

Examiners' Report  
June 2019

GCSE Religious Studies 1RB0 1B

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# Introduction

GCSE (9-1) Religious Studies

Religious Studies B - Beliefs in Action

Paper 1: Area of Study 1 – Religion and Ethics

Option 1B – Christianity

This is the second year of this specification and numbers have increased since the first year this paper was available (in 2018).

The paper includes four questions, each question covers a section of the specification. Candidates are expected to answer all four questions which are subdivided into 4 sub-questions. There is no element of choice on the paper.

The details of the assessment content is provided in the specification.

Centres are expected to use the Edexcel specification rather than other published resources when planning and teaching the course content.

The examination is set from the specification, and the technical terms in the specification are used in the paper.

This paper allows an in depth study of Christianity as a lived religion within the United Kingdom, and its beliefs and teachings on life, specifically within families and with regard to matters of life and death. This unit has the largest entry on the specification and engages the interest of young people, as it addresses many Christian beliefs and teachings in addition to some issues affecting young people today.

## Question 1 (a)

Candidates were assessed on Section One: Christian Beliefs

Bullet point 1.2 - The creation of the universe

The question asked was Outline **three** Christian beliefs about the Creation.

The candidates needed to provide any three beliefs a Christian might hold about the Creation; they did not need to be biblical, although, naturally, biblical beliefs were acceptable and a frequent answer.

1 (a) Outline **three** Christian beliefs about the Creation.

(3)

- What happened in the bible literally did happen the way it was described
- The universe was created in 6 24 hour days
- God rested on the 7<sup>th</sup> day



The candidate provides three correct beliefs. The answers are given in as 3 sentences therefore can gain the maximum of 3 marks.

- literally did happen the way it was described
- created in 6 24hour days
- God rested on the 7th day

It does not matter that the candidate has inserted a dot to indicate a bullet point at the beginning of each sentence.



Teachers should refer to the specification for likely questions.

Candidates should make sure they have three distinct sentences.

The question asked was: Outline **three** Christian beliefs about the Creation.

It assesses Assessment Objective One and has 3 marks.

1 (a) Outline **three** Christian beliefs about the Creation.

(3)

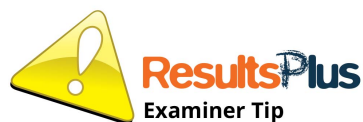
Some Christians believe in the creation of the big bang, some Christians believe in the trinity



This candidate was awarded 1 mark.

They only outlined one correct belief about the Creation – the creation of the Big Bang

If they had linked the Trinity to creation this may have gained marks.



Candidates should make sure they clearly answer the question set.

## Question 1 (b)

Candidates were assessed on Section One: Christian Beliefs

Bullet point 1.6 – Christian Eschatology

The question asked was: Explain **two** beliefs about life after death shown in the Bible.

Candidates are asked to 'Explain **two**' on (b) items. Therefore, in this question two beliefs are required, and both need to be developed to be awarded 4 marks.

Development consists of a piece of extra information, a reference to a source of wisdom, quotes or examples. The development must link both to the reason given and to the question asked.

(b) Explain **two** beliefs about life after death shown in the Bible.

(4)

One belief is that there is a day of Judgement. This means that one day Jesus will come back to earth and judge us all on our sins and good deeds to determine whether we go to heaven or hell after life.

Another belief is that some people will be sent to purgatory after death. This means that their souls will be cleansed before entering of their sins before entering heaven.



Beliefs given had to be shown in the Bible. The candidates did not have to identify where they were found in the Bible although many were able to do so.

This candidate is awarded 4 marks.

Beliefs are identified correctly - Day of Judgement and Purgatory - and development was evident; it used extra information which linked to both the question and the belief identified.



Candidates should ensure they do not use the same information twice, they will only be rewarded once for a specific piece of information.

b) items are point marked – Two developed beliefs are required.

(b) Explain **two** beliefs about life after death shown in the Bible.

(4)

One belief about life after death is that they will join God in heaven.



The candidate is awarded 1 mark. They correctly identify one belief - they will meet God in heaven.



Candidates must ensure they follow the requirements of the question which asks for 2 beliefs - this candidate only provided one.

## Question 1 (c)

Candidates were assessed on Section One: Christian Beliefs

Bullet point 1.6 – Christian Eschatology

The question asked was: Explain **two** ways Christian beliefs about the Trinity which are shown in the Nicene Creed.

Candidates are asked to 'Explain two' on (c) items. Therefore, two reasons are required, and both need to be developed. Development consists of a piece of extra information, a reference to a source of wisdom, quotes 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.

(c) Explain **two** ways Christian beliefs about the Trinity are shown in the Nicene Creed.

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

(5)

The Nicene Creed refers to Jesus as "the only begotten son of God". Here this describes the role Jesus plays in the Holy trinity, he is 'the son of God'. Jesus is seen as God in a living, tangible form.

The holy spirit is also mentioned in the Nicene creed, saying "I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord."





The candidate gives two accurate beliefs; they are both developed and an accurate source of wisdom is used. Although these are in a reverse order they link to each other.

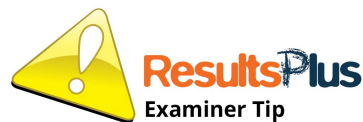
Source – the only begotten son of God (1)

Belief One - God in a living tangible form (1)  
Development One - describing the role He plays in the Trinity (1)

Belief Two - The Holy Spirit, the Lord the giver of Life (1) (although it is a source it is used as a belief here)

Development Two – presence of God on Earth today (1)

This is a total of 5 marks



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.
- If the candidate states that it is in John 1:18 and then states another verse from John – then this can be awarded. We are not holding candidate to 'verses' but it must be the correct book.
- If the candidate gives the paraphrase and then puts (John 1:18) in brackets the paraphrase can have the mark and the bracketed reference is ignored.
- If a candidate quotes Jesus and it was Paul or vice versa; and the quote is not accredited to them, it is not awarded.

The candidate is awarded 5 marks. The candidate gives two accurate teachings; they are both developed and there is an accurate source of wisdom.

The response should be linked to the Nicene Creed, not be general about the Trinity.

(c) Explain **two** ways Christian beliefs about the Trinity are shown in the Nicene Creed.

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

(5)

Christians believe that the Trinity is God in three forms. God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. In the Nicene Creed, God the Father is described as 'Almighty' which suggests his omnipotence and ~~his superiority over~~ and also the 'creator of heaven and earth' which shows his superiority.

Furthermore, in the Nicene Creed, it explores the belief of ~~the~~ Jesus Christ (God the Son) being sent down <sup>to earth to</sup> save humanity from sins and who eventually ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father where he will come again to 'judge the living and the dead.'



Belief One – Trinity is God in three forms (1)  
Development One – God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit (1)

Source – 'Creator of heaven and earth' (1) Belief Two - Jesus Christ – God the Son (1) Development Two – being sent home to save humanity (1)

5 marks



Candidates should not attempt to 'shoehorn' in random quotes as sources of wisdom; they must use them appropriately.

## Question 1 (d)

The focus of the marking changes from AO1 to AO2 on the d items. The candidates are being assessed on AO2: Analyse and evaluate aspects of religion and belief, including their significance and influence. AO2 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 validity of the arguments used / appraisal to gain the higher grades. Many candidates produced excellent answers giving reasons for and against but failed to evaluate the credibility of the argument. Formulas and writing frames restricted the flow of the arguments, restricting students' progression to the higher levels.

d) items are marked using levels and awarding is carried out using 'best fit' according to the level descriptors.

Candidates were assessed on Section One: Christian Beliefs

Bullet point 1.8 – Divergent solutions offered to the problem of evil/suffering

The question asked:

'There are no successful solutions to the problem of evil and suffering'

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you should:

- refer to Christian teachings
- reach a justified conclusion.

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

d) items are LEVEL marked, they are NOT point marked. The d) items are marked by reading the whole answer, then deciding the level by using the level descriptors. After a level is decided by best fit then the mark within the level is decided.

\* (d) "There are no successful solutions to the problem of evil and suffering."

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you should:

- refer to Christian teachings
- reach a justified conclusion.

(15)

Evil can be problematic for Christians, as - in the words of Epicurus - 'if God both can and wants to abolish evil, then how comes evil in the world?'. A few Christians would agree with this statement, as biblical solutions to evil - such as the idea of a personal force of evil - do not fully explain moral evil, and as theoretical solutions - such as the idea of free will - cannot explain natural evil. These Christians might argue that instead of finding a successful solution to evil, we should trust in God's plan and acknowledge that 'the mystery from which true godliness springs is great' (Timothy 3:16). This is quite a strong argument since God is eternal and we are mortal: we can never fully understand God and God's plan. Moreover, the book of Job is a testament that suffering is a test of faith - as Job experiences many hardships yet ~~perseveres~~ perseveres, leading to the ultimate reward of heaven. However, this is a weak argument because the biblical theory that evil and suffering are part of God's plan can be successfully used to explain the two antonyms to love (evil and suffering).

So, most Christians would disagree with the statement, as the Bible gives them many explanations or solutions to this problem - such as a personal force of evil; evil being

a test of faith and part of God's plan. This is a strong argument because 'whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the evil' (John 3:8) and biblical quotations are the fundamental sources of authority in Christianity. Conversely, some Christians might respond to this by questioning how an omnibenevolent God can allow evil to happen. Christians who disagree with the statement might say that humans were endowed with the ability to choose between good and evil (free will), and this is a stronger argument because when combined with biblical solutions, all forms of evil and suffering can be accounted for.

All in all, I disagree that there are no solutions to the problem of evil and suffering, as the Bible gives many answers and the Bible is the (literal or interpreted) word of God. Although some Christians may struggle to reconcile the idea of a loving God and a God who causes evil, it is true that we cannot fully understand God, so we cannot fully understand the nature of evil. When God gave us free will, He gave us the power to choose between good and evil, and all God can do is influence us to choose good.

The candidate gains 13 marks in total.

The candidate has reached level 4 and was awarded 10 marks and 3 marks for SPaG.

The candidate gained level 4 because: The candidate is able to critically deconstruct religious information. They used coherent and logical chains of reasoning that considered different viewpoints. They made use of sustained, accurate and thorough understanding of religion and belief. There were connections made among the full range of elements in the question. They then made some judgements fully supported by appraisal of evidence. The candidate could have provided a comprehensive appraisal of all the evidence provided.

SPaG was awarded 3 marks, in this example, because

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

This item assessed the candidates' ability to evaluate statements about whether the problem of evil and suffering can be solved. It was not about how evil can be overcome.

**In this question, 3 of the marks awarded will be for your spelling, punctuation and grammar and your use of specialist terminology.**

**\*d) "There are no successful solutions to the problem of evil and suffering."**

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you should:

- refer to Christian teachings
- reach a justified conclusion.

Laws hell the first sin  
Free will  
moral + natural evil,

(15)

For the most part, I disagree with this statement as ~~on the one hand~~ there are many laws in place to stop moral evil and suffering. This <sup>helps to deter</sup> ~~teaches~~ criminals. Moreover, and to avoid people getting hurt. <sup>At most</sup> ~~Most~~ Christians believe in Heaven and Hell and think that if you are bad and don't accept God's love will go to hell where they will be sentenced to eternal suffering. Furthermore, in Heaven it is believed that there is no <sup>or</sup> suffering.

Although, ~~even though~~ there natural evil cannot be so easily avoided ~~and~~ as we cannot control it ~~and this does~~. ~~effect~~ Also Another reason that evil and suffering is not very easily controlled is because of free will. ~~Atos~~ All Christians believe that God gave humans free will ~~and~~ as when Adam and



Eve were created this was shown when ~~the~~ Eve took the apple from the tree.

Overall, I disagree with the statement as jail has been successful at protecting people from suffering but people do still get away with it.



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The candidate gains 6 marks in total – level 1 – 3 marks plus 3 marks for spag. The candidate gained level 1 because: the candidate provides accurate isolated pieces of information about natural evil and free will and original sin. The candidate is awarded 3 marks because it was at the top of the mark range for level 1. The candidate provides some credit worthy material but does not really address the question.



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Examiner Tip

Candidates should know the wording of the specification.

## Question 2 (a)

Candidates were assessed on Section Two: Marriage and the Family

Bullet point 2.5- Christian teaching about family planning and regulation of births.

The question asked was:

Outline **three** Christian teachings about artificial methods of contraception.

The candidates needed to provide any Christian teaching about artificial contraception whether in favour or against. No marks were awarded for descriptions of the types of contraception.

This question was very wide, any possible Christian teachings about artificial methods of contraception, including teachings about why it might be allowed / not allowed were accepted.

### Question 2: Marriage and the Family

2 (a) Outline **three** Christian teachings about artificial methods of contraception.

(3)

- Human vitae of Pope Paul VI states it is wrong.
- Sex is intended for pro-creation and it is therefore wrong.
- It can encourage being sexually immoral and is therefore wrong.



This candidate is awarded 3 marks. Award one mark for each point identified: Human vitae (sic) states it is wrong (1) Sex is intended for procreation therefore it is wrong (1) Encourage being sexually immoral and is therefore wrong (1)

The last part of the last 2 outlines are required so that the answer is about artificial contraception rather than sex.



It helps candidates remember to do 3 outlines if they record each teaching separately.

This candidate clearly had some understanding but only wrote one teaching.

2 (a) Outline **three** Christian teachings about artificial methods of contraception.

(3)

Christians believe that sex  
is used to make babies so  
contraception not allowed.



This candidate is awarded 1 mark. Sex is used to make babies (sic) so contraception not allowed.



An outline must be more than one word or item of knowledge.

## Question 2 (b)

Candidates were assessed on Section Two: Marriage and the Family

Bullet point 2.1 – The importance and purpose of marriage for Christians

The question asked was:

Explain **two** reasons marriage is important in Christian life.

Candidates are asked to 'Explain **two**' on (b) items. Therefore, two reasons are required, and both need to be developed to be awarded 4 marks.

Development consists of a piece of extra information, a reference to a source of wisdom, quotes or examples. The development must link to the reason given and to the question asked.

In this question we are assessing the candidate's knowledge from bullet 2.1 in the specification about marriage. Teachers should use the wording and specialist terminology in the specification to assist candidates' understanding of questions.

(b) Explain **two** reasons marriage is important in Christian life.

(4)

One reason marriage is important to Christians is because it is the only way they can have sex. Premarital sex and sex outside marriage is forbidden, so marriage is vital as it allows a couple to have sex without ~~sinning~~ sinning.

Another reason is because marriage is a way of allowing procreation to occur. This is important as it is a way of bringing children into the church and increasing the Christian population.



b) items are point marked The candidate is awarded 4 marks. The candidate gives two developed reasons: Reason One – the only way they can have sex (1) Development One - allows a couple to have sex without sinning (1) Reason Two – way of allowing procreation to occur (1) Development Two - increasing Christian population (1)

It is important to stress the answers to this question had to focus on the purpose of marriage rather than on the purpose of the family.



b) items provide marks for four points, 2 for reasons and 2 for the development of each reason.

It helps candidates to write answers which divide into 2 paragraphs, each containing a reason and a development.

The candidate was awarded 2 marks.

(b) Explain **two** reasons marriage is important in Christian life.

(4)

firstly, christians believe that marriage is important because they believe that you shouldn't have sex outside of marriage. Secondly, marriage is important to christians because they are willing for God to bring them together for the rest of their lives.

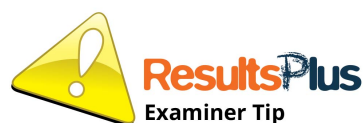


The candidate gives two reasons:

Reason One – You shouldn't have sex outside of marriage (1)

Reason Two – God to bring them together for the rest of their lives (1)

It is important to remember that in the question we are assessing the candidate's knowledge from bullet 2.1 in the specification about marriage.



Examples can be used as development as long as they link to the question and the reason given.

## **Question 2 (c)**

Candidates were assessed on Section Two: Marriage and the Family

Bullet point 2.3 – Purpose and importance of the family

The question asked was

Explain **two** Christian beliefs about the purpose of the family.

Candidates needed to answer giving beliefs; specifically about the purpose of the family not marriage (the making of families).

Candidates are asked to 'Explain **two**' on (c) items. Therefore, two reasons are required, and both need to be developed to be awarded 4 marks. They must also correctly use a source of wisdom in their answer which must be identifiable, relevant and linked to the way given in the answer so they can then be awarded 5 marks.

The candidate is awarded 5 marks.

The candidate gives two beliefs these are developed and uses an accurate source of wisdom.

Crossed out material is not marked if it is replaced with another answer.

(c) Explain **two** Christian beliefs about the purpose of the family.

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

(5)

~~Christians believe the purpose of family is to express love (through sex) for on to one and another. This is because in the bible it states "God made man for woman". Therefore Christians believe family should~~

Christians believe family's purpose is to bring children up in a christian way. In the Bible it states "children obey your mother and father". This implies that christians should bring their children up in a right way.

Another christian belief about purpose of family is to provide emotional support. In the bible it states "parents do not exasperate your children". This tells christians that they should encourage and help their children.





Belief One – Bring children up in the Christian way  
(1) Development One – Children obey your mother  
and father (1) (a quote can be development)

Then there is repetition

Belief Two – Provide emotional support (1) Source  
– parents do not exasperate your children (1)

Development Two – encourage and help their  
children (1)



Candidates must study the whole breadth and  
depth of the specification in order to achieve  
higher grades. It is best to check that materials  
used to teach cover the specification.

The candidate is awarded 1 mark. The candidate gives one belief and does not attempt to develop it.

(c) Explain **two** Christian beliefs about the purpose of the family.

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

(5)

One purpose of the family is to ensure safety and



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Belief One – to ensure safety (1) This is not developed



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Examiner Tip

The source must be relevant and used as part of the candidate's reasoning.

## Question 2 (d)

The focus of the marking is AO2 on the d items. As explained in the specification this means:

Analyse and evaluate aspects of religion and belief, including their significance and influence.

AO2 constitutes 50% of the overall mark.

The question asks candidates to '**Evaluate**' this statement **considering the arguments for and against** and reach a **justified conclusion** – there must be some consideration of the validity of the arguments used / appraisal to gain the higher grades. Many candidates produced excellent answers giving reasons for and against but failed to evaluate the credibility of the argument.

Formulas and writing frames restrict the flow of the arguments, restricting candidates' progression to the higher levels.

d) items are marked using levels and awarding is carried out using 'best fit' according to the level descriptors.

Candidates were assessed on Section Two: Marriage and the Family

Bullet point 2.4 – Support for the family in the local parish

The question asked:

'The local church community needs to support families.'

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you should:

- refer to Christian teachings
- reach a justified conclusion.

Please note that candidates are not required to give a non-religious response, the bullet 2.4 does not require study of a non-religious view

d) items are marked using levels and awarding is carried out using 'best fit' according to the level descriptors.

(d) "The local church community needs to support families."

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you should:

- refer to Christian teachings
- reach a justified conclusion.

(12)

Some Christians will disagree with this statement, as it's almost impossible for the local church to be able to provide aid to all local families. This means that they are unable to support all, so they shouldn't support any, as if they did it could be viewed as unfair. But however, this is a weak argument, as if all churches work towards supporting families, this could be achieved, as there would be an immense rise in aid. Another reason why some Christians disagree is they believe that the church has more important tasks to focus on. This means that the church should aim to provide important worship, such as the sacraments as these are required for salvation, rather than provide things and for families in the local community. Again, this is a weak argument, as family is already prominent in Christianity, as in the ten commandments it states to 'honour your mother and father', highlighting its importance.

On the other hand, a stronger argument would be to agree with the quote, as the church has a duty to help their community. In the Bible it states that the church should follow 'the elders and the flock'.

This means that the Church should provide guidance and help to their community, allowing them to become good, successful families. This is a strong argument, as in the Bible it also mentions 'the parable of the sheep and the goats', meaning that Christians should help others in order to go to heaven, supporting the point that family support is important. Another reason why most Christians will agree is because families help social Christianity, without the churches aid, they may show any form of Christianity. This means that the Church should provide support to keep Christianity alive within modern society. This is a strong argument, as the numbers of Christians are quickly diminishing, and churches can work with families to prevent this large scale secularisation.

In light of this evidence, the most compelling argument is to agree. This is because Jesus taught to do the most loving thing and in this situation, the most loving thing is to provide aid to families. The other argument is weaker as churches already provide youth clubs and marriage counselling, so these can be continued, and too done on a large scale.



d) items are LEVEL marked, they are NOT point marked. This question does not have SPaG marks. There is accurate religious information among many of the elements' reasons for and against, using specialist information although this is not sustained.

Level 3 not level 2 as there are some judgements supported by some appraisal of the argument.

Not level 4 as there is not a comprehensive appraisal of the arguments.

The phrase this is a strong argument because followed by another reason - is not appraisal.

9 marks in the top of the mark range for level 3 awarded.



There are many different ways to answer d) items and gain marks; a template will not assure good marks.

d) items should be read completely and then assessed against the level descriptors to find a best fit.

The candidate gains 9 marks. The candidate is reached level 3 and was awarded 9 marks which is the top of Level 3.

This example is included to compare to the other of the same item to show how different responses can gain the same marks using the level descriptors.

(d) "The local church community needs to support families."

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you should:

- refer to Christian teachings
- reach a justified conclusion.

(12)

Some Christians would agree with this statement because it is what God intends them to do. In the Bible, it says, "be shepherds of God's flock, watching over them". This means that the local church should support families because it is their duty to do so, as instructed by God in the Bible, and therefore this fulfilment fulfils God's wishes. However, you could argue that the quote does not specify that families in particular need to be supported and that the local church already has many other responsibilities and may not be able to help families.

Some Christians might also agree with the statement because it helps to bring up children in <sup>the</sup> Christian faith. The purpose of the family is to bring up children as Christians, therefore the church can help them with this by performing rites of passage such as baptisms and confirmations, and also providing education about the faith through Sunday school. However, you could argue that it is the responsibility of the parents to bring up children into the faith, and that this should be done ~~without~~ in a home environment without needing the support of the church.

Other Christians might disagree with the statement, because the



purpose of the family is to for parents to support their children. They might argue that some children may not want to be Christians, and involving the Church might pressure them into making difficult decisions about their faith early on in life. They might argue that God wants Christians to respect everyone, and this includes allowing ~~those~~ children to make their own decisions about their faith. However, you could argue that God also wants children to be brought up as Christians, which means introducing them to the faith early on with the support of the church.



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There is accurate religious information among many of the elements reasons for and against, using specialist information although this is not sustained.

Level 3 not level 2 as there are some judgements supported by good appraisal of the argument - the paragraphs include discussion of alternative points of view.

Not level 4 as there is not a comprehensive appraisal of the arguments - most appraisal is in the conclusion.

9 marks in the top of the mark range for level 3 awarded.



Appraisal shows:

The value of the evidence provided /

- the strength of the answer
- the validity of the chains in the answer
- a consideration of what is written in order to answer the questions (rather than which side they agree with)
- a measurement of which side is more logical
- an assessment of which is the more compelling argument
- an understanding of which argument is more convincing or rational or cogent.

### Question 3 (a)

Candidates were assessed on Section Three: Living the Christian Life

Bullet point 3.1 – Christian worship

The question asked was:

Outline **three** examples of non-liturgical worship.

The candidates needed to provide examples of non-liturgical worship, not provide reasons for its use.

This candidate is awarded 3 marks.

Three examples were required.

**Question 3: Living the Christian Life**

**3 (a) Outline three examples of non-liturgical worship. (3)**

Charismatic worship, which is ~~spere~~ the  
silent prayer, gospel, and playing music  
Private prayer and dancing etc.

Silent prayer is when you sit for  
extended periods of time and stay silent.

Private prayer is a retreat from the world  
and you are alone praying to God.



Award one mark for each example outlined -  
Charismatic worship, which is the gospel, playing  
music and dancing (1) - Silent prayer is when you  
sit for extended periods of time (1) - Private prayer  
is a retreat from the world (1)



Candidates and teachers should be familiar with the requirements of the specification, not reliant on published teaching materials. Examinations are set from the specification alone.

This candidate is awarded 1 mark.

They did not provide an outline as required in the question.

3 (a) Outline **three** examples of non-liturgical worship.

(3)

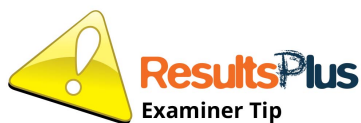
- Singing
- Dancing
- Informal Prayer



This candidate answered using a list which is not an outline and thus can only receive 1 mark according to the mark scheme.

Singing  
Dancing  
Informal prayer (1)

If each of these were part of an outline the candidate would have been awarded 3 marks.



Three separate sentences is a good idea.

### Question 3 (b)

Candidates were assessed on Section Three: Living the Christian Life

Bullet point 3.3 – The nature and purpose of prayer

The question asked was:

Explain **two** reasons why set prayers may be important for Christians

Candidates are asked to 'Explain **two**' on (b) items. Therefore, two reasons are required, and both need to be developed to be awarded 4 marks.

Development consists of a piece of extra information, a reference to a source of wisdom, quotes or examples. The development must link to the reason given and to the question asked.

The candidate is awarded 4 marks.

(b) Explain **two** reasons why set prayers may be important for Christians.

(4)

One reason <sup>set</sup> prayers are important is that it is a method of ~~communication~~ communicating with God. This is important as it allows Christians to seek guidance or help from God.

Second reason <sup>set</sup> prayers are important is that it could show their devotion to the faith. It would show how devout they are to the faith as if they have learnt them off by heart then they are very committed.



The candidate gives two developed reasons:

Reason One - communicating with God (1)  
Development One - seek guidance (1) (extra reasoning is development)

Reason Two - show their devotion to the faith (1)

Development Two - learnt them off by heart (1)



Writing reasons in separate paragraphs like this candidate is a good idea.

The candidate was awarded 4 marks.

Unless the answer indicated they were referring to informal prayer it was assumed candidates were referring to set prayer.

(b) Explain **two** reasons why set prayers may be important for Christians. - solidarity  
- atonement - unity (4)  
- peace

One reason why set prayers may be important for Christians is because it will enable them to feel closer to Jesus as they would follow the gospel/bible as Jesus did which will give them a platform for salvation.

Another reason why set prayers is important is because it unifies Christians which helps with understanding the community better in order to support one another which will lead Christians to heaven.



The candidate gives two developed reasons:  
Reason One - enable them to feel closer to God (1)  
Development One - follow the Gospel /Bible as Jesus did (1)

Reason Two - it unifies Christians (1)

Development Two - support one another (1)



Examples linked to the reason given are a good form of development.

## Question 3 (c)

Candidates were assessed on Section Three: Living the Christian Life

Bullet point 3.5 – Christian religious celebrations

The question asked was:

Explain **two** reasons why Christians celebrate Advent

Candidates are asked to 'Explain two' on (c) items. Therefore, two reasons are required, and both need to be developed. Development consists of a piece of extra information, a reference to a source of wisdom, quotes 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.

Please note the celebrations named in this bullet point include Christmas, Easter, Advent and Holy Week and all should be studied.

c) items are point marked; c) items provide marks for five points, 2 for REASON, 2 for the development of each REASONS, and one for an accurate source that relates to the REASON given. The candidate is awarded 5 marks.

(c) Explain **two** reasons why Christians celebrate Advent.

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

Catholics - reconciliation.  
Preparation before  
Christmas.  
(5)

Christians celebrate advent as it's the lead up to Jesus' birth. This allows them time to think about ~~about~~ the prophecies that predicted Jesus' birth. It also provides time to think about God's omnipotence as he becomes incarnate. This is shown in the Bible as it says "the word became flesh" Another reason advent is celebrated is that it gives time for Catholics to be rid of sin before Christmas. This is done by reconciliation and confession.





The candidate gives two REASONS: these are developed AND there is an accurate source of wisdom used appropriately. Reason One – Lead up to Jesus birth (1) Development One – prophecies predicted Jesus birth (1) Reason Two – Provides time to think about God's omnipotence (1) Development Two – as He becomes incarnate (1) Source – the Word became flesh (1)



What constitutes a source of wisdom

- The candidates do not have to reference a quote or quote it word for word.
- If the candidate states that it is in John 1:18 and then states another verse from John – then this can be awarded. We are not holding candidates to 'verses' but it must be the correct book.
- If the candidate gives the paraphrase and then puts (John 1:18) the bracketed reference is ignored.
- If a candidate quotes Jesus and it was Paul or vice versa; and the quote is not accredited to them, it is not awarded.

The candidate is awarded 2 marks

(c) Explain **two** reasons why Christians celebrate Advent.

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

(5)

CHRISTIANS CELEBRATE ADVENT AS THEY CELEBRATE  
GETTING READY TO FOR JESUS BIRTH - ADVENT  
CANDLES ARE LIT AND GIFTS ARE GIVEN TO SHOW JESUS  
WAS A GIFT TO THE WORLD



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

The candidate gives two REASONS: these are not developed nor is a valid source of wisdom provided. Reason One - Getting ready for Jesus' birth (1) Reason Two - Candles are lit to show Jesus was a gift to the world (1)



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Tip

Sources can be paraphrased, however they must be recognisable.

## Question 3 (d)

Candidates are assessed on AO2 : Analyse and evaluate aspects of religion and belief, including their significance and influence.

AO2 constitutes 50% of the overall marks on this paper.

The question is '**Evaluate**' this statement **considering the arguments for and against** and reach a **justified conclusion** – there must be some consideration of the validity of the arguments used / appraisal to gain the higher grades. Many candidates produced excellent answers giving reasons for and against but failed to evaluate the credibility of the argument . Formulas and writing frames restricted the flow of the arguments, restricting student's progression to the higher levels.

d) items are marked using levels and awarding is carried out using 'best fit' according to the level descriptors.

Candidates were assessed on Section Three: Living the Christian Life

Bullet point 3.8 – The role and importance of the Church in the world wide community

The question asked:

'The main priority of the Church is to work for reconciliation.'

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you should:

- refer to Christian teachings
- reach a justified conclusion.

The candidate gains 13 marks in total - the candidate has reached level 4 and was awarded 10 marks + then 3 marks for SPaG.

Although the question was aimed to elicit responses about 3.8 it could have been understood to refer to the sacrament of reconciliation 3.2, so both understandings were accepted.

\*d) "The main priority of the Church is to work for reconciliation."

- forgiveness  
togetherness  
religion

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you should:

- refer to Christian teachings
- reach a justified conclusion.

(15)

Some Christians would agree with the statement because ~~Jesus~~ <sup>Jesus</sup> ~~God~~ bought reconciliation between mankind and God through his great sacrifice by his death on the cross. This is a significant argument because it shows God's love for the world meaning that Christians should also return it by reconciling with their enemies and forgiving them. However this ~~is~~ can also be a problematic argument because it ~~is~~ is the duty of the people to forgive others and not the church as church as other priorities such as to help Christians with sacraments and offering Christians knowledge suggesting that it is not really their duty to work for reconciliation.

Other Christians would also disagree with the statement as the main priority of the church would be to provide Christians with worship or give to the charity. This is a reliable argument because through worship, Christians can be able to communicate to God to express their feelings. Moreover giving

to charity can help reduce poverty in the world. This is supported by the sermon on the mount which states that Christians have a duty to share their time and possessions. However this can also be a unsuccessful argument because others may think that through reconciliation, they are following the teachings of God as God brought atonement through his moral example and dying for human sins. This shows that the church also has the duty to work for reconciliation.

In evaluating the statement, the stronger argument is the argument for the statement because there are many persecuted churches that are unable to express their faith in many countries so the church should help those ~~be~~ through reconciliation and forgiveness. The weaker argument is the argument against the statement as Jesus bought salvation through his ~~own~~ sacrifice so why ~~can't we~~ forget can't Christians sacrifice <sup>top and</sup> forget all the differences and forgive each other?



Level 4 - 10 marks SPaG 3

There is accurate religious information among many of the elements' chains of logical reasoning given.

Level 4 not level 3 as judgements are fully supported by appraisal of the argument and the accuracy is sustained.

Not level 3 as appraisal of the arguments is thorough.

10 marks the bottom of the mark range for level 4 awarded. A better level 4 would be more precise and contain more appraisal of the evidence.



Candidates can write on the exam paper and cross out the elements required.

\*(d) "The main priority of the Church is to work for reconciliation."

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you should:

- refer to Christian teachings
- reach a justified conclusion.

(15)

Some Christians will disagree with the statement. This is because there is a number of other things the church could be doing. For example Jesus told to 'spread the faith'. Therefore the church should work to spread the faith of their religion to new believers or to children.

However, some Christians will agree with the argument and believe reconciliation is important. This is because the church should work towards asking for forgiveness in order for them to live out a good life in a way God wants them to and by also following Jesus' example.

Weighing up both sides of the arguments, it seems that...



**d) items are LEVEL marked, they are NOT point marked**

Level marking: Read the whole answer then the level should be decided using the level descriptors. After a level is decided by best fit decide a mark within the level.

Level 1 3 marks - SPaG 3

Level 1 some information is identified, these are in isolated points.

Not level 2 because there are insufficient connections made and a lack of religious understanding.

3 marks, the top of the mark range for level 1 awarded, as the final paragraph contains some joined up ideas.



AO2 needs to be evidenced in d) items. Candidates must use their knowledge and understanding to put forward arguments for and against and then they must assess the validity of their argument.



## Question 4 (a)

Candidates were assessed on Section Four: Matters of Life and Death

Bullet point 4.4 – Implications of the value and sanctity of life for the issue of abortion.

The question asked was:

Outline **three** Christian beliefs that may support the use of abortion.

The candidates needed to provide beliefs which were pro-abortion and could be used by Christians.

This candidate is awarded 3 marks.

The answer continues below and had to be marked in another marking system; however the candidate could have written the entire response in the space given.

4 (a) Outline **three** Christian beliefs that may support the use of abortion. (3)

one believe that may support use of abortion  
is when life of mother is severely threatened.  
at this point abortion is allowed.

Another belief is when a woman is pregnant  
due to rape allegations. Here Christians believe the baby  
could be aborted.

Finally a further <sup>Christian</sup> belief that may support abortion is when  
the child is predicted to come out with a seriously disease.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

Award one mark for each point identified. - Life of the mother is threatened (1) - Pregnant due to rape (1)

The third point is out of clip but was worthy of a mark (1)



Candidates should read the questions carefully to discern what is required in their answers.

The candidate is awarded 1 mark.

4 (a) Outline **three** Christian beliefs that may support the use of abortion.

(3)

one christian belief that may support  
the use of abortion is if you ~~are~~ were  
~~pregnant~~ raped.  
another belief is if



Award one mark for each point identified - You were raped (1)



Candidates should provide 3 full sentences to answer an a item

## Question 4 (b)

Candidates were assessed on Section Four: Matters of Life and Death

Bullet point 4.6 – Christian responses to non-religious arguments against life after death.

The question asked was:

Explain **two** ways Christians may respond to arguments against life after death.

Candidates are asked to 'Explain **two**' on (b) items. Therefore, two ways are required, and both need to be developed to be awarded 4 marks.

Development consists of a piece of extra information, a reference to a source of wisdom, quotes or examples. The development must be of the reason given and to the question asked.

b) items are point marked – two beliefs developed are required.

b) items provide marks for four points, 2 for reasons and 2 for the development of each reason. The candidate is awarded 4 marks.

~ allowed ~ before a foetus is formed (less than two months) therefore  
(b) Explain **two** ways Christians may respond to arguments against life after death. it is (4) allowed.

Some Christians argue that there is proof that there is an afterlife. For example some have 'nearly death' experience. As they claim to see something after this experience, it is evident there is life after death.

Most Christians e.g. Catholics respond that Jesus' resurrection suggests there is life after death. After getting crucified, Jesus was placed in heaven because he was a sinless man. This suggests that afterlife exists and those who follow the footsteps of Jesus Christ and live a faithful Christian life will be rewarded in heaven.



The candidate gives two developed reasons:  
Reason One - There is proof that there is an afterlife (1)

Development One - for example some claim to have a near death experience (1)

Reason Two - Jesus' resurrection suggests there is life after death (1)

Development Two - will be rewarded in heaven (1)



Candidates should try to vary their answers as much as possible to avoid overlapping material.

The candidate is awarded 1 mark.

(b) Explain **two** ways Christians may respond to arguments against life after death.

(4)

One way Christians may respond is where does the soul and memories go if they don't go to heaven or hell.



The candidate gives one way. Way One - where does the soul and memories go if they don't go to heaven or hell (1) This is a valid response to an argument against life after death.



Candidates should ensure they read the secondary command word in each question. In this case it is 'ways'.

## Question 4 (c)

Candidates were assessed on Section Four: Matters of Life and Death

Bullet point 4.2 – Christian teachings about the sanctity of life.

The question asked was:

Explain **two** reasons why Christians believe life is holy.

Candidates are asked to 'Explain two' on (c) items. Therefore, two reasons are required, and both need to be developed. Development consists of a piece of extra information, a reference to a source of wisdom, quotes 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.

This item was straight off the specification and yet it caused some candidates difficulty; it is important for candidates to be familiar with the wording of the specification.

c) items provide marks for five points, 2 for reasons, 2 for the development of each reason and one for an accurate source that relates to one of the reasons given. The candidate is awarded 5 marks.

(c) Explain **two** reasons why Christians believe life is holy.

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

(5)

One reason Christians believe life is holy is because they believe that God resides within us all. In the Bible, it states that: "Your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit." As we have the holy spirit within ourselves, life must be holy.

Another reason Christians believe life is holy is because they believe that "God made mankind in his own image." As we resemble God's creation, life is important and sacred. Thus, Christians believe that life is holy.



The candidate gives two responses: these are developed and there is an accurate source of wisdom.

Reason One – God resides within us all (1) Source – bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit (1)

Development One – as we have the Holy Spirit with ourselves life must be holy (1)

Response Two – God made mankind in his image (1) (uses a quote as a reason)

Development Two – we resemble God's creation (1)



Candidates do not have to reference a quote or quote it word for word. Paraphrases are acceptable and they do not have to memorise the biblical reference.

The candidate is awarded 2 marks.

(c) Explain **two** reasons why Christians believe life is holy.

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

(5)

The bible teaches about the sanctity of life which is the word of God therefore life must be a gift.

Also because the human body is so perfect that it must be holy as it is capable of many things.

~~It~~ It must be holy because it's so special.



The candidate gives one developed reason.

The first part is not sufficiently precise to be credited, and unless the question is about the Bible saying the Bible is the Word of God is not a development. One reason – Must be holy as it is capable of many things (1)

Development One – It must be holy because it is so special (1)



Examples linked to the reason and the question are good forms of development.



## **Question 4 (d)**

Candidates were assessed on Section Four: Matters of Life and Death

Bullet point 4.8 – Christian responses to issues in the natural world.

The question asked:

'Animal experimentation should be used to help humans'

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you should:

- refer to Christian teachings
- refer to relevant ethical arguments
- reach a justified conclusion.

Please note that as required in the bullet point in the question candidates were required to give an ethical argument. The specification bullet point states 'including the application of ethical theories', thus it is possible to ask for this in the question.

Candidates were able to give knowledge and understanding of this issue, sometimes at length, but very few were analytical in their approach, some missed out the ethical argument and limited themselves to level 2.

The candidate has reached level 4 and was awarded 10 marks.

(d) "Animal experimentation should be used to help humans."

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you should:

- refer to Christian teachings
- refer to relevant ethical arguments
- reach a justified conclusion.

(12)

Some Christians agree with this statement as they believe God gave them the Earth to do whatever they want with it. When ~~spat~~ in the Genesis story God said 'let them have dominion ~~of~~ over the Earth.' This means that humans can arguably do anything on the Earth including animal experimentation. This is wrong as the source of authority is from the Bible which a lot of Christians would argue that it has the highest authority - word from God. However, utilitarians would say that that the all wrong thing ~~is~~ would ~~be~~ to not ~~do~~ do experimentation on humans as it opposes animal rights. Additionally, other Christians may argue that 'dominion' doesn't necessarily equate to 'dominance' having all the power. And abusing animals are abusing God's creation which is completely negative and a bad thing to do. This however is unconvincing as ~~it~~ God allows humans to become 'stewards' of the Earth which effectively allows them to do whatever they want. In contrast because they are ~~sup~~ ~~sup~~ supposed to be have 'stewardship' they arguably should be taking care of animals not doing experiments on them.

This is ~~convincing~~ convincing as it coheres with a lot of other Christian teachings like 'do the most loving thing' which is the golden rule and 'love thy neighbour' which coheres to loving everything including animals. Situational ethics however would argue about doing the most loving thing which has the best possible outcome. If animal experimentation ~~is~~ helps cure a disease that ~~se~~ would otherwise wipeout the entire human race, they would not oppose animal experimentation. This convincing as it also connects with the Christian teachings of scarcity of human life. As he had told humans Adam + Eve to 'fill the Earth and subdue it' not allowing animal experimentation could hinder this command. So, it would be argued that ~~humans~~ animal experimentation should be allowed to prevent humans committing <sup>arguably</sup> the worst sin in Christianity which is opposing God's word.

In conclusion, the argument which is most convincing is that humans should be allowed to experiment on animals for the sole purpose to aid and help the human race. This not only adheres with the Christian viewpoint of letting humans rule the Earth however they would like, but also relates to ethical theories surround this as it's arguably the most loving thing to do (situational ethics) if it helps the prevention of disease. (Total for Question 4 = 24 marks)



Level 4 - 10 marks

There is accurate religious information among many of the elements or chains of logical reasoning given.

Level 4 not level 3 as judgements are fully supported by appraisal of the argument and the accuracy is sustained.

Not level 3 as appraisal of the arguments is thorough.

10 marks are bottom of the mark range for level 4 awarded. A better level 4 would be more precise and contain more appraisal of the evidence.



Candidates should be familiar with the requirements in the levels' mark schemes.

This question does not have SPaG marks – it is out of 12

The candidate gains 7 marks

(d) "Animal experimentation should be used to help humans."

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against.

In your response you should:

- refer to Christian teachings
- refer to relevant ethical arguments
- reach a justified conclusion.

(12)

The statement "Animal experimentation should be used to help humans", is disputed by the point that in the Bible it is said that God, ~~made~~ 'male and female he created them' and he made man in the image of himself whereas all the other life forms were not. This means that humans are permitted to ~~use~~ use animals as they please. ~~as~~ This is a strong argument because God created humans with the earth meaning that they can use the resources ~~as if~~ of the earth however they want. Significantly in the ~~1st~~ first testament ~~book~~ of Genesis, God instructed humans to be stewards of the earth and having them to preserve the earth for future generations and ~~experimentation~~ ~~allows~~ human on animals allows human to prosper and protect the earth. This is a strong point due to the fact that if God left the responsibility of the earth to humans then animal experimentation ~~is allowed~~ should be used to help humans.

However, despite humans being responsible for the earth and being entrusted to preserve it and act ~~as~~ as stewards, the Bible doesn't permit the misuse of animals. In fact the Bible states that all life belongs to God and therefore all life is holy / sacred, ~~precious~~ and often animal experimentation often leads to the animals ~~deaths~~ deaths further conveying that animal experimentation is wrong. This is a strong argument due to the fact that even the God enabled humans to have free will and used the earth because he they had seen that the Bible states all life is a gift from God and can only be taken by him. Furthermore in the story of <sup>Joseph</sup> ~~Joseph~~ it is taught that shepherds are to protect their cattle and, (sheeps and goats) by dawn their was rather than let the cattle ~~die~~ die. This is a strong argument as the Bible states that humans are to protect animals and even give their own life to preserve that of the cattle. Contradicting the statement 'Animal experimentation should be used to help humans' as this includes ~~the~~ harming them which goes against God's will. I agree

In conclusion, considering both sides of the argument ~~the~~ that "Animal experimentation should be used to help humans", this is because despite the fact God ~~says~~ states that all life is ~~precious~~ and sacred, he made man in the image of himself and entrusted the earth to humans to protect and preserve for the future generations.



Level 3 - 7 marks

There is accurate religious information among many of the elements; they gave reasons for and against. Some gaps in logic are present. Some attempt at appraisal.

Level 3 not level 2 as there are some judgements supported by the beginnings of appraisal of the argument.

Not level 4: the accuracy is not sustained and there is not a comprehensive appraisal of the evidence used.

7 marks: the bottom of the mark range for level 3 is awarded. A better level 3 would be more precise and contain more appraisal of the evidence.



This candidate fails to really appraise as they use the phrase 'this is a strong argument' to introduce more reasoning rather than to assess the reasons for the strength of the argument. This is a case of being taught a format/scaffolding without really understanding the requirements of the marking levels.

## Paper Summary

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

- Answer a) items in outlines, i.e. in full sentences
- Provide 3 sentences for a) items, each on a separate line
- b) items should have 2 developed reasons, not more than 2
- development may be 1) example 2) quotes 3) extra relevant material
- development must link to the reason given and still answer the question set
- c) items are similar to b) items but should also use a source as a fifth element
- the source of wisdom may be a paraphrase but should be identifiable
- the source of wisdom must be linked to the reason given
- d) item responses must show AO2 skills to get high marks
- d) items must show an appraisal of the argument, not simply rely on a set format
- Level descriptors should be used to mark d items, not point marking.



## 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>

