guru'.



References to a teaching or scripture is a good way to develop a reason.

Question 3 (c)

Candidates were assessed on Section Three: Living the Sikh Life. Bullet point 3.5 - 'Prayer including reference to Guru Grant sahib 305: the nature role and purpose of prayer in the home...'

The question asked was:

"Explain two reasons why prayer in the home is important for Sikhs".

Candidates are asked to 'Explain two' on (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 should then 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.

In general most candidates could give reasons why prayer is important in the home, but did not use a source of wisdom that was appropriate.

Prayer at home is important as it brings the name of God to yourself. Prayer at home is also important as it is way of doing sewa for the Guru Granth Sahib. It also important to pray at home if you want to pray privately for you with your family.



The candidate achieved 2 marks.

Even though the candidate gave 3 reasons, the question only asks for two and both have to be developed.

1. simple reasons were given.
2. Brings the name of God to yourself.
3. You want to pray privately with your family.



Candidates must quote or paraphrase the source of wisdom to gain the mark.
We do not expect candidates to know chapter and verse.

Question 3 (d)

The focus of the marking changes from AO1 to AO2 on the 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 gave excellent answers giving reasons for and against but not analysing or evaluating them. Formulas and writing frames restricted the flow of the arguments restricting student's 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 Three: Living the Sikh Life. Bullet point 3.6. - 'Akhand path: the nature, history, role and purpose of the akhand path...'.
'

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:

All Sikhs should take part in the akhand path".

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you should:

- refer to Sikh teachings
- reach a justified conclusion.

Numerous Sikhs would agree that akhand paths are vital. This is due to the fact that they provide opportunities to carry out 'Tan seva', by allowing Sikhs to serve others langar. Moreover, it allows for Sikhs to carry out 'Man seva' and pray together as a sanghat - which benefits all who are present, as 'God resides in the sanghat.' Moreover, it provides an opportunity of 'Dhan' seva, where Sikhs can donate money to the Gurdwara. These three forms of seva, remove Sikhs from Homai (ego), and avoid the five thieves. As a result, they would be more Gurmukh, and increase their chance of obtaining Mukhti.

Other Sikhs would disagree and not regard akhand paths with as much importance. This is due to the fact that they believe seva can also be done at the Gurdwara to remove oneself from Homai. Furthermore, they believe that the effect of 'Naam Simran' is just as effective for Sikhs, in order to remember God. They also consider the fact that the sanghat in the Gurdwara is

larger and is open to all people (as it should have four doors in all directions), which would allow Sikhs to amplify the impact of 'Mani Sewa.' These reasons allow some Sikhs to disagree.

To conclude, many Sikhs would agree that alternate paths should be taken part in as they provide opportunities for Sikhs to carry out the three types of sewa - as advocated by Guru Nanak Dev Ji. Nevertheless, some Sikhs do disagree as they find the Gurdwara, the 'house of the Guru' (Guru Granth Sahib), a place where similar opportunities exist, to help Sikhs achieve Mukhti.



The candidate reached level 2 and was awarded 5 marks plus 3 marks for SPAG giving a total of 8 marks.

The candidate gained level 2 because:

The candidate provides reasons for and against the statement making brief (superficial) arguments on both sides.

The candidate demonstrates a limited, rather than isolated as in level 1, understanding of the beliefs surrounding this statement.

The candidate does not attempt to appraise the arguments given or evaluate the argument.

The conclusion offers an attempt at making a judgment, but this is not fully justified and builds on a limited range of elements in the answer.

The candidate meets the demands of the level one descriptor, but does not fully meet all the level two requirements and is therefore awarded at the middle end of the mark range.

SPAG was awarded 3 marks, in this example because:

- The candidate spells and punctuates with considerable accuracy.
- The candidate uses rules of grammar with general control of meaning overall.
- The candidate uses a good range of specialist terms as appropriately.



Try to prepare the candidates to critically analyse the statement, not just give reasons for and against or agree with the statement and then disagree with it. This example does show knowledge but it fails to critically deconstruct the religious information which leads to a coherent chain of reasoning that consider different viewpoints.

Analysis can be given throughout the answer, not just at the end.

Question 4 (a)

Candidates were assessed on Section four: Equality, bullet point 4.8 'Sikh attitudes towards wealth and poverty: divergent Sikh teachings and responses to the nature and causes of poverty in the UK and in the world'

The question asked was:

"Outline three Sikh responses to the causes of poverty".

Candidates are asked to 'Outline' on (a) questions. Therefore, lists can reach a maximum of three marks.

The question asks for responses to the causes of poverty so candidates need to outline how Sikhs respond to the causes of poverty. Examples could be:

Sikhs open the the kitchen to feed others, they may raise money for charities etc.

- charity program called S.W.A.T
- Everyone is allowed to eat langar
- Everyone is allowed to pray / worship



This candidate achieved 2 marks.

2 responses were given

1. Charity such as SWAT
2. Everyone is allowed to eat langar



Candidates should read the question fully.

Sikhs believe in Daswand which means ~~giver giving~~ giving 10% of earnings to charity. Sikhs have many charitable organisations such as SWAT and Khalsa Aid which prevent poverty. Sikhs also believe that langar is for everyone ~~the so~~ no matter who you are which encourages the poor to ~~struggle~~



The candidate achieved 3 marks.

3 responses given

1. Daswand
2. Charities such as Khalsa aid and SWAT
3. Langar

The candidate gained 0 marks

Sikhs believe that poverty is a punishment
by God



It does not answer the question.

Question 4 (b)

Candidates were assessed on Section Four: Equality. Bullet point 4.5 - "Sikh attitudes to racial harmony different reasons and ways Sikhs have worked for racial harmony'

The question asked was:

"Explain two reasons why Sikhs should work for racial harmony."

Candidates are asked to 'Explain two' on (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.

Sikhs should work for racial harmony because everyone is equal in the eyes of God as God created everyone and everything therefore Sikhs should promote this by working for racial harmony.

They should also work for racial harmony because the Gurus have taught it and they should follow the teachings of the Gurus such as Guru Tegh Bahadur who sacrificed himself to stop Hindu priests being converted.



The candidate achieved 4 marks.

The candidate gave 2 developed reasons

1. Everyone is equal in the eyes of God developed by 'God created everyone and everything and therefore we should promote this by working for racial harmony'.

2. The Gurus taught this and they should follow their teachings developed by 'the sacrifice of Guru Tegh Bahadur'.

A very detailed response.

Guru Nanak Dev Ji's river experience ~~was shared~~ gave him an insight which he shared amongst the Hindus and Muslims at the time. He stated 'There is no Hindu and there is Muslim' meaning that Sikhs should believe and follow in the ~~for~~ ideas that the Gurus put forward and work for racial harmony. Also in the Guru Granth Sahib it states that all 4 castes (Brahmin, Bramins, Shudras, Kshetris) are loved by ~~the~~ God and that God has 'no friends, no enemies or caste' shows that Sikhs should believe ~~like~~ in what the Guru Granth Sahib Ji has written.



The candidate achieved 4 marks.

The candidate gave 2 well developed reasons using source of wisdom and a development.

1. Guru Nanak's river experience gave him an insight which he shared amongst the Hindus and Muslims at the time, developed by 'There is neither Hindu nor Muslim' promoting racial harmony.
2. The Guru Granth Sahib states that all 4 castes are loved by God developed by, God has 'no enemies or caste'.

Question 4 (c)

Candidates were assessed on Section Four: Equality.

Bullet point 4.2 - 'Sikhs attitude to equality: Sikh teachings and responses to the causes of inequality in the world with reference to example....!'

The question asked was:

"Explain two Sikh teachings against inequality".

Candidates are asked to 'Explain two' on (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.

Sikhs are taught to treat everyone equally, this includes
"Nor muslim, nor Hindu" showing each human is equal and
no one should be treated inequally and with disrespect.
Sikhs are taught, 'Naam Japna, vand ke chakra and kirb
Kama, this allows everyone to be treated equally,
to share with others and to earn a honest living.
Inequality is prohibited, God is one and all Sikhs
are one within him, we are to treat everyone equally and
respect them as they are all humans, like us.



The candidate achieved 5 marks.

The candidate gave 2 developed reasons with a source of wisdom

1. Sikhs are taught to treat everyone equally, reference by 'no muslim or Hindu' developed by, 'showing each human is equal and no one should be treated with disrespect'.

2. Sikhs are taught the 3 responsibilities and that all should be treated equally developed by 'to share with others, honest living etc'.



This example shows clear understanding of what the question asks.

Question 4 (d)

The focus of the marking changes from AO1 to AO2 on the 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 student's 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 Four: Equality. Bullet point 4.1. - 'Sikh teachings on human rights'.

Candidates must respond to the question asked.

The question asked was:

All human rights laws must be protected."

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you should:

- refer to Sikh teachings
- reach a justified conclusion.

There are no SPAG marks on questions 2 and 4.

This statement can be agreed with to an extent when referring to the views of Sikhism as many Sikhs would argue that everyone is equal and the same so ~~that~~ everyone should be treated the same and have the same rights. The Guru Granth Sahib Ji states that you should "recognise the human race as one", therefore promoting equality and justifying the fact that all human rights laws must be protected for all people. Sikhs also believe in 'Degh Tegh Fateh' which means to provide food and protection to the needy and oppressed, and also support the Sikh Human Rights Group who fight for justice for all

// Some Sikhs may argue that everyone is equal but if they are being treated in an unfair way then it is because of their bad karma and they should therefore not interfere with their treatment because it is Waheguru's Hukam and His plan for them.

//A situation ethicist would argue that the best course of action is the one that benefits the most people and would also argue that it depends on the situation, therefore there is no set rule that can be followed and would therefore agree with this statement to an extent.

Overall, this statement can be agreed with to an extent as everyone is equal and therefore entitled to all human rights but it is not always right to interfere because it is God's plan and hukam.



The candidate gained level 2 because:
The candidate gives logical chains of reasoning for both sides of the arguments/ These are underpinned by an accurate understanding of religion and belief. Beginning to show evidence of Level 3.

However, the candidate does not attempt to appraise the arguments given or evaluate the arguments and the conclusion offers an attempt at making a judgment, but this is not fully justified.

The candidate meets the demands of the level two descriptor but does not fully meet the Level three requirements and is therefore awarded at the lower end of the mark range.

The candidate is awarded 6 marks at the top of the mark range because most of the demands of the level descriptor are met.



Do not attempt to point marked answers. They should be read completely and then assessed against the level descriptors to find a best fit.

There is no SPAG on question 2 or 4. SPAG is only assessed on the odd numbered questions 1 and 3.

Paper Summary

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

- Do not attach extra sheets to your examination paper, write within the scannable pages using the blank spaces.
- When answering the (a) questions use three full sentences.
- The source of wisdom offered to support answers in question (c) must be relevant to the question and support the reason given.
- The (d) questions asks for evaluation, after considering the evidence. The higher grades are achieved if the evidence/reasons given is 'considered' or appraised for its value as an argument as part of deciding the evaluation.
- On (d) questions, the bullet points indicate the viewpoints that can be awarded in the answer.
- Candidates should read the questions carefully and 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>

