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Examiners' Report

June 2011

GCSE Religious Studies 5RS02 01

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June 2011

Publications Code UG028604

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Introduction

This is the second year the new specification for Edexcel GCSE Religious Studies has been assessed and numbers have greatly increased from last year.

This specification introduced a few new topics and the weighting of the assessment objectives has changed from the legacy specification. GCSE Religious Studies continues to be a very popular course as teachers and schools recognise the benefits of an examinable course that both engages and educates young people. The variety of choice within this specification allows teachers to teach the course that most suits their students.

Unit 2 covers Christianity. This unit continues to be popular, many candidates sit this unit as a short course because it engages the interest of young people, it addresses many moral and spiritual issues affecting young people today and importantly it fulfils all the requirements for Key Stage 4 statutory Religious Education.

Question 1 (a)

The majority of candidates who attempted this question gained full marks. This was an easy question to get full marks by using a glossary definition; however most were awarded 2 marks for an alternative wording.

Write your answer here:

(a) Omniscient means that god knows everything that has ever happened or is going to happen



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Examiner Comments

This candidate gave a correct definition and gained the two marks for 'God knows everything'.



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Examiner Tip

It is really important that in order to gain full marks candidates know the glossary definition given in the specification.

write your answer here:

(a) Omniscient means that God is all powerfull.



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In this example the candidate gives a definition of another key word and gains no marks.



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

It is essential that candidates not only learn the glossary definitions but also are confident in their use of them.

write your answer here: /

(a) omniscient means when a person believes all faiths are equal.



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The candidate makes a guess at the glossary definition and gains no marks.

Question 1 (b) (c) (d)

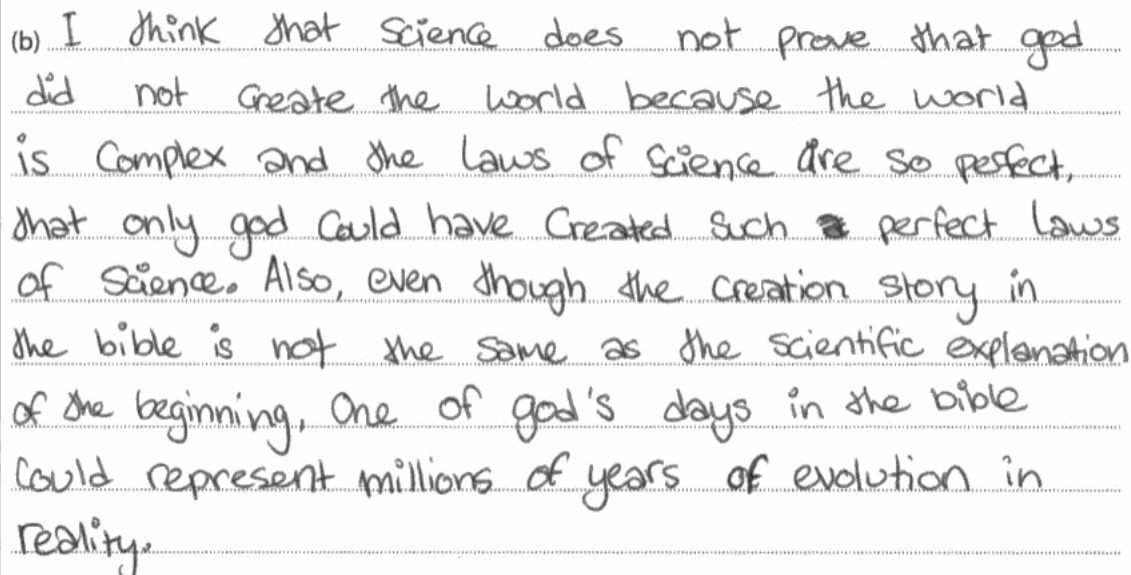
The questions were designed to specifically address bullet points from the specification. When teaching the specification it is always a good idea to ensure candidates are aware of the bullet points and the variations of questions that can be asked surrounding the issue/content.

(b) Most candidates recognised that this was a question about what science says about the origins of the world and gave arguments which agreed with the statement. The better responses were given by candidates who disagreed with it and said that science was unable to prove God did not create the world. They frequently did this by referring to the design argument and developed their reason by discussing the concept of a designer linked to purpose and complexity. Some able candidates gave a detailed answer using the big bang but as the question asks for two reasons they ended up only giving one very developed answer that could not go beyond two marks.

c) This was well answered by most candidates, many were familiar with the inconsistent triad argument for evil and suffering. The question was less well answered by candidates who gave a very brief summary of the argument rather than taking it apart and explaining it fully.

d) The question needed candidates to evaluate a statement about whether miracles are possible today. Most candidates responded well to the new layout of the (d) question and were able to state their own opinion and give reasons for it.

In this example we concentrate on the (b) answer



(b) I think that science does not prove that god did not create the world because the world is complex and the laws of science are so perfect, that only god could have created such a perfect laws of science. Also, even though the creation story in the bible is not the same as the scientific explanation of the beginning, one of god's days in the bible could represent millions of years of evolution in reality.

Omnibenevolent, then he would want to do something about the suffering. And if he was really omnipotent, then he could easily stop the suffering.

If people that somebody loves, continue to suffer, they may feel that there is no god listening to their prayer, and turn to agnosticism or even atheism.

(d) (i) "Miracles cannot happen today" I agree with the statement, because science has progressed a lot and there are now very few things that do not have a rational explanation and cannot be explained by science.

I also believe this because people have different perceptions of what they think a miracle is. What one person may consider a miracle, another may not.



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Examiner Comments

The candidate gives two developed reasons.



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Examiner Tip

Candidates should be encouraged to split their reasons into I think... reason one... reason two... This avoids candidates giving one extended reason; thus limiting them to two marks for only one reason.

In this example we are particularly looking at the (c) trait. However it is interesting to read and note the comments on the (b) trait.

(b) I don't think that science proves that God created the world because there is no evidence to show that the world was created scientifically.
I also don't think that science proves that God created the world because I believe in God and the bible.

(c) Evil and suffering may lead some people not to believe in God because they think that if God is omnibenevolent then he wouldn't hurt people or make them suffer. If God loves everyone

then why would he make them suffer and why would he let things like natural disasters happen. If God wanted to teach people a lesson then he could do it in a nicer way rather than making people die.



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Examiner Comments

(b) No marks awarded. The question is about science proving God did not create the world. This candidate has misunderstood the question.
(c) Level 2 - 4 marks. Level 1 was reached at 'make people suffer'; it is then developed by the example of natural disasters taking it to level 2 for religious understanding.



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Examiner Tip

When teaching the answers to (c) questions candidates should be encouraged to give four reasons. They should be taught to link each reason back to the question to ensure that the examiner can see an explanation in regard to the question asked.

In this example we are particularly interested in the (d) item as a good example - but please read and note the comments on the (b) and (c) for extra support especially concerning the quality of written communication.

(b) I don't think science proves God didn't create the world because even if the big bang theory is correct then there has to be something that caused the big bang, this cause could be god. Also if God does exist then he is all powerful and could create evidence leading to the belief in the scientific big bang theory as a test of faith.

(c) evil and suffering may lead some people not believe in god. A reason for this could be that the person thinks an all-loving god wouldn't let people suffer. Another reason is that if god existed ~~he~~ he would

be all powerful and he would be able to stop wrong does
so people lose faith when god doesn't help evil and
suffering. Also evil and suffering are not needed,
they don't contribute to anything or make anything so
why would even create these things in the first place.
God is supposed to be all seeing and some people
may believe that if there was a god he wouldn't
watch as people suffer and let there be evil in
the world.

(d) (i) "Miracles cannot happen today" I ~~don't~~ agree with this statement. What a religious person may call a miracle could simply be a coincidence or luck. Also as a non-believer in God I don't believe in any supernatural myths, if we can't prove that another supernatural occurrence happens why should we believe a miracle is real. I also believe that any so-called "miracle" could be proved wrong by scientific evidence and if this is not the case then there are surely so many undiscovered scientific explanations which don't put down a "miracle".

(ii) Some people may disagree with me and say that a patient narrowly escaping death is a miracle. They also may say that miracles cannot be proven by science and that they are an act of God or something supernatural. Christians would say that in the bible it speaks of miracles and so they believe every word in the bible so miracles must be true.



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(b) 3 marks One developed reason; followed by a simple reason (slightly alternative in its approach). (c) Level 4 - 8 marks. The higher mark has been awarded for coherent communication. (d) (i) 3 marks. Three reasons given in response to the statement. (d) (ii) 3 marks. Three reasons in response to the statement. With reference to Christianity.



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Candidates attempting the (d) items should ensure as in this case that they write the statement at the top of the answer. This guides them into giving a response firstly to the correct (d) question, but also ensures they give reasons relating to the question.

Question 2 (a)

Most candidates answered this question well; very few did not receive full marks.

This is an example of one of the few that did not know the answer to this question.

Write your answer here:

(a) When you believe in God.



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Examiner Comments

The candidate gained no marks as the answer was incorrect.



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Examiner Tip

Learn the glossary definitions, and how to use them

An example here of a confident understanding of the glossary definition.

Write your answer here:

(a) When a person is not sure whether God exists or not.



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Examiner Comments

The candidate received 2 marks.



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Examiner Tip

The words in the glossary that are easily confused by students can often be taught by playing games with the words and definitions.

Question 2 (b) (c) (d)

b) Most candidates were able to state their own opinion and then give a reason for it, however frequently the candidates simply described a religious upbringing which did not answer the question asked.

c) This question was well answered by candidates, who were able to name a programme and explain why it might affect their faith. It was less well answered by candidates who described a whole programme or did not link them to how they might affect belief in God.

d) Some candidates did not recognise that this question was about whether God designed the world and that led to answers purely about creation which did not answer the question set

On media questions such as the example here it is important for a balanced and positive evaluation to take place. A description of a programme will not go beyond level one, candidates must evaluate the programmes with reference to the question asked.

(b) Yes I do think a religious upbringing makes children believe in God. Firstly, if they are brought up to go to a Religious School, then being around religious people and environment makes them think that everyone believes in God. Secondly, if they celebrate religious festivals such as Christmas or Diwali, then being brought up like that will make them want to bring their own children up like that, therefore believing in God.

(c) I think The media can strongly affect people's views on God. East is East is a film about a Pakistani family, where the Dad, having already married a Pakistani woman,

then came to England and married a British woman. They have 5 children and own a chipshop. The story conveys the theme of arranged marriages. The Dad has already lost one son as he felt pressured into marrying who his Dad set him up with. As the story goes on we see how British Asian children have adapted to this lifestyle and don't want to be forced into a marriage.

The story shows arranged marriages from a very negative point of view and can make people unsure whether God exists.

The Dad forces his children to marry because he generally thinks it is the right thing to do, and that is what Allah wants him to do. He also doesn't want to be seen less respected if his children don't do what he says.

This sways people into thinking that God is forcing you to be unhappy, because of the Dad's actions. It shows arranged marriages as always ending badly, and the religious person (The Dad) is the one in the wrong.

People shouldn't be entirely swayed by the media as all ^{arranged} marriages don't always end like this.

(d) (i) ~~Do~~ I don't agree with the statement because I think saying everything has a designer, does not mean the ~~only~~ designer has to be God. It could be ~~an~~ a God using us as a test, or something else. ~~The~~ The statement fails to mention the bad things in the world such as volcanoes and earthquakes. If God was the designer, then why would he produce things that make us suffer? All the beautiful things ~~are~~ in this world can be proven with science.

(ii) ↑ Some people may disagree because some things are so intricate and beautiful, that they could not have come about by chance or luck. Only the Omnipotent, omniscient God could have created it.



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Examiner Comments

b) 4 marks. The candidate gives two developed reasons. (c) Level 2 - 4 marks. One programme is clearly identifiable. An answer that did not do this could not progress past level 2. The higher mark has been awarded for coherent communication. (d) (i) 3 marks. (d) (ii) 2 marks.



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Examiner Tip

When studying the media give candidates a variety of programmes that can be used throughout the course. Choose films and TV dramas that can be used in a variety of ways by the candidate in different areas of the specification to make the best use of time. It is essential that examples of religious people and religions are positive images. Some programmes referred to serve only to confirm negative stereotypes and do not encourage respect and understanding.

This candidate gains 14 marks overall.

(b) Firstly, I think a religious upbringing does make a child believe in God because when children are young and he grows up surrounded by Christians their minds are very open to new ideas and are likely to believe what they are told.

Secondly, I think this because from a very young age children would be taken to church or Sunday school where they will learn about the teachings of God and with the help of their parents and Sunday school, they will start to accept Christianity as a normal way of life and won't question much else.

(c) The media has a huge influence on many people's lives in the today's world because of the amount that people watch it. There are many programs today such as "Songs Of Praise" which takes place on a Sunday.

on television where people can sing hymns together and learn about the teachings of God. Many people feel that this strengthens their belief in God because it creates a bigger sense of community among Christians, many people feel that they are connecting more with God because of the vast amount of people who are taking part, all of whom share the same views.

However, some people criticise big programs like "Songs of Praise" which is a large broadcast. Some people feel that this kind of attention ~~just that~~ attracts people who aren't interested in learning about God and who are just looking for a reason to be on TV. This could have an ^{negative} effect on someone's belief by the fact that people are ~~to~~ taking advantage of their religion.

(d) (i) I do agree with this because I believe that the world is so complex and beautiful that it couldn't have just been caused by a 'big bang'.

Moreover, if you look at the human body for example, each aspect of it is so perfect at the junction it has that nothing more than a genius could have thought up and created such a masterpiece.

Secondly, the fact that everything has a purpose e.g. the eye is for seeing makes me think that there must be a reason for this life and that it couldn't have just been a coincidence. This theory is known as the ~~one~~ design argument, which is a widely adopted idea throughout Christianity.

(ii) Some people however, may go with the 'big bang theory' and believe that the world was created by a huge explosion and evolution is responsible for the vast array of complex life that the world contains.

The People say that science can prove everything and that science proves that evolution is the most reasonable theory because of the vast amount of fossils found which are said to back up this theory.

Lastly, people may say that if everything was created by God, then who created God. This is how many people choose whether they believe in God or not.



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Examiner Comments

(b) 4 marks given for two developed reasons; note how the candidate has clearly identified the two reasons. (c) Level 2 - 4 marks. One programme is clearly identifiable. An answer that does not identify a programme cannot progress past level 2. The higher mark has been awarded for coherent communication. (d) (i) 3 marks. The candidate clearly states that they do agree with the statement and the reasons support this view. (d) (ii) 3 marks. The candidate refers to Christianity.



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Examiner Tip

Candidates are advised to clearly identify their reasons for (b) and (d) answers. Candidates should clearly state what their opinion is and make sure that the reasons support that point of view.

The candidate gains 14 marks over all.

- (b) I do not think a religious upbringing makes children believe in God. A person, of any age, has the right to choose what they believe in, and they cannot be forced into believing in a particular thing. However, I do think a religious ~~with~~ upbringing does encourage a child to believe in God. A religious upbringing may lead you down the road ~~of~~ to believing in God or choosing a religion, however you have the choice to convert to another religion or Atheist. I certainly do not think that a religious upbringing makes a child believe in God, but encourages them because they tend to listen to their parents, however ~~it~~ their ~~own~~ choice.
- (c) Television, radio and films all play a big part in contributing to a person's attitude towards God. This is mainly because we are exposed to them every day, they have a

a large impact on our lives. A television programme "Songs of Praise" may encourage certain people to be part of a religion or encourage them to believe in God. However other television shows, like "Father Ted" for example may dishearten people, as they may find it offensive and could weaken their belief in God. Lots of radio stations e.g. "Classic Fm" and television shows like "Songs of Praise" encourage people to be part of a religious community and to believe in God. From watching these programs people's attitudes can change and inspire them to believe in God. However there are other groups who do not believe in God, and are not part of a religion to encourage people not to believe in God. Soap operas on television often show morally incorrect actions, e.g. "Eastenders", when it shows a person being killed, it has a negative impact on people who believe in God and can change their attitude towards God, because they believe murder should not be committed, shown in the 10 commandments. News shows like "BBC" often talk about death and crime, which also has a negative impact on people who believe, they may wonder why God lets this happen and it may cause

- (d) (i) I agree with this statement, being a Christian, I do not believe the Earth could have been created so beautifully. Such a complex world could simply not have been created by coincidence, therefore I believe it must have been designed by God. In the "Bible" it talks about how 'God created this Earth' and he designed each person in the 'image of himself'. In Christian religion (the Bible) there is a lot of written evidence that says God created each and every person along with everything that is the Earth. Each object is designed in such detail I cannot believe that God did not create ^{the} earth.
- (ii) People may disagree with my view because there is theory that the world was created

by the "Big Bang". Those who are not Christian or who do not believe in God may believe that the Earth was created by Science or Magic. Lots of Scientists have made theory that the Earth was not created by God, those who do not believe in the Bible may just want something else to believe in and therefore have chosen to believe in Science. People may say if the world was created by God, why does he let such terrible things happen like crime, death and poverty, why does he not fix these things if he is so powerful.



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b) 2 marks. One developed reason. (c) Level 4 - 8 marks Four reasons given. One programme is clearly identifiable. This candidate successfully answers the question with reference to programmes studied. The higher mark has been awarded for coherent communication. (d)(i) 3 marks awarded here (d)(ii) 1 mark "The world was not designed; it was created by the Big Bang"



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

On the (d) items candidates must refer to Christianity or give some indication that can not be disputed by the examiner as a reference to Christian teaching or practice. For example a reference to the Bible would be enough.

Question 3 (a)

Most candidates knew the glossary definition for euthanasia. However there were some candidates who did not know the glossary definition but relied on definitions gained from the media or alternative sources. The glossary definition highlights the fact that a person must be seriously ill whereas other sources use literal definitions such as 'an easy and gentle death' which do not indicate this and so were awarded partial marks.

Some candidates tried to put the definition into their own words.

Write your answer here:

(a) Euthanasia is the painless killing of someone who is suffering



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Examiner Comments

The candidate gives a glossary definition.



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Examiner Tip

Learn the key words from the specification to avoid confusion.

This example is a candidate who is trying to describe their understanding of euthanasia but fails to give a clear definition.

Write your answer here:

(a) euthanasia is taking another persons life



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Examiner Comments

In this example the candidate gives a definition of murder.



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Examiner Tip

Learn the glossary definitions and encourage candidates to write them in the answers to (a) questions.

Write your answer here:

(a) Euthanasia is the act of killing someone gently ~~and~~ in a controlled environment.



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Examiner Comments

The candidate gained 1 mark for a partially correct answer - killing someone gently in a controlled environment, which could be understood as euthanasia or capital punishment.



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Examiner Tip

To be very safe, give the glossary definition.

Question 3 (b) (c) (d)

b) Most candidates were able to state their own opinion about whether the media should be free to criticise what religions say about matters of life and death and then give a reason for it. The more prepared candidates were able to refer to a film or programme to develop their answer.

c) The majority of answers to this question were very good and candidates were able to answer either by giving a number of non-religious reasons or by developing two or three reasons with examples. Some candidates made the mistake of using religious reasons in their answer which could not be credited as it did not answer the question.

d) This question caused many problems for those candidates who did not know the law about abortion in the UK (many thought that it was legal in cases of rape – without identifying the parts of the UK this is true, and some thought a woman was allowed freedom to choose)

This candidate gained 14 marks over all. It is a good example of the (d) item which caused some candidates a problem.

assisted suicide.)

(b) I do NOT agree that the media should be allowed to criticise what religions say about life and death. Everybody is entitled to express their faith in whichever belief they choose; nobody deserves to be questioned publicly or humiliated. It is up to personal religious preference what you believe about ^{matter of} life after death. Nobody should question you.

I also count this as discrimination. By the media questioning belief, they are implying that they are superior. This poses the ability to criticise others and their views. Discrimination is wrong and acceptance of other beliefs is necessary.

Lastly, the media have responsibilities where publication is concerned. They should not publish anything critical of others or their religious beliefs as it is embarrassing and could give religions a bad reputation.

(c) Non-religious people may be inclined to believe in life after death owing to mediums and psychics' ouija boards and their ability to communicate with spirits. This could influence belief as mediums are convincing and honest thus an

afterlife really existing.

Paranormal occurrences in general can also convince people non-religious people to believe in life after death. The concept of ghosts or spirits is one of which people may be inclined to associate with an afterlife; especially those that have experienced ghost/paranormal activity.

Non-religious people may also believe in re-incarnation; the idea that the soul proceeds to live on and you are reborn following death. People may believe this due to personal preference or media persuasion. People may also believe in reincarnation if they are religious; Sikhs and Hindus, however this belief is commonly shared between non-religious folk also.

The paranormal world is extremely convincing thus could ^{lead to} ~~from~~ many arguments believing that life after death really exists. The media portrays this existence also by airing ^{reality} shows such as Ghost Hunters, Psychic Sally and Most Haunted.

(d) (i) I do not agree that the law on abortion should be modified as a woman has every right to terminate her pregnancy should she want to. It is nobody's decision but her own; why should she be prevented from happiness ^{when} an abortion could do that for her? It is wrong to minimise people's options in life especially if they are as serious as the option to abort.

I feel the time period is latent also; six weeks is a perfectly reasonable time to abort ~~without~~ an unborn baby. Life has not begun yet, thus it is lawful and not murder.

I also do not obtain the bigotted view that life begins at conception. Abortion is not murder, it's necessary sometimes and could prevent problems such as death, mental health issues and depression.

(ii) Many would disagree with me, especially Frangeline Prokatas that believe abortion is a sin whatever the circumstances, thus the law should be adopted and abortion made illegal.

Evangelists may believe life begins at conception thus abortion is murder and murder is prohibited in the ten commandments. This would oblige them to feel like the laws are lenient and ~~was~~ evil where abortion is concerned many even protest for abortion to become illegal.

Finally most Christians would disagree with my views as ~~as~~ life is sacred to God thus only God can take or end it. Why should a law or doctor decide the death of an unborn child? They believe laws like this remove the child's chance to live.



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Examiner Comments

(b) 2 marks. The candidate gives two simple reasons; but fails to develop the reason. (c) Level 3 - 6 marks. Three reasons given. The information is repeated, this can be a serious issue for some candidates who try to give four reasons by repeating the same reason in different words. The higher mark has been awarded for coherent communication. (d)(i) 3 marks. Three simple reasons were given by the candidate. (d)(ii) 3 marks. Three simple reasons were given by the candidate. The candidate refers to Christianity.

The candidate misunderstood the (b) item and did very well on the (c) item.

(b) I don't believe the media should be allowed to criticise religions because people should be allowed to worship freely and although people ~~are~~ are allowed their own opinion it doesn't mean that they should force their opinion on others. Also unless they have any solid evidence or proof to the contrary of the religion then they are in no position to tell them otherwise.

(c) Some non-religious people may believe in life after death for a number of reasons.
Firstly they may believe in

Psychics or mediums who can apparently communicate with the dead.

Some people may have a session with a medium where they have told them ~~the~~ something that only a close relative of somebody who has passed away might know.

They may see this as proof that life after death must exist because the mediums must have been informed by the dead.

They may also believe it if they have personally or know someone who has had a near-death experience.

This will influence them for example if they witnessed themselves in a hospital bed as if watching the events unfold, this may suggest to them that there is life after death.

(d) (i) I disagree with the statement because I believe abortion should remain legal because I think that life starts when a child leaves the womb therefore abortion doesn't count as murder because the child is not yet alive.

Also I believe abortion is important because if a child is severely handicapped it will have no quality of life ~~and~~ in the outside world, so it is better that it is aborted.

(ii) Some people may disagree if they are Catholic for example because they believe that life begins when the sperm meets the egg so abortion still counts as taking a life.

They also believe in the sanctity of life which says that life is holy and belongs to God. So we have no right to deny a child life only God has the right to do that.



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Examiner Comments

(b) No marks awarded. Response is not about what 'religions say about matters of life and death'. Candidates must answer the question to gain marks. (c) Level 4 - 8 marks. Four reasons given by the candidate. The higher mark has been awarded for coherent communication. (d)(i) 3 marks. Three reasons given by the candidate. (d)(ii) 3 marks. Three reasons given by the candidate. The candidate refers to Christianity.



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Examiner Tip

Teachers should prepare students to answer questions carefully and ensure that the candidates have the information about the bullet points from the specification.

(b) I agree because everyone has a right to free speech, so they can say what they want about the religion's attitudes, and secondly, they ~~are able to say what~~ can speak out about and criticise other views than religion, so why can't they criticise religion? ~~Their~~ Their criticism of the religion doesn't mean that ~~the~~ religion is wrong.

(c) Some non-religious people ~~believe~~ believe in life after death because of the evidence of reincarnation, because many people claim to have ~~to~~ memories of a ~~life~~ past life. Also, the people claim to have seen ghosts and

spirits, so this makes them believe in life after death. Also, mediums claim to have the ability to talk to deceased people, ~~who~~ which people believe is evidence for life after death. Finally, ~~the near~~ near-death experiences where the soul leaves the body and talks to a ~~family member~~ deceased person, or could be used as evidence for life after death.

non-religious

(d) (i) I do not agree because I believe that abortion is taking a life, and only God has the right to take life, it says in the 10 Commandments, 'You shall not murder' which I believe extends to abortion and finally, I believe that life is a gift from God, and only God has the right to take away life, because life is holy, and so is God.

(ii) Some people will disagree with me because they do not believe that life begins at conception, therefore abortion is not taking a life, they do either do not agree that 'You shall not kill' extends to abortion or they do not agree with the Bible, and finally they believe that it is kinder for the baby to die than to live and be adopted because it would be bad to be adopted because the parent would have to have the baby, and that puts unnecessary pressure on the parent.



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Examiner Comments

(b) 1 mark. The candidate gains a mark for the right to free speech; but the rest of the answer is about criticising religion not what religions say about matters of life and death. (c) Level 4 - 8 marks. The candidate has given four good reasons. The higher mark has been awarded for coherent communication. (d) (i) 3 marks. (d) (ii) 3 marks. The candidate refers to Christianity using the 10 commandments as an example.



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Examiner Tip

Many schools appear to have taught interpretations of the law on abortion not the actual law. There was also a difference in candidates who were taught from both perspectives. 'Abortion is legal in the UK in cases of.....' and 'Abortion is illegal in the UK except if....' In fact is it illegal unless certain conditions a met.

Question 4 (a)

This question was answered very well. Candidates had been taught the definitions and were able to use this to answer the question.

A fully correct answer.

Write your answer here:

(a) Resurrection is when a person dies their body is buried in the ground until the end of the world which is when it will come back to life.



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Examiner Comments

Gaining 2 marks



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Examiner Tip

If candidates do not have a clear understanding of the key word or terms then other questions throughout the paper may not be understood

Some candidates used their own wordings for the answers - this is not advisable as often they do not get to the actual definition given in the glossary.

Write your answer here:

(a) Resurrection means someone coming back to life after they have died.



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Examiner Comments

This candidate was given two marks.

Question 4 (b) (c) (d)

b) Candidates were usually able to state their own opinion and then give at least two reasons for this opinion, the reasons were frequently not religious reasons and this is perfectly acceptable. Candidates who did less well were those who discussed turning off life support machines which is already legal in the UK.

c) This was answered well by the majority of candidates, however there was a small group of students who gave good answers to the question of 'how' a Christian agency works to relieve world poverty, not why.

d) Most candidates responded well to the layout of the (d) question and were able to state their own opinion and give reasons for it in (d)(i) and then give an alternative opinion in (d)(ii). Pleasingly candidates were able to give scriptural examples to develop their reasons why religious people believe in life after death. Unfortunately some candidates thought that only reincarnation and ghosts were life after death and that the heaven/hell view of what happens after a person dies was not life after death.

This candidate gains 9 marks over all.

(b) I do not think Euthanasia should be legal in the UK. I do not think people(s) have the right to destroy their own body. As in Christian religion and teachings from the Bible "only God has the power to give and take a life away". Even if someone wants to die, they still have a life they can live, there is always another choice. If the person who is ill cannot speak for himself, I do not think that his family can decide what happens with ~~himself~~ his life themselves. Every person has been blessed with a life and a body in the image of God, only God can take it away.

(c) One Christian agency that is trying to end world poverty is "Christian Aid". They believe that no person, no matter what their age, race, religion or gender should be living in poverty, with out food, water

or a warm place to stay. Agencies like Christian Aid offer food, water and shelter to millions around the world. Many people are suffering around the world all of the time. Christian aid are trying to tackle it, and they believe helping anyone in need can change the world. Some people may say there is no point helping, there will always be poverty. Christian Aid try to tackle this attitude and turn people to helping others. They believe that if a fellow human is in need they should feed him. The Bible and Christian teaching state "if he is hungry, feed him", "if he is cold, clothe him". Agency from Christian religion believe they should help other around them and follow in the words of God and the Bible.

(d) (i) I do not agree with this statement, from Christian teachings there is always told to be another life after death. Although this after life may not be pleasant, I do believe there is one. In the Bible it talks about if you have lived a good first life and have been kind and caring for others, you will follow on to Heaven, if you have sinned, committed murder you will follow on to Hell, where your soul will burn. Christian believers, say your soul lives on after death and you go on to a better place as shown throughout Christian teachings.

(iii) Some people may disagree with me, because they do not believe in a religion or God. If they believe Science created the Earth they may believe there is no after life as told by Christian teachings. They may believe after the body is dead, there is no soul to live on with, because Scientifically this is not possible. Some people agree that life after death is impossible because physically you are no longer there and no-one can see you.



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Examiner Comments

- (b) 2 marks. The candidate gives one developed reason.
(c) Level 2 - 4 marks. The reasons come in the final few sentences. The higher mark has been awarded for coherent communication. (d) (i) 1 mark. The reason for believing in life after death being possible is not developed; the candidate develops the Christian teaching on life after death which is not the question. Reasons need to be developed to be awarded marks.
(d) (ii) 2 marks. The candidate refers to Christianity.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Candidates should be taught to read the question carefully and answer the question asked.

This candidate answers all the traits well gaining 18 marks.

is raised.

(b) I do not think Euthanasia should be legal in the UK because firstly if the patient is rich or has a desirable fortune then a corrupt family may seek a quick death for the friend or relative in order to gain from their will. Therefore sacrificing a loved one for the sake of greed.

Secondly, there are diseases that have yet to be cured and research is continuously searching for new ways to cure people. If patients were a victim of Euthanasia they may be killed before the cure is found.

(c) Christian aid aims to end world poverty. It is an organisation of the Christian faith. They wish to end world poverty for several reasons.

Firstly, Jesus treated all races and people

as his neighbour and helped those who need it. As they are Christian they aim to help those in poverty to follow Jesus' example.

Secondly, the Christian faith wishes to end evil and suffering and when someone ~~suffers~~^{is} in ~~poor~~ poverty they are under great suffering. It is the Christian people's belief that they should do what they can to help those suffering.

Thirdly, they believe everyone is equal in the eyes of God and those in poverty are not being treated equally. They must work to provide those in poverty with a decent standard of living as they deserve as much as any other human being.

Finally, St Paul taught that all people are equal as well and so helping them is following the teaching of St Paul to make sure everyone is equal.

(d) (i) I agree that life after death is impossible.

Firstly, life after death cannot be possible because death means the end of life and that's exactly what it is.

Secondly, humans have explored space, above the sky where heaven is said to be. It has been proven there is no heaven.

Finally, when the body is in the grave it decays. The only remains is a skeleton so the body must die with the soul inside it and the body also cannot be raised at the end of the world.

(ii) Others may disagree because in ~~other~~ India there are stories of Reincarnation, the ~~body~~ soul moved to a different body.

Christians ~~also~~ believe that the soul lives on and is put into a spiritual body when you die. So the life of the person does not end but continues in another world.

Christians will also disagree as they believe life is a test and death is when you are judged and so it gives their life purpose.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

(b) 4 marks. Two developed reasons given, note again how the candidate has given two clear reasons stating 'secondly'. (c) Level 2 - 8 marks. Four reasons given by the candidate. The higher mark has been awarded for coherent communication. (d) (i) 3 marks. (d) (ii) 3 marks. The candidate refers to Christianity.

This candidate has not been prepared well for the examination, however they gain some marks.

Bonies

(b) I feel the Euthanasia should be allowed in the UK but it should be extremely limited in access so that only people that need it will have access to it. If the quality of life is not accessible or at a reasonable standard.

(c) Christian Aid, Christian Aid is a Christian agency or charity. They help the world by relieving them when (by them I mean countries of the world) natural

DISASTERS have occurred. CHRISTIAN AID
deal with the HIV in Africa and
the Earthquake and Tsunami in Japan.
CHRISTIAN AID is trying to end world
poverty because they want the world to
be equal.

(d) (i) Life after death is not impossible because we can not know whether there is or not. In my opinion I feel that life after death is possible as ~~any~~ proof that the paranormal does exist is out there - and being on the right hand of it I also believe in life after death does exist.

(ii) Sceptics or people that have not been on this.



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Examiner Comments

(b) 0 marks awarded. No reasons given only what the candidate thinks. (c) Level 1 - 2 marks. Awarded for final sentence 'they want the world to be equal'. The higher mark has been awarded for coherent communication. (d) (i) 1 mark. Awarded for proof of paranormal. (d) (ii) 0 marks awarded. No relevant information given.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Candidates should be taught to recognise the difference between 'what they think' and the reasons for their opinion. Candidates should try not to leave blank spaces. An educated guess is better than nothing.

Question 5 (a)

This question was not answered well. Many candidates did not seem to have been prepared with the glossary definitions for this section.

write your answer here:

(a) Promiscuity is when you are to have many partners and is not loyal.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

This candidate was awarded two marks, they have the idea it involves many partners and they are not committed to them.

Write your answer here:

- (a) ~~A partnership is a legal agreement that~~
~~same gender sex have the same rights as a~~
~~married couple.~~ Promiscuity is having a number
of sexual partners without commitment



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

Correct definition - 2 marks The whole answer is seen here - despite the crossing out; Candidates are not penalised for this.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Candidates should be prepared when they make mistakes to try and write in the spaces provided - even if it means altering the places where (c) or (b) are. They should be seriously discouraged from attaching extra papers to the script. There are spare pages at the end of the booklet and candidates should write 'see end of booklet' to indicate to the examiner the answer goes on somewhere else.

Write your answer here:

(a) Promiscuity is when a man and a women promise in eachother to be faithful and stay together.

(b) I think that sex outside of marriage is acceptable as it is showing love and if two people are in a relationship and plan to marry in the future then it is



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Examiner Comments

This candidate made a good guess, but did not answer the question correctly and therefore gained no marks.

Question 5 (b) (c) (d)

b) Most candidates were able to state their own opinion about whether sex outside marriage is acceptable. Most gave two reasons about premarital sex but some chose to agree with pre-marital sex and disagree with extra marital sex. As long as the candidate clearly indicated that both opinions were their point of view they could be credited. Less able students did not think of more than one reason.

c) Many candidates could give either a good description of a Christian wedding ceremony but not link it to the purposes of marriage; or give the purposes of a Christian marriage and not link it to the ceremony. The candidates therefore did not access the higher levels.

d) This question was answered well. This example is of a candidate who gained all the marks available.

(b) I don't believe sex outside marriage is acceptable because it goes against the promises made in the couples wedding vows where they agree to support and love each other. This is effectively going against God because the vows are made in front of him.

Also if the couple have children it is unfair to the child because it can result in divorce which means the child may not have a stable home life and may end up with difficulties in behaviour in later life.

(c) The purposes of marriage are shown in a wedding in a number of ways. ~~is~~
Firstly the couple express what

they promise to do in their vows. ~~they~~ they promise to not be adulterous and to look after their partner through 'sickness and in health'.

This gives the ~~value~~ marriage values and encourages the couple to stay faithful to each other.

The giving of the rings is also important and this shows the unity ~~and~~ of the two and also represents how the two people are now joined together.

(d) (i) I disagree with the statement because I believe that many of the issues that effect a non-religious family also have an effect on a religious family. For example even though it is thought wrong in the Catholic church divorce does still happen and although family members may find some solace in God often divorce can make someone question their beliefs because they may feel they have done nothing wrong but God has still chosen to break their family.

(ii) Some~~er~~ people may disagree because they may feel that ~~because~~ even if unfortunate things happen to a family they have the support of God and they have the support of their church community too.

Also ~~the~~ Christianity encourages strong family values and ~~they~~ ~~will~~ ~~be~~ ~~united~~ ~~by~~ ~~a~~ ~~common~~ ~~ground~~ ~~of~~ ~~Christianity~~ ~~that~~ ~~will~~ ~~help~~ ~~them~~ ~~to~~ ~~get~~ ~~on~~ ~~with~~ ~~each~~ ~~other~~.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

b) 4 marks. Two developed reasons given by candidate. (c) Level 4 - 8 marks. Four reasons given by candidate. The higher mark has been awarded for coherent communication. (d) (i) 3 marks. (d) (ii) 3 marks. The candidate refers to Christianity.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Examples like this can be used to model answers for candidates.

This candidate gains 14 marks overall.

(b) I think sex outside marriage is acceptable because it allows people to express their love for one another without having to rush the decision to get married. Furthermore if people only get married to be able to have sex with one another they are likely to make a decision to just and make the wrong decision.

Secondly, many people don't like the idea of marriage because of the religious implications which is up to them, does that mean that they are never allowed to have sex?

(c) The purpose of a wedding is to join two people together for life, ~~and they~~ where they make promises to stay faithful to one another and to care for each other until death. This is done by the vows.

The ~~sw~~ vows are spoken allowed to each other, confirming their promises to each other under the presence of God. Secondly, the exchange of the ring which signifies the everlasting life of God and also symbolising the never ~~any~~ ending marriage which will be confirmed. The Priest will also read from the bible making sure that the couple is aware of the promises made before God and what the responsibilities of marriage are.

Lastly, the man and woman ~~state~~ repeat what the priest says as a last act of confirmation of the marriage sealing the ~~the~~ bond between them. This represents the fact that these bonds cannot be broken.

(d) (i) I agree with this because, religious teachings are often very family orientated, they also often offer guidance for families ~~for~~ how to ~~live~~ live a happy lifestyle. Bible references such as 'love thy neighbour' is a phrase ~~that~~ which tells people to be kind to all and love.

Secondly,

(ii) However, some people may say that religion can be the cause for arguments and conflicts which isn't the right environment a child should be brought up in. Arguments ~~can~~ between parents can alter the way a child behaves and is brought up.



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Examiner Comments

b) 2 marks. One developed reason given by the candidate. (c) Level 4 - 8 marks. An example here of how the candidate clearly links the wedding to the purpose of marriage. The higher mark has been awarded for coherent communication. (d) (i) 2 marks. (d) (ii) 2 marks The candidate refers to Christianity.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

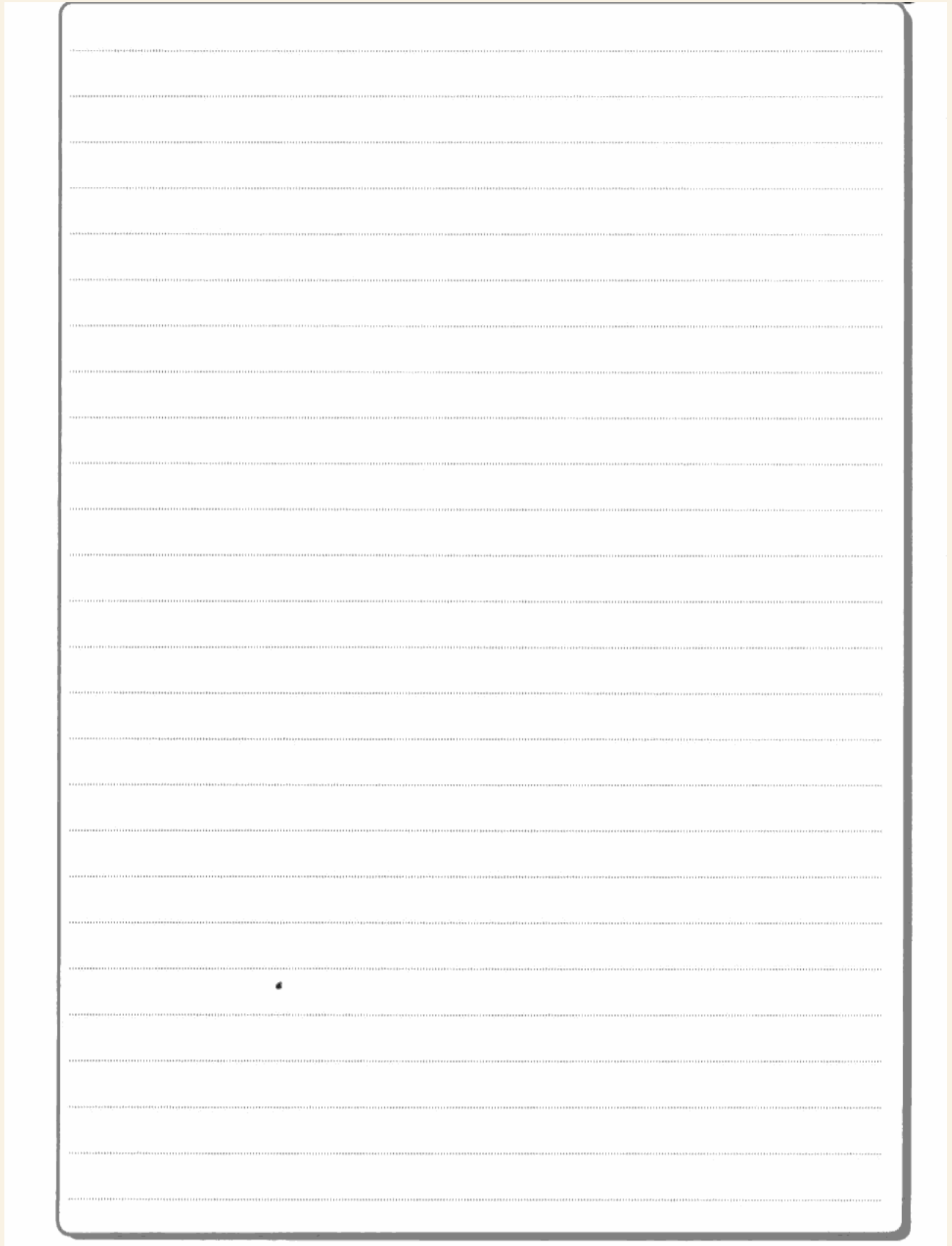
If in the (d) trait the candidate does not refer to Christianity in either (i) or (ii) the marks are reduced; the highest mark they can achieve is three out of the six.

This candidate does not do well on this question; gaining only 1 mark overall.

(b) No because you should only lose your virginity to the person that you ~~truly~~ truly love with all your heart

another reason is that when you tell your wife/father that you have already had sex they will think that you have been unfaithful and will want a divorce

(c) The purpose of marriage is shown all over in a Christian wedding because you are only allowed to get married to the person that you really love and cherish



(d) (i) I disagree because there could be conflicts between the christian family eastenders is a good example because the masood family are christian and there son was turned gay and that has started rws between the mother and father.

(ii) ~~another reason I disagree is because~~
Some people might disagree with me because



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Examiner Comments

(b) 0 marks awarded. The candidate gives two reasons - neither address the question. (c) No level achieved.

No marks are awarded for written communication if a level for religious understanding has not been reached.

(d) (i) 1 mark Ignore the reference to the wrong religion named - the family are Muslim not Christian; we are not assessing this information here - the mark is awarded for the use of this family as an example of an unhappy religious family. (d) (ii) no mark awarded. The candidate refers to Christianity.

Question 6 (a)

Most candidates knew the glossary definition for civil partnership as it is a new word for this specification. However, many candidates used the inaccurate but popular term 'gay marriage' which was only partially credited.

In this question we are looking for the idea that it is a legal contract - and that it is for same sex couples.

write your answer here:

(a) a legal ceremony that gives ~~two~~
Two people of the same gender
the same rights as a heterosexual couple.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This candidate gives a glossary definition and gains 2 marks.

write your answer here:

(a) Civil partnership is a legal partnership between two ~~married~~
people of the same gender but not religions, they have
the same rights as a married couple



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

A good answer again; gaining two marks.

write your answer here:

(a) A civil partnership is when two people from the same sex gets married



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

Partially correct definition - 1 mark. They refer to the contract as a marriage; covered in the mark scheme as 'gay marriage'



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Teachers should use the mark scheme from previous years as a tool for teaching.

Question 6 (b) (c) (d)

b) Most candidates were able to state their own opinion about whether Christians should accept divorce and gave a developed reason linked to scripture and the nature of marriage. Some were unable to give any reasons why religious people should or should not accept divorce other than 'everyone should be happy' which meant they achieved low marks, similarly candidates who ignore the element in the question referring to 'Christians' achieved low marks.

c) Well answered by the majority of candidates, who were able to give several ways churches help keep families together. In some cases candidates went off into information surrounding religious upbringing and lost marks. The less able candidates gained level one for going to church together/having common interests but failed to develop this or explain how this kept the family together.

d) The question was well answered by candidates.

This candidate gains full marks. This is included as a model answer.

those in a civil marriage.

(b) I do not think that all Christians should accept divorce for the following reasons.

Firstly, Roman Catholics, with whom I sympathise, believe that marriage is a sacrament. This means it is a way that God has shown his love in a special way to the couple. I believe that breaching the sacrament of marriage is like breaching rejecting the love of God and so shouldn't be done.

Secondly, in the vows, it says 'let no man put asunder!' This suggests that it is not up to humans to break a marriage but up to God. A covenant has been made between the couple and God and only God can break this. This also suggests that marriage should be permanent so no divorce is allowed.

(c) Christian churches help to keep families together in a number of valuable ways.

Firstly, Christian churches, through the teachings of the Bible encourage *philia* (love for the family).

This reduces the risk of arguments and helps to keep the family together.

Secondly, the belief in God that the family shares through the church provides a sense of unity. If everyone in the family is working and living by the same laws provided by the church, it is more likely that they will get along.

Thirdly, through regular church attendance as well as communion, families will spend more time together. It is important that this time is spent together at church as it allows all the members to know each other better. Here the Christian teaching of honesty is likely to be exercised, this creates a sense of trust among family members.

A fourth way that churches help to keep families together is by offering the opportunity of inter-faith marriage. Liberal Jews and some Protestant churches have organised special wedding ceremonies specifically for interfaith marriage. They also offer to help bring up the children in both faiths. This reduces the risk of honour killings or disagreements within the family.

Therefore to conclude, the actions and teachings of Christian church can help enormously to keep families together.

(d) (i) I ~~do not~~ believe that condoms are the best form of contraception for the following reasons.

In Psalms in the Bible it teaches that there is more to sex than procreation. I believe that ~~eros~~ eros (sexual love) is important to a relationship.

Secondly, contraceptives such as condoms reduce the chance of marriage out of sexual frustration. This means that marriages are more likely to be secure.

Thirdly, I believe that condoms allow careful family planning. This is essential as it means the parents can gauge how many children they are able to support. It also ensures children have a better quality of life.

(ii) However, many Roman Catholics as well as other Christians may disagree with me.

Firstly ^{some Roman Catholics} ~~they~~ believe that sex is God given and so should be as natural as possible. This means that they not only condemn condoms but all contraceptives.

Secondly, ~~many~~ many Roman Catholics believe that condoms allow for promiscuity as they enable someone to have sex without the consequences of a pregnancy. Having many sexual partners is forbidden by the Decalogue. Decalogue.

Thirdly, many people believe condoms don't provide a guarantee of no pregnancy. They feel that to prevent a pregnancy the man should have a vasectomy. This would ensure ~~that~~ no unwanted pregnancies.



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Examiner Comments

Notice in this answer that the candidate clearly defines the different reasons given saying 'firstly', 'secondly' etc.

This candidate struggles with these questions and gains six marks.

the same rights as a married couple

(b) I think that do not think that all Christians should allow divorce because it is against the wedding vows, "till death do us part," and there is no bigger power than one to God. All ~~Christi~~ Catholics should respect these vows and not make or break them without consideration.

(c) Christian churches help to keep families together by not allowing divorce. Therefore families cannot breakup. However, some churches do allow divorce and this can do be good because it does not hurt the children and if there are

rows and or ~~debat~~ domestic violence then it can be the lesser of two evils.

Also, there is a common interest which could help.

(d) (i) I agree that condoms are the best form of ~~contraception~~ contraception because they stop unwanted pregnancy and STIs.

Also they are more successful at stopping pregnancy

(ii) Christians Catholics might disagree with me because they think all contraception is wrong.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

(b) 2 marks. (c) Level 1 - 2 marks. The mark has been awarded for coherent communication. (d) (i) 1 mark. (d) (ii) 1 mark. The candidate refers to Christianity.

This candidate gains 13 marks over all.

relation-ship, similar to marriage.

(b) I think all christians should accept divorce because there might be violence in the relationship and it might be safer for them to get a divorce. ALSO they might not love each other anymore and they realised that they love someone else so ~~that~~ staying together wouldn't make much sense. And getting a divorce might be the lesser of 2 evils. Another reason might be that one of the people has cheated on the other one and they just can't trust them anymore.

(c) Christian churches help to keep families together because if the whole family goes to church every saturday there they all listen to the

readings of Jesus and they learn about how they should live in harmony.

Also if a ~~is~~ married couple fight and want to get a divorce, the Christian church will try to help them work through their problems instead of just letting them get a divorce. Also by coming to church together they get extra ~~a~~ time spent with each other which also brings them closer to each other.

Another reason is that the Christian church believes that if the laws of marriage are broken then that's a sin so they want to make sure that doesn't happen.

(d) (i) I agree that condoms ~~are~~ are the most effective form of contraception because it is the most commonly used form of contraception so there must be a reason for it. Also it prevents people from getting HIV/AIDS so there is less risk of the disease spreading. Another reason is that you might not want or might not be ready for a child so condoms will lower the chance of getting ~~you~~ pregnant.

(ii) Some people might disagree with me and say that condoms are one of many contraceptives and isn't necessarily the best one. They might prefer using the pill. Another thing they might say is if ~~if~~ you don't want a child then you shouldn't have sex so there is no need for contraceptives at all, because God created sex for reproduction not just pleasure.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

(b) 3 marks. One reason given by the candidate 'safer to get a divorce' developed by 'lesser of two evils' and a second simple reason; 'trust them' (c) Level 3-6 marks. Three reasons given. The higher mark has been awarded for coherent communication.
(di) 1 mark (dii) 1 marks. The candidate refers to Christianity.

This candidate gives good answers and gains 16 marks.

as husband and wife.

(b) I think Christians should accept divorce, ~~in certain circumstances~~. When divorce is the lesser of two evils it should be accepted as it is better to divorce than live in hatred. Modern life is also changing women's place in society to a more equal and less 'co-dependent' one and so an unmarried woman is no longer frowned upon. If adultery has been committed the marriage vows have been broken and divorce should be accepted. Jesus allowed divorce in Matthew 19:9 for adultery. Advances in medicine mean people are living longer and they should not spend their days in unhappiness.

(c) Christian Churches help keep families together by providing a place for family unity. Every Sunday the church encourages all family members to worship together.

this joint worship strengthens family bonds.

A Christian marriage is a promise to stay together until one person dies and so divorce is not really an option, keeping the family together.

A family ~~with~~ where every member shares the same values will not disagree on religious subjects as much. If all members follow the lessons of the church the family will learn and grow together, strengthening the bonds between them.

Christian Church can strengthen extended family too with ceremonies like Baptism bringing Godparents into the families religious ties.

A marriage is a promise under God to bring up children in your Christian marriage. Christians do not break this sacred vow lightly.

(d) (i) I agree that condoms are the best form of contraception. I think this because they not only prevent pregnancy from occurring but they also stop the spread of suffering through STDs. Also, with condoms the sperm & egg never meet and so a life has not begun. This is unlike the pill which Christians could see as murder following the belief that life begins at contraception. It is the choice of the woman and man when a child is born.

(ii) Catholic Christians may disagree with me. They believe that all forms of contraception are wrong because the Pope said so. They believe sex is for the procreation of children who should be brought up in a Christian family and that condoms encourage ~~pr~~ promiscuity. They believe only God should decide the number of children a family gets as the sanctity of life says that God decides when a person lives or dies.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

(b) 4 marks. Two developed reasons given by the candidate. (c) Level 3 - 6 marks. Three ways given: Summarised as 'worship', 'lessons' and 'god parent' extended family. (d) (i) 3 marks. One developed reason. One simple reason. (d) (ii) 3 marks. One developed reason. One simple reason.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

The (d) answers must refer to Christianity.

Question 7 (a)

This question is based on section four in the specification. Each of the sub-questions covers a different bullet point within the specification.

Question 7 was a slightly more popular choice than question 8.

It was noticeable that many of question 7 and 8 were not complete, candidates should be advised to spend about 20 minutes on each question.

Most candidates knew the glossary definition for discrimination. However, many candidates used the word discriminate within their definition which was only partially credited.

This candidate is confident about the definition and gives a good answer.

Write your answer here:

(a) The act of prejudice against someone because of gender/race/ethnicity because you think less of them.



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Examiner Comments

Correct definition - 2 marks. Given because they say 'the act of prejudice'.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Candidates should learn the glossary definitions.

No marks for this candidate.

write your answer here:

(a) ~~judging~~ ^{Judging} someone in a different way
because of their race/sex/religion.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate gives an incorrect definition - no marks awarded. This refers to prejudice not discrimination



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

When words are connected like prejudice and discrimination candidates must be able to distinguish between them.

Write your answer here:

(a) Putting your ideas as a prejudice
into action.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate gives a correct definition - 2 marks

Question 7 (b) (c) (d)

It was noticeable that many of questions 7 and 8 were not complete; candidates should be advised to spend about 20 minutes on each question.

b) Better candidates recognised that this was a question asking about women's rights in religion and they were able to gain good marks by developing either scriptural examples or examples from the media, often the Vicar of Dibley. Lower scoring responses did not realize that the question was not a general one on women's rights in society and as they did not answer the question set they were not awarded any marks.

c) Community cohesion and the government is a new topic for this specification although the reasons for it can be gleaned from the reasons for the advantages of social harmony. This was well answered by candidates who had learned reasons for government action. However many candidates simply described the governmental action limiting them to level 1.

d) Most candidates were able to respond to the quote but failed to give substantive reasons why conversion might be positive or negative. Some candidates gave very negative answers and were unable to think of any positives. It is important that candidates are encouraged to discuss reasons why people might hold different views to their own.

This candidate answered the questions well and gained 14 marks.

(b) I don't agree with this, as firstly, all of Jesus' disciples were male, therefore ~~the~~^{he} thought men were more important ~~to~~^{than} women.

Women shouldn't have the same rights, as if they were to become a priest, the priest ~~is~~ represents ~~Jesus~~ Jesus in mass, and it would be wrong if the priest was a ~~woman~~ woman.

Some Christians also believe this as Adam was created first, before Eve, showing that men are more important.

(c) The government encourages community cohesion for the following reasons, They believe that if people are brought up in multi-faith and multi-ethnic societies,

Then there is going to be more racial harmony.

All religions ^{+ cultures} will be able to learn from one another and find out new things which they didn't know.

Community Cohesion ~~also~~ also helps prevent discrimination + racism, and this then leads to people becoming more accepting and less likely to become involved in conflicts and war.

The government also ~~think~~ believe that if religions were to work together, then new ~~things~~ things will be discovered, and ~~the~~ ~~the~~ things can develop more quickly and efficiently - we will be able to use each others skills and strong bonds will be formed.

Community Cohesion also helps us learn about different cultures, we try different foods, clothes and music, and by sharing things from each culture or religion, hopefully conflict can be resolved.

(d) (i) I disagree with this as this could be seen as a type of discrimination towards other religions.

Jesus taught that everyone is ~~equal~~, equal. Therefore we should all be treated as the same.

Trying to convert could be seen as one religion thinking that they are better than another, which is wrong. Some people will take these actions as racism.

(iii) Christians may disagree as they are taught that if they convert all non-believers, then they will go to heaven. They believe that the religion they ~~teach~~ have been taught is right, and everyone should follow this.

They may also disagree, as they feel that Christianity is the correct religion, and if the bible tells them to convert, then this direct word of God must be obeyed.



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Examiner Comments

(b) 3 marks. One developed reason and one simple reason. (c) Level 3 - 6 marks. The levels were reached at 'racism', 'war', and 'bonds formed'. The higher mark has been awarded for coherent communication. (d) (i) 2 marks. Reached at 'other religious' and 'which is wrong'; (d) (ii) 3 marks. One simple reason followed by a developed reason. The candidate refers to Christianity.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

In terms of marking please note that the candidate must give two reasons on a (b) item. If they just give one they can not get more than 2 marks.

colour/class.

(b) I do not think women should have the same religious rights as men. I believe this because I'm Catholic and the Priest is supposed to represent Jesus in mass and a woman cannot do so. I also think this because all Jesus' disciples were men and so religious descendents of the disciples should be men also.

(c) Community cohesion is a common vision and shared sense of belonging for all members of society. Without community cohesion different groups

in society would have different ideas on how society should be run. This could cause civil war and violence.

Community Cohesion has many benefits including a wider variety of life in food and clothes and culture which makes day to day life more interesting.

A society with community cohesion makes a stronger progression in fields like technology and science as a wider range of ideas are being thought of and tested.

If the Government didn't support and encourage community cohesion then some groups in society ~~should be~~ may feel like outsiders and lose all allegiance to their country. This could lead to acts of terrorism. The London bombers were British citizens who had lost all sense of kinship and community cohesion.

(d) (i) I do not agree with the statement. Trying to convert others is an act of discrimination and so is not accepted by the Church. Jesus taught Christians to "love thy neighbour" no matter their creed and so they should not try and convert. A Christian will also not have studied each religion with an unbiased view and so has no right to say Christianity is better than all religions. Also, the human rights include religious freedom so trying to convert people is against this.

(iii) Other Christians will disagree with me because they believe that the only way to heaven is through Christianity and so they believe that through conversion they are doing a good thing. They may also think that the only way to have a totally loving world is to have everyone sharing the same values and beliefs as set down in Christianity and the 10 Commandments.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

(b) 2 marks. Two simple reasons given by the candidate.
(c) Level 3 - 6 marks. This is an alternative approach and is awarded by using the levels; we recognise that we have many centres whose candidates approach the paper from a unique perspective but they are not incorrect. These candidates need to gain the marks they deserve, using the levels. The higher mark has been awarded for coherent communication. We saw a lot of answers to this question which explain why the government works for community cohesion by saying what would happen if they did not. (d) (i) 3 marks (d) (ii). 3 marks. The candidate refers to Christianity



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

The (d) item is about religious rights; candidates must be taught to read the question carefully and answer it with reference to the statement asked.

Question 8 (a)

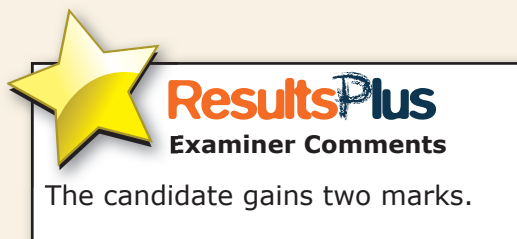
There was some confusion over this definition. The glossary definition is always the best one for candidates to give as per the specification and mark scheme. However, candidates also must have an understanding of the words, this improves the answer to the rest of the questions.

In this question there is a distinct difference between the right to practice your faith/beliefs and the right to believe what you want. Religious freedom indicates that some other people, government or external force limits that freedom for some people. Personal belief cannot be limited only the outward show of that belief.

This candidate gives a correct definition.

Write your answer here:

(a) religious freedom is having the freedom to practise or change your religion.



An incorrect definition.

Write your answer here:

(a) Religious freedom is when someone who had a religion but decides to rebel against it.



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Examiner Comments

Awarded no marks.

Correct definition

Write your answer here:

(a) Religious freedom is when people are free to choose ~~what~~ which religion to follow.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

Awarded 2 marks.

Question 8 (b) (c) (d)

On the whole this question was not answered well. It appears that candidates ran out of time. 20 minutes is allocated to each question, some candidates are writing more than needed to gain marks and should be taught to approach the examination paper wisely to gain all the marks possible.

b) Most candidates were able to state their own opinion as to whether living in a multi-faith society causes problems and then give reasons for it, pleasingly most candidates saw it as a positive and gave examples from personal experience. However some candidates confused multi-faith with multi-ethnic and did not answer the question set and gained few marks.

c) This question was well answered by candidates who were able to use their biblical knowledge to give a number of reasons. Less able candidates either failed to answer this question or were unable to give more than one accurate reason. General answers achieved only low level marks.

d) Most candidates were able to respond to the quote but failed to give religious reasons why treatment is equal or unequal. A few gave answers that were not based within the UK and so gained few marks.

want to belong to.

(b) Living in a multi-faith society shouldn't cause problems as people have their own opinions and beliefs. People should be pleased that people from different faiths are in the ~~the~~ society as it may be interesting to learn about different faiths and upbringings.

Also, it's a free country so people should be able to choose where they live without feeling threatened or violated because of their faith, ethnicity, race or ~~hom~~ sexuality etc.

(c) There are differences amongst Christians in their attitudes to other religions, maybe because they don't like the way the bible

is told or maybe because of the way they come across. Every religion is different to the next and some ~~it~~ criticise the way the respect God, Allah etc.

All religions respect their Gods in different ways and people shouldn't criticise because it isn't fair and it's what they believe in.

Christians come across as laidback compared to Muslims and Jews who are very committed to their religion ~~that~~ whereas Christians only ever pay respects on Easter and Christmas and that's because it's a habit or an upbringing that they've got used to.

(d) (i) men and women are treated equally in the UK these days, women and men can do the exactly the same like vote or work in specific places together etc. In the 1900s women were treated as housewives who had to clean and look after the children whereas all the men did was work and bring the money in

(ii) people may disagree with me because some women aren't as physically strong as men but men aren't as emotional as most girls & so either way they both have advantages and disadvantages



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Examiner Comments

(b) 2 marks - two simple reasons are given. (c) No marks awarded - no relevant reasons are given. No religious understanding level gained therefore no written communication mark awarded. (d) (i) 1 mark was awarded for a simple reason for the opinion given. (d) (ii) no marks awarded. Not answered the question. The candidate refers to Christianity.

as want, whenever they want.

(b) yes, because the different races may always fight about which colour is best. They may complain about the food that they eat, and that ^{it} is weird and smells.

(c) There are differences among Christians in their attitudes to other religions because some Christians think that other religions are okay.

also # Some Christians might not like other religions because of the way they worship.

Another would be that ^{some} Christians may think that the foods other religions eat are weird
also ^{some} Christians may like the ways of different religions and that they can learn things from other religions.

(d) (i) ~~Men and *~~

I agree, because ~~only~~^{christian} ~~women~~ are
allowed to be priests in a church.
also ~~some~~ women are not allowed
to do ~~jobs~~ some jobs men do. ~~the~~
also most men call women bad
drivers and that is not equal rights
because some are good drivers.

(ii) people may disagree because women and men are paying the same insurance for cars. they are both allowed to vote for the prime minister also women and men can both divorce each other whenever they want. When as back in the 1900 women could not vote or get divorced.



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Examiner Comments

Not about religious people (c) no marks awarded - no relevant reasons (please note this question is about the UK) No religious understanding level gained therefore no written communication mark awarded. (d) (i) 1 mark (d) (ii) 3 marks. The candidate refers to Christianity.

Paper Summary

Teachers and candidates should note these general points in order to improve candidate's achievement in future years:

There is a choice of two questions per section, each of these has four sub questions, candidates can either attempt the sub-questions in the top questions (odd numbers) or the sub-questions in the bottom question (even numbered). Candidates who choose questions from a mixture of the top and bottom questions will not receive marks for all their responses and as such are at a clear disadvantage.

Candidates are asked to indicate which question they have answered by putting a cross in a box at the top of the paper. Some candidates did not do this and they should be reminded to do this as part of examination preparation.

The amount of lines given on the examination paper is more than adequate for candidates to achieve maximum marks. There is no need for candidates to write more than this. If candidates write more than can be inserted into the allocated lineage, then they are using up too much time on that particular question. Almost all the candidates who used extra paper had already achieved maximum marks on that question. Any candidate who needs extra space can use that space allocated to other questions as long as they clearly indicate on their paper that this is what they have done.

A number of candidates did not complete the final section due to timing difficulties. Candidates should be encouraged to spend about twenty minutes per question leaving about ten minutes to check through their work at the end of the paper.

Candidates produced some very interesting answers to the questions posed. This indicated that they and their teachers had not only studied the topic but importantly had linked them to their everyday life and that reflected in the society around them.

Maximum marks on the part (a) questions are easily gained by learning the Edexcel glossary definitions.

Only the candidate's point of view is credited in part (b) questions. The easiest way to gain full marks is for candidates to concentrate on stating their opinion and writing two separate reasons for it, each in a distinct paragraph, and then to develop each of the reasons with an example or a quote.

Candidates can gain the higher mark within the level, on part (c) questions by writing coherently. Part (c) questions test AO1 and so will either ask for candidates to 'Explain why' or to 'Explain how'.

Many of the part (d) questions this year produced interesting answers. However candidates should ensure that they start by stating their own view and reasons for it in the part (d) (i) and then state reasons why someone might hold a different view in part (d) (ii) rather than mixing the two halves. At least one of the reasons given in either (d) (i) or (d) (ii) must be explicitly religious to go beyond 3 marks. The (d) questions on this unit can ask for the candidate to refer Christianity.

Teachers who would like to learn more about the specification should attend one of the Edexcel training events details of which can be found on the Edexcel website. Specific queries can be answered through the Ask the Expert service which is also found on the Edexcel website.

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