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Examiners' Report
June 2011

GCSE Religious Studies 5RS08 01

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Introduction

This is the second year of the new specification for Edexcel GCSE Religious Studies. The candidate numbers have increased significantly from last year as have the quality of candidate's responses. Many teachers have clearly taken note of the Principal's Report from last year and the candidates demonstrated significant improvements in examination technique that were pleasing to note.

This Unit, in common with Unit 1, Religion and Life, covers topics with regard to Christianity and one other religion. Islam remains by far the most common of the other religions but a significant proportion of candidates answer with respect to the other major religions and some consider other valid alternative views.

Question 1 (a)

1(a) In general the majority of candidates understood what social change is though a small minority tried to explain it as a change to an individual's personal circumstances and therefore scored 0.

(a) Social change is how society is changing, has changed and will continue to change.



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Many candidates demonstrated accurate knowledge of the glossary definitions and used these to score full marks in this question.

(a) Social change is making a change in society.



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Examiner Comments

The simplest way to describe social change and score full marks.

(a) Social change is when you change your friend and lifestyle.



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Examiner Comments

An incorrect response with no idea of anything other than personal change.

Question 1 (b) (c) (d)

(b) The teaching of human rights is a new area of the specification but most candidates showed understanding of what these rights are and were able to explain why it was important to protect them. A significant number argued that when you commit a crime you forfeit the right to have your human rights protected with a significant minority clearly aware of the current consideration by the Government of a prisoner's right to vote.

(c) This proved challenging for many candidates with most comfortably achieving level 2 but struggling to find four reasons. The more able candidates were able to use their knowledge of other sources of moral authority to good effect by explaining why the Bible, for example, is less useful than your conscience. There was a slight tendency for candidates to veer into amateur psychology and discuss the dangers of not forgiving in terms of mental health. There was also, among weaker candidates, significant failure to appreciate the differences between conscience and Situation Ethics.

(d) Sadly many candidates found this question very challenging and many had a very limited understanding of cloning strongly influenced by Science Fiction. There was little appreciation of what is currently possible, or even lawful, and many confused cloning with infertility treatments and "designer babies". The most able candidates were able to consider the benefits to society made possible by cloning contrasted with the ethical problems the concept creates.

In (b) the more thoughtful responses considered the actions that might trigger forfeiture of human rights. This candidate attempted to use knowledge of Christianity and Islam to support the assertion that everybody's human rights should be protected.

Christians believe,
(b) ~~every~~ ^{everybody's} human rights should be protected because, god created everyone, this means that it is disrespectful to not treat god's creation fairly, god is important because he is ~~perfect~~ ~~the~~ ^{the} creator of everything.

Also, human rights should be protected because in Islam, ~~the~~ some teachings are that everyone is fair, this means that you can't take someone's human rights away, Islamic teachings are taught by Muhammed and he is a perfect example of a muslim.

(c) Some Christians should follow their conscience for making moral decisions because, ~~the~~ using the bible for moral decisions may not help as the bible is from the olden times, this is important because

conscience is given by god and he is the creator of all. #

Also, the bible ~~does~~ may not answer your issue, this means that you can use what god has given you, which is conscience, this is important because god is the creator of all.

Another reason is, that jesus used to follow his conscience, this means that christianism can do so as well, jesus is important because he is a perfect example of a christian.

Another reason is, that, when you are following a young conscience you are more likely to know the right ~~and~~ decision than others, this means that it isn't always right to ask a priest, this is important because there should always be a balanced society.

(d) (i) I disagree, because the bible states, "god created man in his own image", this means that it is disrespectful for a human to create another, as god is the creator of all, the bible is important because it's the words ~~of~~ inspired by god.

I also disagree because christianism teachings are that all the dead will be risen in their bodies, this means that having an exact same bodies isn't possible, christianism teachings are important.

because they are taught by Jesus, the perfect example of a Christian.

(iii) Some people may agree, because God has given man the knowledge to create laws, this means that God allows them to create laws, God is important because he is the creator of ~~everything~~ everything.

Some Christians may disagree because the Bible says "God created all of mankind", this means that it is disrespectful to say only God has the right to create, this means that it is disrespectful if we did, God is important because he is the creator of everything.



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Examiner Comments

In (b) 1 mark was awarded for one simple reason.

1. Islam teaches equality.

The question asks for a personal response and the first paragraph tells us what Christians think rather than the candidate. The second paragraph can be credited as the candidate says "human rights should be protected because in Islam..." which can be taken as the supporting view. The key is the candidate does not say that this is someone else's opinion so it can be taken to be his.

Part (c) gained 6 marks for three brief reasons.

1. The idea that the Bible is outdated.
2. The conscience is given to you by God.
3. It is your conscience and it tells you what is right.

The candidate in this case used his knowledge of the problems associated with other forms of moral decision to strengthen his argument for use of the conscience.

Some candidates could not resist the temptation to use the rest of their prepared answer on why some Christians use their conscience and some do not and so said "Other Christians prefer to use the Bible" and this was not credited as it did not answer the question that was set this year.

(d)(i) was awarded 0 marks.

The candidate says he disagrees and then gives reasons for agreeing. These cannot be credited. However as the candidate gave reasons for the opposite view in (d)(ii) these could be credited.

(d)(ii) was awarded 1 mark for one simple reason.

1. Using the knowledge God gave.

To improve performance the candidates should be given opportunities to practice answering "negative" statements such as this one.

Many candidates had clearly been taught how to gain credit for a developed reason and many more candidates scored 4 marks on (b) questions this year. However it remains the area of the paper where even the most able candidates struggle to consistently score full marks.

(b) I believe everyone's human rights should be protected, because they are something that people made sacrifice to enable future generations to have it like soldiers who lost their lives in World War One and Two, or Sussara Jats campaigning for women's rights, so not protecting the human rights is undoing what they did for us and we should respect them.

Also I believe there would be many vulnerable people who would be unsafe without human rights, like the right to life, so it is illegal to take a life therefore that right saves lives.

(c) Some Christians believe they should follow their conscience when making moral decisions because they believe it is the best method for doing so. This is

because they believe that their conscience is the word of ~~god~~ God speaking through the ~~the~~ Holy Spirit within, ~~the~~ and so ~~the~~ the word of God is always right.

They also follow their conscience, because ~~the~~ the Bible, which many other Christians use, has many contradictions in it, so it is not clear as to how a moral decision should be made sometimes whereas conscience tells you very clearly.

Some Christians follow church authority, but those who use their conscience do not ~~it~~ because it is not very convenient and doesn't give a relatively quick answer which they may need in a moral dilemma.

They also believe that conscience is better than situation ethics, because your conscience takes account of things like the law whereas situation ethics doesn't, therefore the conscience would have a safer outcome in a moral ~~situation~~ situation.

(d) (i) I do not agree with the statement, because I believe that if you are a Christian you should believe that "Jesus was a healer" and therefore should agree with cloning, because the aim of cloning is to find cures for incurable diseases at the current moment in time, or to make ~~the~~ a particular special medicine which is vital like insulin

for diabetics. I also ~~know~~ ^{know} that many Christians ~~also~~ believe in Agape, and to do the most loving thing in a situation where someone has a disease that is currently incurable needs research into how to cure it to make them better.

(ii) Some ~~people~~ ^{Christians} may disagree with me as they believe that cloning animals is usurping the role of God as they believe only ~~God~~ ^{God} can take or give life. ~~They~~

Also they believe that ~~God~~ ^{God} made every person unique, and cloning people means that ~~there~~ ^{there} no longer ~~is~~ ^{is} everyone unique, which is defying God.



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Examiner Comments

Part (b) was awarded 4 marks for a clearly stated personal opinion and two developed reasons.

1. People fought for those rights developed by relevant examples of soldiers and the suffragettes.
2. The protection of the vulnerable in society developed by the use of the law to protect the right to life.

N.B. There is no requirement in (b) responses for candidates to give a religious reason. Both responses can be entirely secular as these are.

Part (c) was awarded Level 4 - 8 marks for one developed and two brief reasons.

1. It is the voice of God developed by the Holy Spirit within.
2. It is less contradictory than the Bible.

A further simple reason was included which could not be given additional credit.

3. It is more immediate than using the authority of the Church.

This candidate has used knowledge about the other forms of decision making to demonstrate why for some Christians the conscience is the best guide.

In (d)(i) the candidate was awarded 3 marks for a personal opinion and one fully developed reason.

1. The example of Jesus as a healer developed by the use of cloning to find cures and fully developed by producing medicine. (3 marks)

(d)(ii) was awarded 2 marks for two simple reasons.

1. Playing God.
2. Destroying the uniqueness of God's creation.

This is clearly the work of an able candidate so it is clearly important that students are given practice at providing answers in (d)(i) or (d)(ii) that are the opposite of their own opinion.

Question 2 (a)

47% of candidates sitting the paper answered question 2.

Many candidates clearly knew what a political party is though some struggled to explain it. Most scored at least 1 mark by including the name of a political party in their response.

(a) A group of people who run in elections to try to gain power and run the country e.g. Conservatives.



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Examiner Comments

An example of a response that was awarded 2 marks.

(a) Political party is politicians and everyone to do with politics in a room in one room.



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Examiner Comments

A typical response from a candidate who had no grasp of the keyword definition.

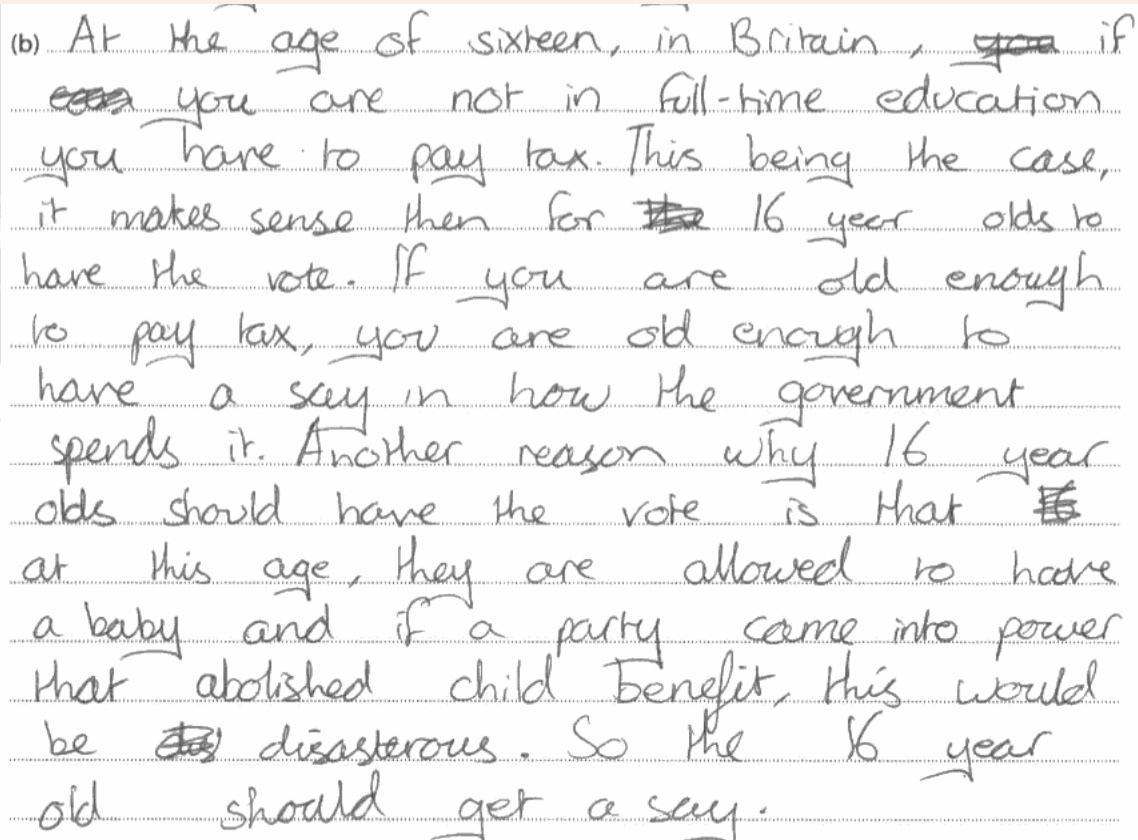
Question 2 (b) (c) (d)

(b) produced some lively debate from the candidates. The most able candidates were able to develop two reasons convincingly with many relevant examples used to illustrate why sixteen year olds either should or should not be able to vote. There was increased evidence of the teaching of citizenship having an impact on candidates understanding with many candidates backing up the right to vote with the fact that they, unlike older people, have been taught about voting and political parties in school.

In (c) many candidates scored very highly. There were two main approaches evident. Some candidates gave "principle" arguments rooted in the common creation of all men for example whilst others identified specific human rights and explained why they were particularly important for Christians. Many were able to use scriptural evidence accurately to support their assertions.

d) There remains a small but significant minority of candidates who have no clear appreciation of what Situation Ethics is and tried to disguise this with vague ideas that might sound plausible or one long example of the use of Situation Ethics. It was often confused with other means of decision making particularly the conscience, with many candidates finding it difficult to draw any distinction between the two.

Many candidates gave carefully considered cogent reasons for their opinions with many offering the evidence of other permitted activities for 16 year olds. There was evidence in the paper that the decision to remove the EMA payments and increase student fees for university has affected the views of current pupils dramatically.



(b) At the age of sixteen, in Britain, ~~you~~ if ~~you~~ you are not in full-time education you have to pay tax. This being the case, it makes sense then for ~~the~~ 16 year olds to have the vote. If you are old enough to pay tax, you are old enough to have a say in how the government spends it. Another reason why 16 year olds should have the vote is that ~~is~~ at this age, they are allowed to have a baby and if a party came into power that abolished child benefit, this would be ~~the~~ disastrous. So the 16 year old should get a say.

(c) Human rights are important to Christians as they believe that God created us all equal, therefore no man has more or less rights than

another. There is also the idea that we are 'made in the image of God' and as God is just, so are we called to be just and human rights are an essential aspect of the modern justice system. In the Bible, Jesus did not condone the ~~exploit~~ exploitation of the weak and stood up for people's human rights. Christians also believe that on Judgement Day we will be judged by our lives on earth and therefore should treat others fairly.

(d) (i) I agree with the statement. I think that all people should try to do the 'most loving thing' as this prevents sorrow. Liberal Christians would agree, saying that Jesus often taught about love, so we should try to live in love ~~and~~ and take into account what is best for others.

(ii) fundamental Christians believe that the laws in the Bible must not be broken. So if, for instance, the most loving thing happened to mean they must break one of the Ten Commandments then they would forbid it. Therefore they don't believe in Situation Ethics.



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Part (b) was awarded 4 marks for two developed reasons. Although there is no initial personal view, this is clearly the personal view of the candidate. For this not to be credited they would have to state that it was someone else's view.

1. 16 year olds pay tax developed by the idea that they should therefore have a say in how it is spent.
2. They are old enough to have a child developed by the idea that abolishing child benefit would be disastrous.

In (c) the candidate was awarded Level 4 - 8 marks for two brief reasons and a developed reason.

1. God created everyone no one is better than another.
2. We are called to be just, like God, developed by the importance of human rights to justice.
3. The example of Jesus in protecting the weak.

This candidate could also have been credited for the final paragraph on the impact of ignoring human rights on Judgement Day but had already gained maximum marks.

In (d)(i) the candidate was awarded 2 marks for a personal response and two simple reasons.

1. It prevents sorrow.
2. Because of the teaching of Jesus we should try to live in love.

(d)(ii) was also awarded 2 marks for one developed reason.

1. Some Christians believe the laws in the Bible should never be broken developed by the idea that if being loving broke a commandment they would not allow it.



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Please stress to candidates the importance of including a specifically religious reason in their d responses in order to maximise their marks.

(b) No, because some young people have mixed and possibly biased views on which party and prime minister to vote in to power as they may be affected by their parents views and may not make their own decision. Also some sixteen year olds do not understand the way in which the Government and parliament work yet and so they may not totally understand what they are voting for.

(c) Human rights are important to ~~human~~ Christians as it says in the decalogue that you should not murder and it says in the human rights that everyone has the right to freedom and not be

tortured. Also Jesus taught of the Golden rule which is that you should treat others how you would like to be treated. Also many of the human rights are also in the 10 commandments that you should not bully and the human right that goes with that is that everyone has the right to be free from violence and bullying and prejudice/Racism.

(d) (i) No, because some ~~deci~~ hard decisions need to be made sometimes in war and in society and a lot of people may not be able to make the decision using situation ethics of doing the ~~to~~ most loving thing and therefore rules and laws should apply to stop people from making the wrong decisions. Also everyone will have a different opinion about what is right and wrong and so if we do not use situation ethics there cannot be split opinions.

(ii) Some people may disagree because in some cases things need to be viewed differently possibly in cases of rape or abortion where rules and laws may not come to the correct conclusion and judgement and so in these times situation ethics of doing the most loving thing should come in and help to get justice and what is right.



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(b) was awarded 4 marks for a personal opinion and two developed reasons.

1. They may be biased developed by they will be influenced by their parents views.
2. They don't understand how government works developed by what they are voting for.

(c) was awarded 4 marks for two brief reasons.

1. The link between the Christian Commandments and Human Rights.
2. The Golden Rule.

(d)(i) was awarded 3 marks for a personal opinion with one developed and one simple reason.

1. Sometimes hard decisions have to be made and you can't use situation ethics developed by you need rules and laws.
2. Everybody has different ideas of what is right and wrong.

(d)(ii) was awarded 0 marks. This is an example of a candidate who hasn't given a specifically religious reason and therefore cannot go above 3 marks for the whole of (d) and the (d)(ii) response therefore is awarded a 0 regardless of its content.

Question 3 (a)

38% of candidates sitting the paper answered this question.

This was the question where even the weakest candidates generally scored 2 marks. Although it is not a definition the SAMS material gives evidence of this approach to question setting, where two examples are required.

write your answer here:
(a) 1) organs given by someone who is alive. 2) organs given by someone who is dead.



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This scored 0 marks. The candidate has identified two types of transplant donors rather than two organs that can be transplanted.

write your answer here:
(a) heart Trans plant and Liver Trans plant



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

A much more typical response scoring 2 marks with two organs correctly identified.

Question 3 (b) (c) (d)

Many candidates continue to show a keen interest in the environmental issues and medical issues covered in section 2 of the specification. However some were still making inaccurate statements about the ozone layer often attributing the hole in the ozone layer to carbon dioxide and thus linking it to global warming.

Those candidates who answered No, we should not do more to find the answers to pollution often found it difficult to justify their stance. The two main approaches taken by candidates were to either choose two effects of pollution and explain why they caused particular problems or a more general approach considering the future inhabitants of the planet.

In (c) most candidates answered from an Islamic perspective and many could provide two clear reasons why some agreed with it and some did not.

In (d) most candidates demonstrated a good understanding of the concept of stewardship linking it clearly to Christian and/or Muslim teachings on the subject.

An example of a model answer to this question scoring full marks.

The candidate adopts the first approach to answering (b) with consideration given to air pollution and water pollution.

(b) I do think that more should be done to find the answers to pollution. One reason I think this is because air pollution, is very dangerous, and a consequence of it is that more people can get asthma. This means that pollution affects humans and can cause illnesses. We should care about this because, we could find out what in the air causes asthma and how we can prevent it spreading.

Another reason I think this because of sea pollution. Sea pollution causes many sea life and animals to die and damages our environment. This means that many creatures could become extinct and their habitats destroyed. We should care about this because it is not morally right to kill, and god will judge us on our actions.

(c) Some Muslims agree with infertility treatment because, it says in the Qu'ran that Muslims should try to cure illnesses and infertility is an illness. This means that it is okay to take

infertility treatments. Muslims would care about this because the Qur'an is the word of Allah.

Another reason some Muslims agree with infertility treatment is because ~~it is~~ It is said in the Qur'an that, a foetus gets its soul at 120 days, so treatments like IVF, where the remainder of eggs are destroyed are not seen as abortion. Muslims would care because abortion is forbidden in Islam.

However some Muslims disagree with infertility treatments. One reason they disagree is because they believe that Allah has plans for everyone and you shouldn't try to change the plan. This means that you cannot interfere with Allah's plan (or you not to have children). Muslims would care about this because Allah is omniscient, omnipotent and omnibenevolent.

Another reason some Muslims might disagree is because treatments like AID, and egg donation can be seen as adultery. This means they are not allowed. Muslims would care about this because in Islam adultery is forbidden and the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said that capital punishment should be allowed for adultery.

(d) (i) I do agree with the statement. One reason I agree is because Allah created the world, so if Muslims don't look after it, it is like disrespecting Allah. Muslims would care about this because Allah ~~will~~ judge you on your actions is omniscient, omnipotent and omnibenevolent.

Another reason I agree with the statement is because of conservation groups. Groups like A Rocha and wisdom of nature take pride in looking after the environment. This means that more religious people would want to do the same. Christians and Muslims would care because God/Allah will judge them on judgement day based on their actions.

(ii) However some might disagree with statement. One reason they might disagree is because it is not morally right for only some people to look after the environment while others ignore it. This means that everyone should do their part. Non religious people would care about this because they still would want the world to be a nice place to live.

Another reason some might disagree is because everyone is equal, therefore it is everyone's duty. This means even some religious people would disagree and want everyone to look after the planet. Religious people would care because God/Allah said in the Bible/Qu'ran that everyone is equal.



(b) was awarded 4 marks for a personal opinion and two developed reasons.

1. Air pollution is dangerous developed by the example of asthma.
2. Sea pollution kills animals developed by the fact this could lead to extinction.

(c) was awarded Level 4 - 4 brief reasons, two marks for each relevant reason.

In favour.

1. Infertility is an illness.
2. Ensoulment doesn't happen until 120 days so destroying embryos is not murder.

Against.

1. It goes against Allah's plan.
2. AID and egg donation are seen as adultery.

(d)(i) was awarded 3 marks for a personal opinion and three simple reasons.

1. Not looking after the world shows disrespect to Allah.
2. Following the example of religious conservation groups like A Rocha
3. The consequences on Judgement Day.

(d)(ii) was also awarded 3 marks for three simple reasons.

1. It is immoral if some do and some do not.
2. Religious people want a nice place to live.
3. It is everyone's duty.

This is the work of a much weaker candidate who does however manage to score in each section.

(b) No i don't think more should be done because it is nearly impossible to do everyday things without pollution. IF we tryed to stop pollution no one would be able to live.

(c) Some religious groups agree with infertility treatment and some do not. Like islam, the liberal muslim don't mind infertillity treatment

because they are like modern day Muslims who don't follow the Qu'ran word for ~~the~~ word. The strict Muslim don't agree with infertility treatment because when this is being done some embryos die and they see it has a living thing.

(d) (i) yes i agree because in the bible it says that christians must look after the planet for future generations this is called Stewardship. Muslim also believe this.

(ii) some people may disagree with me because they feel like everyone is in it together and should help preserve the planet for their younger ~~to~~ relatives.



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Examiner Comments

(b) was awarded 1 mark for a personal opinion and one simple reason.

1. It is impossible to do everyday things without pollution.

(c) was awarded Level 1 - 2 marks for one brief reason.

1. Against because embryos die.

(d)(i) was awarded 2 marks for a personal opinion and one developed reason.

1. A Biblical command developed by the idea of stewardship.

(d)(ii) was also awarded 2 marks for one developed reason.

1. The idea that it is everybody's responsibility developed by the idea that it is worth doing it for future generations.

Question 4 (a)

62.5% of candidates who attempted this section of the paper answered question 4.

Most candidates had few problems defining natural resources though some defined "natural" without explaining that a resource is something we can use and therefore only scored 1 mark.

Write your answer here:

(a) Natural resources are things that come straight from the land and ^{can be used} ~~can be~~ used to help us ~~improve~~ in our everyday lives



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Examiner Comments

This was awarded 2 marks as it has both the idea of natural materials and the idea they are useful to humans.

Write your answer here:

(a) Natural resources are the natural materials that the world comes with, eg. oil and wood and gas.



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Examiner Comments

This was awarded 1 mark as a partially correct response. It is an example of a candidate who defines natural materials but with no sense they are useful to humans. The fact that the candidate also gives some accurate examples of natural resources is irrelevant.

Question 4 (b) (c) (d)

In (b) many candidates wasted valuable time in lengthy and often knowledgeable explanations of what we need to do to stop pollution which were not required by the question.

Many candidates scored highly in the (c) question demonstrating secure understanding of Christian stewardship.

In (d) many candidates had clear ideas about reasons why many Christians would accept organ donation whilst many Muslims would not and based these firmly in appropriate teachings.

Although this candidate scores highly in part (c) the (d) section of the paper lets them down.

(b) I think pollution will spoil the planet because if people drop litter everywhere then it won't be a very nice place to live and if the rivers are polluted then our water supply will be polluted and more people will be sick.

(c) Christians should protect the environment because they believe it was given to humans by god and should be conserved for everyone to enjoy also.

Christians should look after the environment because they believe if they look after the environment god will view it as an act of love and send them to heaven when they die. Christians also believe in ~~stewardship~~ Stewardship which is the act of conserving the environment so that it can be passed on and enjoyed by the ~~next~~ next generation.

(d) (i) I do not agree as in Islam they believe that all the parts of the body will be needed for the last day when the dead rise so they do not donate their organs. Also Muslims believe that it is very wrong to accept an organ from someone.

(ii) people may disagree with me because in Christianity it is believed that Jesus said that there was no more a loving thing than to donate your organs. Also Christians make a moral decision to donate their organs using their conscience.



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Examiner Comments

(b) was awarded 3 marks for a personal response, one simple and one developed reason.

1. Litter makes it not a nice place to live
2. Water supplies are polluted developed by causing illness.

Dropping litter was not credited as spoiling the planet. (c) was awarded Level 4 - 8 marks for two brief reasons and one developed reason.

1. Gift from God.
2. Rewarded on Judgement Day.
3. Christian stewardship developed by giving it to the next generation.

(d)(i) was awarded 1 mark for a personal response and 1 simple reason.

1. Muslims believe they need their body for the last day.

The candidate then digresses into the morality of transplant surgery rather than remaining focussed on religious attitudes to organ donation.

(d)(ii) was awarded 0 marks.

Jesus didn't encourage organ donation in the scriptures so the candidate uses an appropriate idea, that of Situation Ethics but misapplies it in terms of the question. There is no reason given for why a Christian's conscience would encourage organ donation though again this could easily have been given value by referring to "Love thy neighbour" for example.

(b) I think pollution will spoil the planet because we will eventually face the consequences. The world will burn up and it will get too hot for anything to live. This would be destroying God's creation. Pollution would also create acid rain that destroys plants and damages buildings. The fact that there are so many cars and planes and all other transport this will happen quicker than we thought.

(c) I think Christians should look after the environment because God created the universe, planets and all of us. So we should help him by looking after

the environment and not damaging it. We should also protect the environment for these children and these children are part of sustainable development. We keep it safe for the next generation and for one after that so we all have equal opportunities. In the environment there are lots of animals and if we do harm the environment we will harm the animals as well.

(d) (i) Yes we agree because you can use these organs to help other people who have diseases or problems with their organs. Christians would support this because Jesus was a healer so many people would want to help people and heal them. In Christianity people believe that the soul doesn't need the body after death so it would be OK to take them.

(ii) Some people may disagree because they think it is wrong to tamper with the body after death and some people don't want the organs from other people. It should be up to them and not the religion that forces them to have their organs donated to other people that need them.



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Examiner Comments

(b) was awarded 4 marks for a personal response and two developed reasons.

1. We will eventually feel the consequences developed by the world will warm up.
2. It will generate acid rain developed by killing plants and destroying buildings.

(c) was awarded Level 2 - 4 marks for two brief reasons.

1. It is God's creation.
2. It must be protected for future generations.

(d)(i) was awarded 3 marks for three simple reasons.

1. It helps other people.
2. Jesus was a healer.
3. You don't need your organs when you are dead.

(d)(ii) was awarded 2 marks for two simple reasons.

1. You should not tamper with the body after death.
2. It should be a personal choice not a religious rule.

The middle reason was not credited as the question asks about donating organs rather than receiving them so it did not address the question.

Question 5 (a)

40% of candidates who attempted section 4 of the paper answered question 5.

As is often the case many candidates struggled to define a word which is in common use. Ideas about loyalty, trust and admiration were often mingled with street slang.

Write your answer here.
(a) Respect is treating someone the way that you wish to be treated.



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Examiner Comments

This was awarded 2 marks as an example of a markscheme response.

Ensure your candidates have learnt the keyword definitions of words that are in common usage.

(a) Respect means tolerating people boundaries and rules that should be followed.



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Examiner Comments

This was awarded 1 mark as an example of respect.

Question 5 (b) (c) (d)

The candidates approached the (b) section of this question with relish and often from a very personal perspective. Most candidates felt that the bully should always be excluded from school and explained why in terms of the victim and his education. Others took a more liberal approach and considered the reasons why the bully was a bully and why it may be more important to reform the bully rather than remove him or her.

The quality of answers in the (c) question was extremely variable. Some more able candidates could outline the major reasons for war and illustrate them with examples which ranged from the Crusades to the current problems in Libya. However weaker candidates often struggled and many were restricted to 4 marks when they did not mention a current conflict. Often these responses were hazy accounts of causes of conflict and even hazier attempts at an account of a current conflict. Some resorted to a list of reasons which was awarded at level 1 - 2 marks.

This was one of the weakest areas of the paper with few candidates showing any real knowledge of the contribution of either the UN or religions to world peace.

(b) bullies should always be excluded from school because they have a negative impact on the ~~the~~ education of the people they bully so if they are excluded they can't bully them. Also exclusion is a good deterrent to potential bullies ~~the~~ giving them a good warning not to bully.

(c) Wars happen for many different reasons one of which is religion and ethnicity ~~the~~ wars since the beginning of time have been over religion and ethnicity for example the Kosovo conflict, the genocide in

places such as Congo and Nigeria. Wars also start because of power and land and countries invade other countries to take control of them and therefore gain more power. for example Germany invading Czechoslovakia in the second world war and China invading Tibet. Wars can be caused to stop a dictator or tyrant from terrorising his own people for example the Second Gulf war or the conflict in Libya. Wars can also be caused by natural resources and many future wars will be to do with this.

(d) (i) The United Nations has done far more to encourage world peace than religion has because I can't think of any wars that have started because of UN but I can think of ~~about~~ loads that have started in the name of religion. Some people even think their religion says they should kill innocent people for its cause e.g. The IRA and Al Qaeda. Whereas the UN is a neutral party where matters are negotiated with clear heads as opposed to religious leaders and factions with their own agendas and heads full of radical thoughts. Religion is the biggest reason we don't have world peace.

(ii) People who disagree would say Jesus taught us to 'love thy neighbor' and 'treat others as you would wish to be treated'. They would say that ~~the~~ the UN is biased towards people's own nations and only religion speaks to all of mankind.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

(b) was awarded 2 marks for a personal response and two simple reasons.

1. It has a negative impact on the education of the victim.
2. The deterrent effect to reduce bullying.

(c) was awarded Level 4 - 8 marks for four brief reasons with relevant examples.

1. Religion/ethnicity with Kosovo and genocide in the Congo.
2. For power and land though the example cited is accurate it is not current.
3. To prevent a dictator terrorising his own people e.g. the second Gulf War and the current conflict in Libya.
4. Natural resources

(d)(i) was awarded 2 marks for a personal response and two simple reasons.

1. The UN does not start wars.
2. The UN can negotiate with clear heads.

No religion would say that innocent people should be killed.

(d)(ii) was awarded no marks as it was not answering the question. Although relevant scriptures are used which could easily have been linked to the question and gained marks no attempt was made to suggest that these scriptures would mean that religion does more for world peace. Similarly there is no evidence to suggest that the UN is a biased organisation.

(b) Yes they should they have no right what so ever to pick on children which are different to them the only reason why they pick on them is because they have got a better talent than them.

(c) reason why wars happen is when things go wrong in different countries and they decide to take it out on each other

or when some one tries to bomb a country then we decide to go over and start a war that's how it all happens.

(d) (i) christians also believe in peace as well but i agree with we should go to war they tried to kill us so we should fight back to kill them, but the sad thing is that some of british troops died that why something tells you we should back out.

(ii) People may disagree with me
they might think enough is enough
and say we should just give
it up and lose.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

(b) was awarded 1 mark for a personal response and one simple reason.

1. They should not pick on children that are different.

(c) was awarded Level 1 - 2 marks.

This describes rather than explains a reason.

(d)(i) was awarded 0 marks. The candidate offered no valid reasons in response to the question but rather stated his own opinions about war in general. (d)(ii) also scored 0 marks. This answer has nothing to do with either religion or the U.N. and so is not answering the question. This is an example of a candidate who criticises his own argument rather than the statement they are required to comment on.

Question 6 (a)

Most candidates gave good definitions, using a variety of adjectives, to describe widespread devastation. Many also provided an example though a few erroneously suggested that weapons of mass destruction were non-nuclear. Many however were aware of the effects of the bombing of Japan with nuclear weapons.

Weaker candidates provided definitions that could have been equally well applied to conventional weapons or to events such as carpet-bombing.

Write your answer here:

(a) This means weapon which makes a lot of harm.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

This was awarded 1 mark as a partially correct response which suggested the idea of widespread death and destruction without really explaining why this is different to a machine gun for example.

(a) Addiction is when you physically can't stop doing or taking something, because your body is needing and craving that thing.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

This was awarded 2 marks for a correct response as given in the markscheme.

Question 6 (b) (c) (d)

The majority of students who attempted this (b) question understood Just War principles and argued for or against as to whether they could hold true for a modern conflict. A surprising number gave pacifist answers with the idea that killing was always wrong so a war could never be just.

Many (c) responses included the scriptural guidance of forgiveness as part of their answer. Most students also made reference to forgiving in order to be forgiven. However there was not a general clear understanding of the place of the cross in Christian thinking and a tendency towards home spun philosophy on the dangers of holding a grudge. Many also suggested that Jesus forgave Judas, an idea that is not supported by scripture. Whilst it may very well be true we have no way of knowing.

(b) I dont think that there can be a just war because there will always be a war going on to stop something. We go to war to stop war which is very stupid I think. Without war our society would be what it ~~should~~ ^{is} today.

(c) Christians believe forgiveness is important because Jesus said that we should forgive seventy times seven meaning we should always forgive the person who have done something wrong no matter how bad the thing was that they had done.

Christians were taught to always forgive. Christians must always forgive no matter what happened, however, some Christians cannot forgive people for what they may have done to their family. Forgiveness is so important to them because Jesus forgave the people who killed him and all of the people who had done wrong because he knew he wouldn't remember them later in his life.

(d) (i) In some religions such as Hinduism it bring people close as a family but however, in muslim and family they ~~are~~ will have their daughters have arranged marriages which will cause conflict because their female may not want to marry this person so there will be a lot of hatred in their family. So I think in Muslim and Asia religions it does cause conflict but not in others.

(ii) However, in Christianity and Judaism it would be families close because of the special events they have such as Christmas. These events bring families together as one big family who care for each other. Whilst some religions are strict on the parent they will want the best from their child so they do what they do because they have to not because they want to.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

(b) was awarded 0 marks. The candidate disagrees but gives no valid reasons for their opinion. This was a general problem for weaker candidates who knew exactly what they thought but struggled to justify it.

(c) was awarded Level 3 - 6 marks for one developed and one brief reason.

1. The teaching of Jesus to "Forgive seventy times seven" which was developed by the idea that this should apply no matter how bad it is.
2. The example of Jesus in forgiving those who crucified him.

(d)(i) was awarded 1 mark for one simple reason.

1. Conflict over an arranged marriage.

(d)(ii) was also awarded 1 mark for one simple reason.

1. Special events bring families closer.

disagree that war can never be just.
(b) ~~I believe there can ever be a just war.~~

This is because Islam teaches the rules of a just war (e.g. Must be a last resort). This means that if the war is the only option then it is just. Muslims care about this because it is taught by religious leaders who modernise old Islamic teachings.

Another reason is that in the Qur'an it is taught that for Allah's sake do not attack first but attack those who attack you. This means that if someone starts a war, you are allowed to retaliate.

Muslims care about what is taught in the Qur'an because it is the exact word of God.

(ii) However, in Christianity and Judaism it would be families close because of the special events they have such as Christmas. These events bring families together as one big family who care for each other. Whilst some religions are strict on the parent they will want the best from their child so they do what they do because they have to not because they want to.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

(b) was awarded 2 marks for a personal response with two simple reasons.

1. The rules for a just war are taught in Islam.
2. The Qur'an teaches Muslims to fight back if they are attacked.

(c) was awarded Level 4 - 8 marks for two brief reasons and one developed. 1. Jesus died to bring forgiveness. 2. The Golden Rule, Treat people how you would like to be treated; developed by the idea that we would all like to be forgiven. 3. Forgive so that you are forgiven.

(d)(i) was awarded 3 marks for a personal response with one developed reason and one simple reason.

1. An example of a circumstance that could cause conflict developed by the idea that the child may be disowned. 2. Conflict can occur because the two parents want to bring up the child in their own faith.
- (d)(ii) was awarded 2 marks for two simple reasons.

1. Religion can bring the family together.
2. Religion can strengthen the family. This was accepted as a religious reason because it is a Christian Church teaching.

Question 7 (a)

81% of all candidates who answered in this section answered question 7, making it by far the most popular question on the paper.

7(a) was the least well understood and expressed of the (a) questions again because it is in common usage and so some candidates assume they know what it means and fail to learn the glossary definition. Many candidates did not appreciate the full implications of addiction and often offered definitions that were a description of a dependency. However few failed to score at least one mark with even the weakest candidates offering an example of an addiction, the most common being smoking and alcoholism.

(a) addiction means being addicted to something is when you can't let go from it, eg ~~the~~ drugs and alcohol.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

This was awarded 1 mark as equivalent to dependency; which is partially correct on the markscheme. It could also have been credited as a partially correct example of addiction however the partially correct components of the mark scheme are not additive.

(a) Addiction is when you physically can't stop doing or taking something, because your body is needing and craving that thing.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

This was awarded 2 marks as an alternative wording of "a compulsion to engage in an activity".

Question 7 (b) (c) (d)

In (b) responses many candidates demonstrated an understanding of deterrence with many also making accurate reference to reform and rehabilitation. Some candidates also demonstrated that punishment might make people worse as well as better.

In (c) responses many candidates gave well-reasoned answers both in favour of and against capital punishment. A few candidates ignored the "non" part of "non-religious" and answered with very specific Christian and/or Muslim teaching and therefore scored no marks.

This (d) question was the best answered of all the (d) questions with candidates having a clear understanding of the issues, often giving concrete examples and using scripture well. It was pleasing to note that many cited the example of Noah or Lot as a cautionary tale and many were familiar with the work of the Salvation Army with alcoholics. A significant number of students combined the miraculous turning of water into wine and the Last Supper.

(b) I think it can change peoples behaviour, the most effective method be deterrence which, by making the punishment so off putting - ~~miss~~ cutting of a hand for stealing, will stop criminals committing the crime as they won't want to lose a limb etc.

Also Reform is a good way as it teaches criminals how to stop getting into trouble and how to stop committing crimes. If they learn why it is wrong and what effects it has on others then it will show them why they should stop.

(c) Some people agree with capital punishment as it protects the society from dangerous people. If they are dead then they can not harm again.

Also it shows to other criminals what will happen if they commit a crime so it will put them off it.

They will be able to see the effects on those around them.

Some disagree because they believe reforming them would have a larger effect, although others say it can not be ~~prove~~ guaranteed, how can you reform someone is dead?

The tools for a death penalty are very expensive and it is only to get rid of one criminal.

They have compared a country who uses ~~the~~ capital punishment and a country who doesn't use it and the crime rates are the same so little difference is made.

Capital punishment is an easy way out of having to deal with criminals.

(d) (i) I do not agree as every body needs a drink now and then.

Jesus had wine at his ~~was~~ last supper so people drink it to commemorate that time. He also used it in his first miracle as he turned water into wine.

Most Christians say that it is ok in moderation.

not everyone does drink it in moderation causing anti-social behaviour at night time.

It is also seen as a person as it damages the organs and God created us so it would be disrespectful to him. It has a negative effect on the community and society and there for should be banned.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

(b) was awarded 4 marks for a personal response with two developed reasons.

1. Deterrence will make him too afraid to commit the crime. Developed by amputation as an example.

2. Reform teaches people how not to get into trouble; developed by the idea that if you learn why something is wrong it will change behaviour.

(c) was awarded Level 4 - 8 marks for four brief reasons. For: 1. It protects society. 2. The deterrent effect. Against: 1. Reform will have a bigger effect. 2. It has no effect on the crime rate.

(d)(i) was awarded 3 marks for one developed and one simple reason.

1. Jesus drank wine at the last supper developed by the fact that Christians drink it to commemorate the event.

2. Jesus turned water into wine.

The final part is a statement of opinion with no reasons.

(d)(ii) was also awarded 3 marks for one simple reason and one developed reason.

1. It can lead to anti-social behaviour.

2. It damages organs developed by the idea that these were created by God and it is therefore disrespectful.

(b) I believe punishment such as ~~deterrence~~ ^{deterrence} changes people's behaviour because they have to pay back for the crime they commit. This means the criminal may not have the money to pay back. Criminals will stop committing their crime because they know there will be long term consequences.

Additionally, deterrence ~~comes the~~ has a bad consequence (e.g. death) so this means the criminal will be scared to commit this crime. This means less crimes will be committed due to fear.

because it is taught in the shariah law it is acceptable for murder, apostasy and adultery. This means Muslims will use capital punishment in these situations. Muslims care about this because the rules were

made by Muslim authority who modernise old rules.

Another reason is that capital punishment was used in the Church many ~~the~~ years ago for heresy. This means Christians will follow the Church's example and use capital punishment. Christians care about the Christian leaders' teachings because they have been appointed by God.

But however, other Christians may disagree with capital punishment because ~~of~~ one of the ten commandments is "thou shalt not kill". This means killing would be sinning against God. Christians care about God because he knows all and decides their fate.

Finally, ^{some} Christians disagree because Jesus taught to ~~love~~ die to bring forgiveness and reform sinners. ~~BA~~ This means Christians ~~will~~ ^{criminals} not kill but use Jesus' example to change ~~sinners~~ and forgive their crimes. Christians care about what Jesus did because he was the son of God and the example of a perfect Christian.

(d) (i) I ~~do~~ disagree that Christians should never drink alcohol because Jesus drank wine in the bible. Christians will follow his example and also drink wine. Christians care about Jesus because he is the example of a ~~perfect~~ perfect Christian.

Another reason is that in the Church they used to drink wine in communion. This means that wine is also regarded as holy and blessed to Christians when they are in Mass. Christians will care about the traditions of the Church because they were decided by religious leaders who are said to be appointed by God.

(ii) However some Christians disagree with me because drunkardness is forbidden in the bible. This means that Christians refrain from alcohol in order to never be drunk. Christians care about what is written in the bible because it's the inspired word of God.

Additionally, the Salvation Army, a Christian Charity, refrain from drinking alcohol because it destroys families. This means Christians will follow their example and refrain from drinking. Christians care about the Salvation Army because it a Christian charity which help people and influence their decisions because they do good.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

(b) was awarded 3 marks for a personal response with one developed reason and one simple reason.

1. They will have to pay; developed by the knowledge of the long term consequences.
2. Deterrence will make him too afraid to commit the crime.

(c) was awarded 0 marks.

The question asks specifically why non-religious people agree or do not agree with capital punishment. The candidate gives only religious reasons.

As a level has not been reached for understanding the QWC mark can not be awarded. Therefore the candidate gains a 0.

(d)(i) was awarded 3 marks for a personal response with one simple reason and one developed reason.

1. The example of Jesus.
2. Wine is used in mass; developed by it is holy and blessed.

The last sentence in each paragraph is irrelevant to this question. It is not development of the reason but rather a development of the Bible, Jesus etc. The candidate has obviously been taught this as a development technique but it rarely added anything to the reasons given.

(d)(ii) was awarded 2 marks for two simple reasons.

1. Drunkenness is banned by the Bible.
2. It destroys families.

Again the last sentence in each paragraph is irrelevant to this question. It is not development of the reason but rather a development of the Bible, Jesus etc.

Question 8 (a)

Of those candidates who attempted this section only 19% answered question 8 making it by far the least popular question on the paper.

Many candidates understood "rehab" as a place rather than a process. The majority responded with reference to substance abuse rather than criminal behaviour.

(a) rehabilitation is when a person ~~addicted~~ addicted to drugs or alcohol is given therapy and help so they can beat the addiction ~~and~~ and get back on their feet.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

This was awarded 2 marks. By the end this response is an alternative wording for "restore to normal life". With "get back on their feet" taken to represent the return to normal life.

(a) Addiction is where somebody physically and mentally believe that they need something, like a drug or some soft. Rehabilitation is when somebody is trying to overcome an addiction.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

This was awarded 1 mark. A partially correct response with the idea of overcoming addiction.

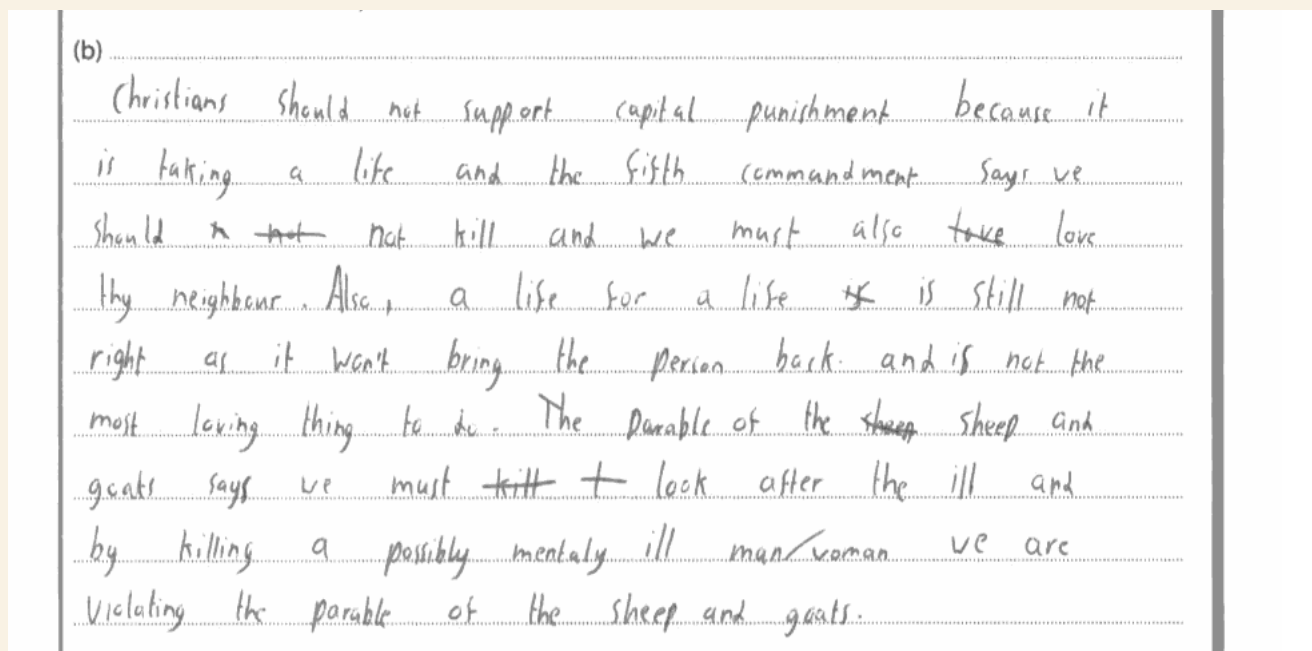
Question 8 (b) (c) (d)

This (b) question generated a range of thoughtful answers with most candidates deciding that they thought a Christian could not support capital punishment. Most who answered in this vein used the Decalogue or the teaching of Jesus to "Love thy neighbour" to good effect. Some candidates however decided that Christians should support capital punishment and they employed "An eye for an eye" and the teaching of Thomas Aquinas on the importance of the protection of society with equal conviction.

The candidates coped well with question (c) with many answering from a Muslim perspective and giving a range of well understood and factually accurate answers. Most appreciated that there was no requirement to give reasons to support the use of alcohol by Muslims and the few who tried often met with little success. On the other side of the coin there were some strong responses from a Jewish perspective which argued convincingly that alcohol in moderation is perfectly acceptable.

This was often the occasion for candidates to discuss "soft" prison living conditions. Candidates showed little awareness of the realities of prison as a punishment and some implied that released prisoners could not wait to reoffend in order to return inside. There was surprisingly little knowledge or understanding of reforming activities in prisons and many based their answer on retribution and deterrence rather than reform. It was also the area where candidates had greatest difficulty including a specifically religious argument. Those that did showed significant understanding of the role of religions in bringing about reform. Some of the most interesting answers argued that prisons could not reform people as only the blood of Jesus could reform a sinner and then went on to explain the role of prisons in deterrence, retribution and protecting society.

Many candidates approached this (d) question by comparing the relative value of prison versus capital punishment. It was difficult for these candidates to score well in this question.



(b) Christians should not support capital punishment because it is taking a life and the fifth commandment says we should ~~not~~ not kill and we must also ~~love~~ love thy neighbour. Also, a life for a life ~~is~~ is still not right as it won't bring the person back and is not the most loving thing to do. The parable of the ~~sheep~~ sheep and goats says we must ~~kill~~ + look after the ill and by killing a possibly mentally ill man/woman we are violating the parable of the sheep and goats.

(c)

In Islam, they are ~~again~~ against drinking alcohol because a decision made while under the influence of alcohol is not your own decision and therefore not pure.

(d) (i) I disagree because in prison the criminal is being punished and helped at the same time, if we were to just kill a prisoner they ~~would~~ would have no chance at becoming a law abiding citizen where as in prison they are being punished but not for eternity.

The Fifth commandment ~~it~~ is also technically in favour of prison ~~as~~ as it says ~~to~~ do not kill, we must also consider the golden rule, how would we feel if we were sent straight to death ~~now~~ now. Christians always use these rules in their life.

(ii)

Some people may ~~dis~~ disagree because if the offender has killed then it is only fair that the offender dies so he learns his lesson in hell. They may also say a life for a life ~~is~~ is the fairest solution.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

This (b) was awarded 2 marks for a personal response with two simple reasons. This is a further example of a candidate that provides a list of simple reasons which do not develop each other so only two can be credited.

1. Commandments ban murder.
2. Love thy neighbour.

(c) was awarded Level 1- 2 marks. One simple reason.

1. It causes you to make impure decisions.

(d)(i) was awarded 1 mark for a personal response with one simple reason.

1. Prisons can make you a law abiding citizen.

The candidate has digressed into capital punishment rather than whether prisons reform criminals.

(d)(ii) was awarded 0 marks. The candidate continues with the incorrect theme of prison versus capital punishment rather than, as was required, a consideration of how prisons could be said to reform criminals.

It may benefit weaker candidates to write the stimulus statement at the top of their answer to (d) to help them focus on the important arguments.

(b) I think it is up to people to believe what they want as an individual. Christians believe God gave us free will so they have the right to decide to be for or against capital punishment. However, Christians are taught about the sanctity of life - that life is sacred, a gift from God that should be preserved. Moreover, forgiveness is very important to Christians and so they should find it in themselves to forgive the criminal and therefore not believe in capital punishment.

Overall, I think that there is enough teachings to say Christians should not believe in capital punishment - Thou shalt not kill but they have free will.

(c) Islam teaches people that drinking alcohol is a sin. Muslims do not believe in drinking as it is forbidden in the ~~the~~ Quran. Therefore, it is unholy and a sin to drink it.

It is believed that alcohol clouds the mind and this would mean people would be unclear of the teachings of Islam and may do things that are considered to be bad or evil.

Moreover, alcohol damages the body and puts you at risk. They believe their bodies belong to Allah and so by drinking and damaging themselves they are ruining something that belongs to Allah.

However, the question can be interpreted differently but not drinking is one of the rules that nearly all Muslims agree is important and needs to be followed.

(d) (i) I believe prisons do reform criminals. In prison criminals are educated and learn useful skills that can help them get jobs when they leave. This helps with poverty, one of the reasons for crime.

Furthermore, criminals often hate prison and miss their family, friends and life. Therefore, they are less likely to reoffend. Moreover, in Christianity it is important to forgive as humans are not perfect so they would believe that prisons could reform people.

(ii) On the other hand, it is not uncommon to hear of people slipping back into old habits and reoffending again and again. Therefore, some people find it hard to believe that prisons can reform people.

Additionally, Christians believe that there are some people that will end up in hell - 'the goats' of the world. Therefore, there is no way to help them if God himself does not forgive them on judgement day.



(b) was awarded 2 marks for a personal response with two simple reasons.

1. Freewill to decide for yourself.
2. Sanctity of life.

Again two further simple reasons on forgiveness and "Do not kill" are given but only two reasons can be credited.

(c) was awarded Level 4 - 8 marks. Two simple reasons and one developed reason.

1. It is a sin.
2. Forbidden by the Qu'ran.
3. Alcohol clouds the mind, this is developed by the idea that this may lead to evil. (4 marks for a developed reason).

This is an example of a candidate who gains all 8 marks by only explaining why Muslims don't drink alcohol.

(d)(i) was awarded 3 marks for a personal response with one developed and one simple reason (with an additional Christian reason which wasn't credited but allows credit to be given for (d)(ii).)

1. Educated and learn new skills; developed by getting a job.
2. They hate prison and miss their family.

(d)(ii) was awarded 1 mark for one simple reason.

1. Re offending.

This use of the Sheep and Goats was not accepted as relevant to this question.

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 linage, 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.

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.

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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