

Examiners' Report
June 2012

GCSE Religious Studies 5RS04 01

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Introduction

This is the third year the 5RS04 unit for Edexcel's GCSE Religious Studies has been assessed. The specification continues to be a popular course as teachers and schools recognise the benefits of an examinable course that both interests and educates young people.

Unit Four is the study of issues affecting all people's lives from the secular and Muslim perspectives. It encourages young people to look at issues from both points of view, allowing them to formulate their own opinions whilst understanding those of others. It engages the interest of young people, addressing 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)

This question was generally well answered, with most candidates getting the full 2 marks for defining natural evil.

Write your answer here:

(a) *Natural evil is evil or suffering which is caused by nature not by humans, for example volcanoes and earthquakes.*



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Examiner Comments

This candidate achieved full marks, giving a definition of natural evil. The examples were not necessary to get full marks in this answer.

Write your answer here:

(a) *Evil and suffering that is caused due to nature and the environment.*



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Examiner Comments

The candidate has correctly defined that it is evil and suffering which is caused by nature and the environment. Many candidates gave more detail but this was mostly unnecessary.



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Examiner Tip

It is important to learn the glossary definitions as this is one way of achieving marks in part (a) questions.

Write your answer here:

(a) *Natural evil is evil which happens around you such as murder.*



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Examiner Comments

The candidate has not understood what natural evil is so this is an incorrect answer and is awarded 0 marks.

on something harsh, that is why these prayers are not answered.

~~Some Muslims say~~ Some people ask for a terminally ill person to be cured, this might not come true as it might be the person's time to part.

Muslim respond to unanswered prayers as it is a test and God might be testing how patient we are.

~~Some Muslims say~~ Sometimes it is beyond our understanding. Unanswered prayers can lead us back to God and strengthen our faith. That is why sometimes our prayers are not answered to tell us that we might be going the wrong direction and lead us back to God.

(d) (i) I disagree with this statement because everyone has the right to choose what religion they want to follow. Another reason is that it's not us that would judge the person but Allah. The last reason is that the better of justice, you can choose what religion you want to follow but after we die we would be asked what religion we have followed, and whether it was the right one or not.

(iii) Some might agree with this statement because they may believe that Islam is a better guide to life. Another reason might be because of the holy books which tells them what religion to follow and what God to believe in. Last reason is that because of religious experiences which might be an evidence for that they feel God exist.



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Examiner Comments

This candidate used one specific programme and clearly showed how this could make someone lose faith or be swayed by the programme's content in answer to part (b). They also explained how comedy programmes make fun out of religion, leading some people to take religion less seriously, affecting belief.

In part (c) the candidate used four brief reasons to get full marks. These were:

sometimes prayers are not answered because they are asking for things which are not needed

sometimes they are not answered because it is not Allah's plan

sometimes it is part of the test

sometimes the response is to strengthen belief.

The candidate is clear in their answer so gets the higher of the two marks within the level because they meet the Quality of Written Communication descriptor in the mark scheme.

The response to part (d) gives a fully developed reason which is a person has the right to choose, this is developed by adding only Allah can judge, and further developed by Allah will make that judgement in the afterlife.

In part (d)(ii) 3 marks were awarded for three simple reasons which were:

Islam is the best guide to life

The Holy books have evidence

Religious experiences are evidence



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Examiner Tip

This candidate has knowledge of the content as well as the skills to answer the questions clearly. They show that one way of answering questions clearly is to separate the reasons given.

This candidate has the knowledge but lacks exam technique. The part (b) question only has one reason although this is developed well. In the part (d) question the candidate cannot go beyond 3 marks as they have not made a reference to Islam.

(b) Yes, radio programmes, films or any type of media can affect a person's attitude to their belief in Allah. Most TV programmes and film often encourage the way people think and so if the films portray belief in Allah as something foolish, or they show things that are against Allah, then most likely some people will doubt their belief in Allah.

On the other hand some programmes and film promote Islam and encourage people to do good. Watching programmes such as these will encourage people's attitude in a positive manner and strengthen belief of Allah.

(c) When a person prays to Allah, whether it be something as large as world peace or as small as passing a test, Allah does not always answer these prayers straight away or sometimes he does not answer them at ~~all~~^{all}. Yet Muslims know that there are

various reasons why Allah might not answer someone's prayer.

When we pray to Allah and asking him for something, Allah may choose to answer your prayer in a different form. Muslims believe that if a prayer is unanswered in this life, then it shall be answered in the next life - the Hereafter. For this reason Muslims know that Allah has heard their prayer but may want to answer them in a different way.

Another reason why Allah may not answer a prayer straight away is because He wants the person who prays to become closer to Him and continue praying and asking Allah for things. As Muslims, we are aware that

Allah is all ~~merciful~~ omnipotent and He is our provider, so Muslims know that it is important to turn to Allah when one needs help.

Sometimes people pray for things such as world peace however these prayers are not always answered. Muslims know that Allah is omniscient and knows what is happening and what will happen therefore Muslims believe there is always an ~~ans~~ reason to why Allah might not have answered their prayer. Also Allah has plans for every single person and so it would be wrong to turn away from Allah if he does not answer a prayer straight away.

(d) (i) I agree that no-one should be an atheist, because there is a lot of evidence that ~~the~~ God exists. Simply considering the complex design of the world and the universe should be enough to prove that God does exist. The world is made of different interdependent parts that make a whole - perfectly balanced to sustain life. Thinking about the perfect design of the world, or even the Unique design of the DNA should prove to any person that God exists, therefore ~~no~~ no-one should be atheist.

(ii) Others may disagree and state that there is actually no evidence of a god existing because theories such as the Big Bang and evolution explain everything about the world ~~and~~. ~~the~~ They may also say that they cannot see the god therefore there is really no evidence that God exists and so people should be atheists.



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Examiner Comments

In part (b) the candidate is awarded 2 marks for one developed reason which is it will encourage people to think in a certain way. The candidate then develops this by giving two examples.

In part (c) Level 4 – 8 marks is awarded because the candidate gives two developed reasons and the Quality of Written Communication is good so it gets the upper of the 2 marks in the level. The two developed reasons are:

Allah may choose to answer in a different way or at a different time eg the hereafter.

Allah has a plan which we do not know.

Three marks were awarded for (d)(i) for giving a fully developed answer on the evidence of design.

For (d)(ii) 0 marks were awarded. Although this is a fully developed answer the candidate has not referred to Islam, so cannot go beyond three marks for the whole of part (d).



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Examiner Tip

It is good practice to write "My first reason is..." and then "My second reason is..." as this will help candidates understand that they must have two separate reasons for part (b) questions.

Question 2(a)

This part (a) question asked for a definition of omni-benevolent. Some students confused omni-benevolent with omniscient and omnipotent.

Write your answer here:

(a) Omni-benevolent is the belief that
~~God~~ God is all good.



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Examiner Comments

This candidate knows what the word means and gives a clear definition.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Find a way to remember the difference between omnipotent, omniscient and omni-benevolent.

This is an example where the answer given is for a different key word.

Write your answer here:

(a) Omni-benevolent means ever-lasting and the all-knowing. It means that
Allah is eternal and has no partners



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate has not remembered what the word means and has tried to guess, using the answers to two other key words. They were awarded 0 marks as they have not identified anything that could be credited according to the mark scheme.



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Examiner Tip

Sometimes having a guess if a candidate doesn't know the key word definition can lead to giving a partially correct answer worth one mark.

Question 2(b)(c)(d)

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

Part (b) asked candidates to link how religious experiences prove that Allah exists. The better candidates used two clearly separate experiences and showed how someone would be certain in their belief. Some students did not understand the difference between a religious experience (miracle, numinous, conversion etc) and something which happens within religion such as going to the Mosque or fasting.

This part (c) question was asking about the design argument and how it links to belief in Allah. Many candidates answered this well, clearly making the link to belief at the end. Some candidates confused the design and cosmological arguments, writing a mixture of both. A number of candidates did not understand Paley's Watch and wrote that Allah designed the watch.

This part (d) question asked for reasons for and against there being a solution to the problem of evil and suffering. Many candidates said that belief in Allah is the solution and got good marks, although some candidates found it difficult to develop both sides of the argument.

This student has used their knowledge and has understood the requirements of the question and has gained the maximum marks available in parts (b), (c) and (d).

(b) I believe that religious experiences prove that Allah exists. Religious experiences prove that Allah exists because there are a number of ways people become aware of Allah. An example of a religious experience is numinous. Numinous is the presence of something which is much greater than you, for example, someone may become overwhelmed when they see the sea. This makes people feel like they are a minute part of a big world. Another example is conversion, a person may feel a change of heart, and feel closer to Allah.

~~(c) I disagree that there are no~~

~~solutions to the problem of evil suffering." Muslims believe that there are solutions to the problem of evil~~

~~and suffering, only if it is in Allah's plan to do so. We do see people who are suffering get better, this is because God is Omnipotent (all-powerful) he has the ability to change lives.~~

* (c) The argument from design may lead to belief in Allah because of the universe.

When we look at the universe, we see that it is very gigantic, people may say that a complex universe cannot have come by chance. For example, William Paley's theory says that if someone created a complex watch cannot come into existence by chance, someone must have invented it. When we compare a complex watch with the whole universe, it is hard to imagine that it all came about by itself. Also, every design has a designer. This shows us that there must be a God because there has to be a beginning. The theory of causation says that for every causation, there is a causer, in this case, Allah is the causer of the universe.

(d) (i) I disagree that there are no solutions to the problem of evil and suffering. Muslims believe that the evil doers ~~will~~ will be punished in the next ~~to~~ life because of the injustice they have caused. The Muslims also believe that the poor and suffering are going through life's test and that they will be rewarded in heaven in the next life. Muslims also believe that people learn how to be thankful for what they have when they see people struggling in poor parts of the world.

(ii) Some people may disagree with me because they are confident that an omnibenevolent (all good) God would not let his creation suffer from injustice. They say that an Omnipotent (all powerful) God would punish the evil doers and would not let them get away with the evil they are causing. For example, ~~the~~ Hitler got away with killing billions of Jews in the World War Two.



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Examiner Comments

In part (b) the candidate has been awarded 4 marks for two developed reasons covering numinous and conversion. The second reason is developed because it says what conversion is and then says it will make one feel closer to Allah.

This part (c) response achieves Level 4 – 8 marks for giving three brief reasons with one developed and because the Quality of Written Communication is good so it gets the upper of the 2 marks in the level. The reasons credited were:

The world is complex

Paley's watch developed

Every design needs a designer

Three marks were awarded in part (d)(i) for giving three simple reasons, which were:

Punishment in the next life

Reward in the next life

The fact that the poor learn to be thankful is the solution

Three simple reasons were also given in (ii) for 3 marks. The reasons given were:

God is not omni benevolent

God is not omnipotent

God would not allow criminals to be unpunished in this life

This is a good example of a student who has answered the (d)(ii) by saying why some people would disagree with them, rather than with the quote. Both would be valid approaches.



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Examiner Tip

Using paragraphs for longer answers helps candidates see the separate points they have made.

This candidate clearly has knowledge but their exam technique is not effective.

(b) Yes, I believe Allah's existence can be proven by religious experience, because it can show the direct power of Allah. For example, when one sees an ill person become cured, it can lead to belief in Allah as He has answered a prayer. Another religious experience, Hajj, can strengthen belief in Allah as it sees a ~~spiritual~~ spiritual act. Also, nothing can just occur on its own, everything has a cause.

(c) The word / universe is such an enormous beauty. It must have been designed. No-one is powerful enough to create the universe. Only Allah, the Omni-potent is strong enough to produce the ~~the~~ Galaxy.

This suggests that Allah exists. A great example of design is a person's DNA. A human's DNA is so detailed and specific. It didn't just happen by itself. This again ~~leads~~ leads to belief in Allah.

The clock is a great example of design. If the clock wasn't designed, then it would never exist, no one would believe in it. ~~Allah~~ The belief of Allah ^{works} ~~works~~ like this.

(d)(i) I disagree with the statement 'there is no solution to the problem of evil and suffering' because Allah gives evil to test humans, to test ~~the~~ humans on their patience. If one prays, then their prayers will be answered. Evil is caused by people, moral

(ii) Although some people may disagree explaining, if Allah loved his people, then he ~~would~~ wouldn't give suffering. There is no solution to earthquakes or tsunamis. So most suggest that there is no solution to evil & suffering



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Examiner Comments

Three marks were awarded in part (b) for one developed and one brief reason which were about answered prayer and Hajj.

The candidate has then added a third reason which is incorrect and cannot be credited as only two reasons are required for part (b) questions.

Part (c) achieves Level 3 – 6 marks for giving three brief reasons and the Quality of Written Communication is good so it gets the upper of the 2 marks in the level. The reasons given were:

It is too beautiful

Only Allah is powerful enough

The example of DNA

(d)(i) 3 marks

Three simple reasons

Life is a test

Prayer

Putting criminals in prison

(d)(ii) 1 mark

One simple reason

There is no solution to natural disasters



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Examiner Tip

One way to answer a part (d) question is to write three things. Some candidates find it easier to write three simple reasons that think of developed reasons.

Question 3(a)

This question asked for a definition of quality of life.

Some candidates confused this key word with sanctity of life and others gave examples of a good or poor quality of life rather than a definition.

Write your answer here:

(a) Quality of Life is to keep your life in good quality and not mis-use it as one day you will be accountable for all your actions in your life.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This is an example of a candidate who does not know what quality of life means but has tried to answer. They have confused quality of life with sanctity of life and therefore the candidate does not score any marks.

Write your answer here:

(a) The idea that life must have some benefits in order to be worth living.



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Examiner Comments

This candidate has learned the glossary definition. This key word definition was often paraphrased and some candidates did not get full marks when they tried to paraphrase as they weren't quite correct



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Paraphrasing and alternative wording can often get full marks but some definitions are difficult to word this way.

Question 3(b)(c)(d)

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

This part (b) question asked students to decide whether abortion should be banned. Many candidates wrote well thought out answers, weighing up their personal belief with the knowledge that sometimes abortion may be necessary.

In part (c) this question asked for the reasons why some people do not believe in life after death. Better students answered this well, typically using four separate reasons. Some candidates wrote about why some people did not believe in life after death by saying that it was because they were not Muslim, and then outlined what Muslims believe which could not be credited.

This part (d) question asked whether euthanasia and murder could be considered the same thing. The highest marks were given to candidates who addressed the question well, comparing the two. Some candidates wrote the pros and cons of euthanasia without really addressing the issue of murder.

This candidate has not fully answered the questions asked, although they have written a lot.

(b) No, I do not think that abortion should be completely banned because there could be problems with the baby. For Example The baby can turn out deformed. So it is the Mothers choice if she wants to give birth to a deformed child.

also, the baby could be an illegitimate child and will not have a stable ~~is~~ father. For Example a woman can be raped and the woman turns out to be pregnant because of this. So, the Mother can abort her baby if it will be a bad outcome for her.

(c) There are many reasons why some people do not believe in life after death. One of these reasons is because they do not have proof of anyone dying and then coming back to life and explaining how this happened.

or what they saw. Therefore, they believe that there is no proof and they do not believe in life after death.

Also, another reason why people do not believe in life after death is because they believe that once you die, there is no possible realistic way of coming back alive or in reincarnation.

do not
Also, another reason why people do not believe in life after death is because even though people claim to have died for a short amount of time and then seen a bright white tunnel which makes them come back from the dead; a lot of people still do not believe in it.

(d) (i) Yes, I do agree that Euthanasia is the same as murder as you are not dying by a natural death. For example, dying in your sleep or naturally from a disease. But, instead you are killing yourself intentionally as you do not want to live your life anymore.

Another reason why I agree that Euthanasia is the same as murder is because you are taking the actions of killing yourself by pressing the life-machine off and making yourself die. Also, in Islam Allah has given our bodies to us, therefore He should be the one to take it away, and in Islam murder is forbidden.

(ii) Some may disagree with this as they believe that if they are in too much pain then they have the right to turn the life machine off.

also, they have free-will and it's not murder if it is your own body because only you know best what your body can handle and no-one else.



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Examiner Comments

In part (b) they achieve 4 marks as they gave two developed reasons which were the baby may be deformed and the mother may have been raped.

This is a good way of answering part (b) questions as the candidate has given two reasons with examples.

In part (c) Level 1 – 2 marks was achieved for one brief reason. The Quality of Written Communication is good so it gets the upper of the 2 marks in the level. The reason given was that they have never seen anybody come back. The rest of the answer does not add anything further so does not pick up any more marks.

In part (d)(i) the candidate has given two reasons, for 2 marks. The reasons were that it is not a natural death and that only Allah has the right to take life.

Part (d)(ii) also gets 2 marks as the candidate has written that if in pain the machine should be turned off, and that people have free will.

Neither answer to part (d) fully addresses the question of whether euthanasia and murder are the same, and the candidate appears to be talking more about suicide.



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Examiner Tip

Candidates should remember to go back to the question for each point they make as this ensures they are answering the question rather than going off on a tangent.

This candidate has used knowledge and exam technique to get full marks on parts (b), (c) and (d).

(b) I think that abortions should be completely banned because life is sacred and it is a gift from Allah and should therefore be treated with respect. Life begins at conception, and the foetus is a potential human being and should have the same rights as everyone else, so killing it would be unjust and can also be seen as murder. In addition, abortion is unnecessary because loving parents could always be found at the end of a pregnancy to look after the child if it is unwanted by the mother - this is fair since murder is wrong and the mother may regret her actions for the rest of her life. Moreover, some people abort if their child will be disabled but this is unfair as disabled children have the same rights as normal, healthy children, so abortion is unnecessary murder and should be banned as it is cruel.

(c) Some people do not believe in a life after death because they have not come across any hard evidence that it exists since nobody has come back to tell us about it. In addition, some people find the concept of a life after

death simply impossible because once the brain is dead or the body has decayed, there is no possible way of becoming alive again - it makes no sense. People also believe that life after death is simply made up and it is a superstition, and since we live in a society today which is based mainly on science and scientific theories, it makes no sense that we should still believe in superstition and religion - science can deprave religion. Some say that religion ~~is~~ or ideas of heaven

and Hell are just made up to make someone behave in a certain way on Earth. Moreover, people may believe that the idea of a life, or some sort of existence after death softens the fear of death for some people or offers comfort to people who have lost loved ones, because they want the reassurance that their relatives are still out there somewhere.

(d) (i) I agree with this statement since it is the painless killing of somebody dying. The act of killing someone is known as murder, and in the Quran, suicide is banned because it is considered as a type of murder - euthanasia is a form of suicide, so in Islam it would be considered as a murder. In addition, non voluntary euthanasia is when you end someone's life when they are unable to ask - you may believe that they want you to take their life, but there is a possibility that they do not, and in this case, euthanasia is the same as murder. Suicide is like murdering yourself, so euthanasia can be seen as murder of a life.

(ii) Some may disagree because it is the person's choice on whether they want to take their life away or not and it is based on their decision - they are not murdered, but make their own choices with support and guidance from all around them - it is checked if they are being forced to, or not, and it is completely their choice, so it is not murder, more like suicide. It is a dignified way to die and is not classed as murder since it is a person's choice if they want to die or not - murder is killing someone without their permission.



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Examiner Comments

In part (b) they achieve 4 marks for two developed reasons which were about sanctity of life and disabled children have the same rights.

In part (c) Level 4 – 8 marks was awarded for four reasons.

The Quality of Written Communication is good so it gets the upper of the 2 marks in the level. The reasons were:

There is no evidence.

The body is decayed.

It is just superstition.

It is made up to make people feel better about death.

In both (d)(i) and (ii) the candidate gives one fully developed reason for 3 marks. In (i) the reason was that it is murder and in (ii) the reason was about it is a person's choice.



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Examiner Tip

Candidates should always give their opinion in part (b) and (d) questions. This candidate has done that well, but some candidates wrote "Muslims believe..." rather than "I believe...", they must give a personal response to get the marks.

Question 4(a)

This part (a) question asked for a definition of al'Jannah. Most candidates achieved full marks for this question.

Write your answer here:

(a) Al Jannah means Paradise the place in the here after.



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Examiner Comments

This is fully correct. The candidate gives a good definition of the word.

Write your answer here:

(a) Al-jannah means "the garden" of paradise. It is where all believers will go in the after life, according to Muslims.



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Examiner Comments

The student uses different wording to the glossary but is fully correct. This is a full, clear answer and gets 2 marks.

Question 4(b)(c)(d)

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

In part (b) this question asks whether people should have the right to die. It was expected that the candidates would answer this in relation to euthanasia, although some candidates talked about the world being overpopulated as people would choose to stay alive. This was an unexpected alternative response but credited.

This part (c) question asked candidates to link a Muslim life with their beliefs in the hereafter. The better candidates made clear links with what a Muslim does leading to reward or punishment. Some candidates described what Muslims believe about life after death but did not link it to how they live their lives.

This part (d) question asked candidates to decide whether there was ever a need for abortion.

This candidate has a lot of knowledge but possibly their exam technique needs to be improved to get full marks.

(b) I do not think that everyone should have the right to die when they want because as muslims we believe that life is a gift therefore we should take care of it.

Only Allah gave us life so only he has the right to take it away from us. Life is a test so if we know when we die then it cannot be a test as one may only worship Allah just before death.

I also do not agree that everyone should have the right to die when they want because if a person wants to die on a specific day then he may commit suicide to accomplish it. In the Quran it is forbidden to commit suicide.

(c) Muslim beliefs about life after death affect the way muslims live their lives because as muslims we believe that once we die our soul is taken to Allah. On the day of judgment we will all be raised again and would be judged on the actions we have performed in this world.

If one has done good, ~~and~~ ~~he~~ followed the Quran and Allah's commands then he shall enter jannah. If one does wrong, did not follow the example set by Prophet Muhammad and did not follow Allah's commands then he will enter jahannam.

Therefore Muslims try to do their bests to follow Allah's commands, follow the Quran, follow the hadith and follow the footsteps of Muhammad. If one makes Allah happy in this ~~world~~ world then Allah will make us happy in the akhirah.

(d) (i) Yes, I do agree that 'abortion should always be allowed' ~~because~~ because as Muslims we believe that under circumstances we are allowed abortion. If the mother's life is at risk then abortion should be allowed. If a young girl is raped then abortion should be allowed.

I ~~also~~ agree that abortion should always be allowed because if abortion was banned then many mothers will be in a death situation and a mother's life is more important than an un-born babies.

I also agree that abortion should always be allowed because in the Quran it says not to harm yourself as it is haram, therefore abortion should be allowed to ~~pre~~ prevent harm to the body.

(ii) However some people may disagree with my opinion and would say that abortion should not be always allowed because if it was always allowed then people would be aborting their un-born babies because they do not want it.

Some people may disagree that abortion should not be always allowed because life and children is a precious gift from Allah so we should accept it and not abort it.



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Examiner Comments

In part (b) the response is awarded 2 marks for giving two brief reasons which were:

Life is a gift from Allah

Only Allah has the right to take life

The candidate has written other brief reasons but none are developed so cannot gain them any further marks.

In part (c) this is awarded Level 4 – 8 marks for a comprehensive explanation based on judgement. The Quality of Written Communication is good so it gets the upper of the 2 marks in the level.

In part (d)(i) three simple reasons were given for 3 marks. The reasons were:

A mother's life is at risk

Rape

To reduce harm

Two marks were awarded for two simple reasons in (ii). These were that there would be more abortions and it is a gift from Allah



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Examiner Tip

Part (b) questions required two developed reasons to get full marks. This example shows that with some rewriting, this answer could have got 4 marks but the candidate has written it as lots of brief reasons rather than linking reasons by development.

This candidate has answered each of parts (b), (c) and (d) fully, getting almost all the marks available.

do not
(b) I believe that everyone should die when they want. In Islam, the belief is that Allah brought us, ~~the~~ humans in to this world. This was for one purpose; which is to worship him. ~~The~~ Not only does He decide when to bring us into this world but He alone decides when to bring us out of this world. So, humans should not decide when they want to die, rather God should decide when one dies.

Furthermore, as life is a test when one is killed their life is terminated. ~~The~~ Therefore, if one ~~lets them~~ self decide when they want to die and they they have ended their test. Allah alone decides when our test is up and it should not be in the hands of humans. Allah also expresses not to kill yourself or decide to kill yourself as it is a major sin. Hence, we should refrain from it.

(c) Life after death shapes a person on how they will behave and act in this world for numerous reasons. Having a life after death gives a meaning and purpose in life. In the Quran Allah says that "I did not create man for any purpose but to worship me. Therefore, for Muslims, their meaning and purpose in life is to worship Allah, refrain from sin and to commit acts which are pleasing in the sight of God." [↑] This makes them believe ~~that~~ that if they believe in God and are law abiding in the sight of Him, they will be rewarded in the hereafter with Jannah (heaven).

Furthermore, having a life after death may ~~give an~~ ⁱⁿ make a ~~person~~ person refrain from bad. For example, heaven and hell. These promote that people who are of ~~righteous~~ ^{in this world} righteousness will enter Jannah, and people ~~are~~ who are among the wrong doers will ~~not~~ enter Jahannam.

(d) (i) I disagree with "abortion should always be allowed." This because a baby has a right to live. This is called pro-life. Moreover, in the Quran Allah expresses children babies as a 'gift'. Therefore, if one kills this baby it is ruining the plan of Allah. Humans ~~we~~ should not interfere with Allah wills; and only Allah decides when a ~~baby~~ human die. In the Quran Allah says ~~It~~ "Do not ~~to~~ slay your offspring" therefore ~~we should~~ abortion should not always be allowed.

(ii) However some may disagree with our point of view because they are pro-choice. This is when a mother / women should decide what happens to her body. Moreover, the mother's body is important. it, for instant, the child will cause a impact on mother eg. death. Therefore, abortion may be necessary.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

In part (b) 4 marks were awarded for two developed reasons which were about Allah is in control of life and death and life is a test.

In part (c) Level 4 - 8 marks was awarded for a fully comprehensive reason. The Quality of Written Communication is good so it gets the upper of the 2 marks in the level. The fully comprehensive reason covered it is the meaning and purpose of life.

Three marks were awarded for three simple reasons in part (d)(i). The reasons were that a baby has a right to life, a baby is a gift from Allah and it is Allah's plan .

In part (d)(ii) 2 marks were awarded for two simple reasons which were it is the woman's choice and it may be for medical reasons.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

One way to develop a reason is to give a reason and then give an example.

Question 5(a)

This question asked candidates for a definition of homosexuality. Most candidates answered this correctly, although many terms were used to define the topic and credit was given. Alternative answers were acceptable and the candidates did not have to say it is a sexual relationship.

Write your answer here:

(a) Homosexuality is when people partake in sexual activity with someone of their own gender rather than the opposite gender.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

This candidate has given a full answer and gets 2 marks.

Write your answer here:

(a) Homosexuality is sexual attraction in the same gender.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

Most candidates knew what homosexuality means and this candidate got full marks for a correct definition.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Candidates do not need to write much to get full marks on part (a) questions as long as they are accurate.

Question 5(b)(c)(d)

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

The part (b) question asked whether contraception should be accepted by all Muslims. The better responses made reference to Muhammad not banning it and that it allows people to limit family size. Candidates who answered negatively used the argument that it is up to Allah but they tended to find it harder to obtain 4 marks.

This part (c) question asked why some Muslims accept divorce. The better responses used a variety of reasons, to gain full marks. Some candidates tended to concentrate on problems within the relationship and were often repetitive.

The part (d) question asked whether marriage is the best way to begin family life. Candidates often compared the Muslim beliefs with the more secular acceptance of cohabitation.

There were some examples of rubric offences seen in this section, where students answered 5(b) and (c) and then 6(d). Candidates are required to answer all parts of one question and if they do not do this then they will not be able to access full marks.

This candidate has gained most of the marks available by using their knowledge and good exam technique.

(b) ~~Some muslims allow divorce~~ Yes I think muslims should accept the use of contraception because eventhough ~~marriage's~~ ~~the~~ main purpose of getting married is to have children. Some married couples are too young or too old to have children, or some are not physically able to look after children therefore contraception should be allowed and accepted. Also, ~~marriage~~ another purpose of marriage is to have sexual inter^{course}~~course~~ within the boundries of islam and some people may feel like they are not ready to have children therefore contraception should be accepted by muslims.

(c) Divorce is when a married couple breakes up and are no longer together. This has become very ~~popular~~ common within the society nowadays, and some muslims accept divorce. One of the reasons why divorce is allowed in Islam is because marriage is just a

contract, and like any contract - it can be broken. Therefore divorce is acceptable.

Even though the prophet says that "divorce is the most disliked act that is not forbidden", divorce is still accepted by some Muslims. Allah has not made divorce a forbidden or punish act, therefore if a couple is not right for each other, then it is better if they divorce rather than having an unhappy relationship.

Another reason why divorce is accepted by some Muslims is because Islam is a considerate religion, and everyone knows that relationships are not always perfect. It would be very wrong to keep two people together if they are not right for each other, therefore divorce is an acceptable act.

Divorce is only a ~~large~~ last resort. But Muslims accept divorce because if two people are having problems with each other, but can not be divorced, it could lead to haram and forbidden acts such as adultery. Therefore it is best that the couple get divorced and have another chance of having a happy relationship elsewhere.

(d) (ii) Yes I agree that Marriage is the best way to begin a family life, because marriage is a way of sharing love and compassion in an Islamic and halal way, therefore it is also the best way to start a family. It would not be right if a family were to start off from an unmarried couple, because they may decide that they are not good for each other, and after a few years, which could lead to single parents and a bad reputation.

(ii) Others may disagree and say the marriage is not the best way to start a family, because after marriage people have a lot of responsibilities and so starting a family after marriage could not work out well.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

In part (b) 4 marks were awarded for two developed reasons. These were that children are the purpose of marriage but some people are too young or old and that sex is also a purpose of marriage and should not have to result in a child.

In part (c) Level 4 – 8 marks was achieved for two developed reasons. The Quality of Written Communication is good so it gets the upper of the 2 marks in the level. The developed reasons were it is allowed in the Qur'an and it might be the best thing in a given situation.

Three marks were awarded in part (d)(i) for three simple reasons. These reasons were:

It is a way of sharing love and companionship

Marriage is the halal way to start a family

An unmarried couple may split up

In (d)(ii) 1 mark was awarded for the reason that after marriage people have a lot of responsibilities.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Candidates should be encouraged to read through their work after they have completed it to check that they have written what they intended to write and that they cannot add anything else to their answers.

This candidate has not developed their answers and therefore does not give themselves the chance to score full marks.

(b) I do think that all muslims should allow the use of contraception because it is an act which is permissible in Islam, therefore all muslims should accept it. Moreover, the use of contraception is ~~not~~ ~~halal~~ only to prevent having children and this is allowed if it is not for financial reasons, thus I think that all muslims should accept the use of contraception.

(c) Muslims ~~do~~ allow divorce due to the fact that although it is a disliked act it is still allowed in Islam. Muslims allow divorce because marriage is only a ~~legal~~ contract made between two people and ~~a~~ contracts can be broken. Also, we are told in Hadith that ~~if~~ if a man cannot keep his wife in

honesty then he should rather let her go with ease.

~~Moreover~~ Moreover, ~~we~~ they are also told that no ~~more~~ woman is obligated to stay with her husband if he does not fulfill his ~~the~~ duties, therefore divorce is allowed. Also, Prophets in the past have also divorced and this is why it is allowed by muslims today.

(d) (i) I agree with this statement because marriage is love and mercy, therefore it would provide a stable foundation for a family to begin. Also, marriage is necessary for family life because one of the purposes of marriage is to have children. I also believe that ~~marriage~~ family with a married couple, sets a good example for children and they have both parents to look upto.

(iii) Some people may disagree with me because they could think that a family does not necessarily need to have both parents to be good. They could also believe that single parent families are as good as families with both parents married so it ~~is not~~ does not mean marriage is the way to begin family life.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

In part (b) the candidate achieves 2 marks for giving two brief reasons which were it is permissible and it is allowed as long as it is not for financial reasons.

Level 3 – 6 marks was given in part (c) for two reasons with one developed (and because the Quality of Written Communication is good so it gets the upper of the 2 marks in the level). The reasons given were that the Qur'an allows divorce and marriage is a contract.

In (d)(i) 3 marks were awarded for three simple reasons, these were:

It provides stability.

It is the purpose of marriage.

It sets a good example.

In part (d)(ii) 0 marks were awarded because the candidate has not referred to Islam so cannot go beyond 3 marks for the whole of part (d).



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Candidates must refer to Islam in part (d) questions to get more than 3 marks for the whole of part (d).

Question 6(a)

This part (a) question asked candidates for a definition of a reconstituted family. Most candidates understood what this meant and achieved full marks.

Write your answer here:

(a) Re-constituted family is two ~~seper~~ sets of children whose parents have divorced and the parents get married to each other causing the two sets of children to be step-siblings.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

This is alternative wording but the meaning is clear so it is awarded full marks.

Write your answer here:

(a) Re-constituted family means two divorced people with children marrying each other.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

This candidate has paraphrased the glossary definition and it could be read that the children are marrying each other. However, this candidate achieved full marks as it is clear that they know what it means.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Paraphrasing can mean that the meaning is less clear. In this case, the candidate was given the marks but remembering the glossary definitions avoid this possibility.

Question 6(b)(c)(d)

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

This part (b) question asked whether having children is the main purpose of marriage. Candidates who answered positively obtained full marks more often than those who answered negatively as they tended to write lots of other reasons for getting married without developing them.

This part (c) question asked how mosques can help keep families together and was answered well by many candidates who linked what happens in a mosque with family life.

In part (d) this question asked whether homosexual relationships should be acceptable to all people. Most candidates compared the teachings of Islam with the acceptability in society.

The student has lots of knowledge and ideas but these are not well organised in the part (b) and (c) answers.

(b) ~~No, as all muslims se should not not accept the use of controception as this avoids one from having children. Islacum is prolife and encourages to have children as it is a sign of gods mercy, it helps strengthen a relationship of a family as well as growing the Ummah. This was not an example of Mohammed (scaw) who had children of his own. Also~~

~~Yes No as the mainpu main pupose of marriage is to build love and affection acording to Islacum, also to avoid sinning in society.~~

~~Marriage reduces hate in families rather joins communities together. In a hadith it stated the best that a man and women are partners, for companionship and love for life.~~

(c)

(c) ... of companionship and love for life.

A mosque helps to keep a family together in many ways as it is not the only centre to educate.

children and families good morals but it also trains individuals to keep stable a good family as muslims and as good citizens. The mosque illustrates the brotherhood and bonding in families. This location joins families and ties in Eid for a Eid celebrations, salaah and daily activities. The mosque also provides advice and services for family problems and so, additionally it helps tolerate families allowing enough activities for families to join together in.

(d) (i) I disagree as Islam ~~pro~~ dis allows homosexuality as it causes harm to ones ~~key~~ health such as causing aids and other ~~disease~~ illnesses. ~~Homosex~~ Allah said in the Quran, 'Why should you approach a man ^{and abandon} when a woman has been ~~created~~ as a mate,' Allah has created men and women so they could ~~create~~ pro-create, have children. Also a lesson from the prophet Lut, where Allah destroyed all the people there, due to their desire in homosexuality.

(ii) Some may disagree as society is now diverse and encourages to be different, everyone has rights to do and like what ever they wish, also many believe this was a genetic desire was from their genes and that they were born this way therefore should be accepted.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

In part (b) 2 marks were awarded for two brief reasons. These were:

Marriage is for companionship

Marriage is to avoid sinning

The candidate also gives other reasons but only two are asked for in the question and as none of these were developed reasons they couldn't add any further marks.

In part (c) Level 2 – 4 marks was awarded because the candidate gave two brief reasons (and the Quality of Written Communication is good so it gets the upper of the 2 marks in the level). The reasons were that they provide education and that they organise family events

However, the candidates has not clearly shown how these help to keep families together.

Three marks were awarded for the three simple reasons given in part (d)(i). The reasons were that it causes harm, sex is for procreation and the people of Lut.

Three simple reasons were also given in (ii) again gaining 3 marks. The reasons given were society is more diverse, everyone has the right and it is genetic.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Part (c) answers need to refer back to the question to get the range of marks on offer.

The candidate has understood the questions but has not answered fully on parts (b) or (d).

(b) yes. I think marriage should always have kids as children are very important and they are the ones who build a family together. The only reason you have to get married is to have sex and share love and companionship between the family. Children are the heart of the family as without children the family is never complete.

(c) Well mosques help family's to stay together by having Friday pray Jumah. This when the boys and men go to mosque to pray their Jumah (Salah) prayer. Also secondly the mosques help the family with financial difficulties. So when

a family going through hard time and they need help with financial difficulties then the mosques are always there to help out. Thirdly the mosques also have clubs for youngsters so on days when they are bored they have clubs to keep them on the right path. Fourthly when they are confused about something they don't know about they could always ask the Imam and the Imam would help them.

(d) (i) NOT disagree with the statement as why would you want to be homosexual it has said in the Quran that whoever is a homosexual can't not have a baby. Also being homosexual is a sinner.

(ii) some people may disagree with me because they think that now the world is modernised you can do anything so they may think that being a homosexual would be allowed.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

Two marks were awarded for this response to part (b) as the candidate gave one developed reason which was that children are the heart of marriage.

In part (c) Level 4 – 8 marks was awarded for four brief reasons. The Quality of Written Communication is good so it gets the upper of the 2 marks in the level. The four reasons given were:

They help with financial difficulties

They are a place for fathers and sons to pray together

They organise family events

They provide counselling

In (d)(i) 2 marks were awarded for two simple reasons which were homosexuals cannot have children and homosexuality is a sin.

In (d)(ii) 1 mark was awarded for one simple reason which was that the modern world allows homosexuality.

Question 7(a)

This part (a) question asked for a definition of community cohesion. Some candidates used alternative wording and gave the definition of a multi-faith society or multi-ethnic society which could not gain full marks.

In this question, those candidates who gave the glossary definition got full marks whereas many who paraphrased did not get quite the correct answer and therefore couldn't be awarded the full 2 marks.

Write your answer here:

(a) community cohesion is a common vision and a sense of belonging for all groups in society



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This candidate has given a correct answer.

In order to get both marks, the candidates needed to have the idea that it was different groups in a society living with a common vision or harmoniously.

Write your answer here:

(a) Community cohesion is when different faiths and ethnicities are living together as a community.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This candidate has identified two groups living in a society but has not addressed the idea of a common vision so only achieved 1 mark.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Learn the glossary definitions.

Question 7(b)(c)(d)

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

The part (b) question asked students whether they think living in a multi-ethnic society helps to reduce racism. Some candidates confused multi-ethnic with multi-faith and therefore couldn't score any marks. Most candidates answered positively and wrote about friendships, tolerance and society being more interesting therefore reducing racism. Some candidates wrote about their personal experiences both positively and negatively. A number of candidates said that they could see both sides and this was credited.

Part (c) asked why some Muslims allow women to have equal rights within religion. The better candidates addressed the question well and wrote full answers, using examples from Muhammad's life. Some candidates did not address the question and wrote about the rights of women to work.

This part (d) question asked whether inter-faith marriage should be accepted by all people. Some candidates got themselves confused by writing yes for men but no for women on one side and then not knowing what the other side would be, limiting their marks. Many candidates thought that inter-faith marriage should be acceptable as the husband or wife can be converted to Islam.

This candidate has written a lot for this question but has not really addressed what is being asked and there is a lot of repetition.

(b) Yes I do think that living in a multi-ethnic society helps reduce racism, because it helps unite people from different background regardless of religion or colour. Living in a multi-ethnic society means that all people regardless of their ethnicity, unite and live together, doing this can reduce racism because it can lead to people learning about different culture and religions, it able the people to communicate and get along with one another it creates racial harmony, living in a multi-ethnic society gives the opportunity for a person to learn traditions, teachings and important stuff about the other culture.

(c) Muslims allow women equal rights in religion because both men and women are equal. In the sight of Allah women are equal and should be treated well and equally.

Women are ~~not~~ entitled to wealth and property of her dead father, husband and childless brother.

Muslims allow women to work, they are able to go out and work to earn money. They are entitled to keep their earnings to themselves and spend their earnings as they please but in a halal way. Women are allowed to do the same work as men and earn the same amount. The laws on women have changed and developed. Women are allowed to inherit wealth. Some Muslims allow women in religion to equal rights because Allah has said that Allah are equal because Allah had created them all from one soul. They allow equal rights because the laws have changed, because women have the choice, they have the freedom and they have the free will to do as they please, no one can prevent ~~the~~ her to do what she wants. If one forces her to do something she has the right to object and refuse.

(d) (i) I disagree not everyone should have to accept inter-faith marriages. Everyone has the freedom of choice they do not have to do something against their will. Some people may be against inter-faith marriages because it goes against what they believe and follow. Inter-faith marriages can go against their religion and their opinion and perspective. Some people may

be forced to do something against their will.
It can be forbidden. Some may be against the
whole concept of interfaith marriage,
Islam does not believe in marrying someone who
is not a Muslim.
(ii) Some people may disagree with me
because they believe that it is more
common and casual now. Some people may
want to marry someone who may not
be from their same culture and their choice
may not count, and if everyone accepted
it, it would be allowed.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

In part (b) 2 marks were awarded for one developed reason which was that it helps a community unite as you learn about other cultures and traditions. The candidate has written a lot but there are not two clearly separate reasons so they cannot be awarded any further marks.

In part (c) Level 2 – 4 marks was awarded for two brief reasons and because the Quality of Written Communication is good it gets the upper of the 2 marks in the level. The two reasons were that:

Men and women are equal in Allah's sight

Men and women come from a single soul

The candidate has written a lot about the rights of women in general but not addressed the question.

One mark was awarded for one simple reason given in answer to (d)(i). The reason credited was that no-one should be forced to believe anything.

In part (d)(ii) 1 mark was given for one simple reason which was that it is more common now.



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Ideally each sentence should say something worthy of a mark. Some candidates use a lot of time writing answers which are not relevant or are repetition.

This is a candidate who makes a series of statements in part (b) rather than reasons why a multi-ethnic society can reduce racism. The same information, written in a different way, could have got more marks.

(b) Yes I do think living in a multi ethnic society helps reduce racism because the government has set laws to stop racism. It helps people create tolerance amongst the people. Also living in a multi ethnic society brings a wider range of clothes, music and food. Also a multi ethnic brings new people with fresh ideas. With different races helps society be a nice place to live in.

(c) Muslims accept the idea that women have an equal rights in religion because in the Quran it states that there is no sexism in the Quran. As

The Quran is the true words of God all muslims believe it. In the Islamic Scriptures it states "God created man and women from a single soul" therefore as this is the true words of God all muslims believe it. Also in the Islamic Scriptures it states that "God created everyone equal as the teeth of a comb... nor male can claim merit over a female" As this is the true words of God all muslims believe it is the final truth. Hazrat Aisha has set an example by teaching muslim men about

the prophet's habit. As in the olden days men are meant to be the teachers and muslims women have to bring up the child.

(d) (i) I disagree with the statement because having an interfaith marriage can cause conflict between the married couples. Also if the people have children, the children would be confused on which religion to follow. Interfaith marriages can cause conflict between the married couples families. This can cause conflict by that their religion is superior to others. It also goes against religious freedom and religious pluralism.

(ii) Some people may disagree with me because ~~it is~~ ^{many} it is a muslims job to convert people into Islam and to increase the population of the muslim ummah. So if a muslim man marries a christian the christian has to convert into a muslim, which increases muslim ummah. Also interfaith marriages are seen more common in society. Also if a couple falls in love with some other than the same religion. God only counts happiness. Also people should accept because some people may not be religious ~~and~~ (atheists) and would not cause conflict.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

In part (b) 1 mark is given for one brief reason which was about tolerance. The rest of the answer does not address the question.

Part (c) was awarded Level 4 – 8 marks for three reasons with one developed. The Quality of Written Communication is good so it gets the upper of the 2 marks in the level. The reasons credited were:

The Qur'an says men and women are equal (this is then developed).

The teaching of Aisha

Men and women are created from a single soul

In part (d)(i) 3 marks were awarded for three simple reasons which were conflict of superiority, conflict between families, confusion of children.

Three marks were also awarded for (ii) as the candidate gave three simple reasons. These were about conversion, it being more common in society and Allah only counts happiness.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Candidates should be aware of the difference between giving a reason for something and making a statement.

Question 8(a)

Part (a) of this question asked what prejudice means. Candidates mostly gave a correct definition, those who did not either gave examples or confused it with the key word discrimination.

Write your answer here:

(a) prejudice is the belief that someone is superior without even knowing them.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

This candidate has given the correct definition getting 2 marks.

This mark scheme requires two things in the definition - the feeling of superiority and the fact that it is without knowing them to get 2 marks.

Write your answer here:

(a) Prejudice is when somebody thinks they are superior to somebody else.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

This candidate is partially correct but they have not answered fully so cannot achieve full marks.

Question 8(b)(c)(d)

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

Part (b) of this question asks the candidate whether they think attitudes to the roles of men and women have changed in the UK. Better candidates picked two changes and developed them. Some candidates tended to list a lot of changes without making any links, or used one, limiting their marks.

This part (c) question asked candidates to look at how an issue from community cohesion has been presented in one form of the media. This was not answered well by many candidates who did not identify one issue, one form of the media or who wrote answers based on other topics from the specification, such as homosexuality. Better candidates chose one issue, such as racism, and one form of the media, such as television and analysed how racism was presented in programmes such as Make Bradford British.

This part (d) question asked whether multi-faith societies cause problems for religious families. Candidates wrote about inter-faith marriage, the need for understanding and tolerance, and conversion. However, some candidates did not refer to anything specifically Islamic and so could not go beyond 3 marks for the whole of part (d).

This candidate has not answered the part (b), (c) and (d) questions fully and has therefore cannot achieve full marks.

(b) I think that the roles of men and women have changed in the UK as jobs and occupations that only men could do, women also do it too.

Also women are treated much more equally and can just about do the same things as men for eg. jobs that only men could do women are allowed to apply for it too.

Moreover there given a lot more respect too.

This has created tolerance between the two genders.

(c) An issue arising from religion and community cohesion was presented in a form of the media through the making of the cartoons of the prophet Muhammed (SAW). This as a result

ended up creating hatred for Islam and spreading the wrong message to all the community.

(d) (i) I agree with this because there are so many different religions in the society, some people may be racist. This could be due to the way in which one dresses.

Also, bullying ~~between~~ may occur between opposing religions and they could be harassed for it. Finally, it wouldn't allow one or individuals to live peacefully but in fear.

(ii) some people may disagree because firstly it will create tolerance between each other, secondly it will allow one to learn about different religions and to give respect to it, and also it could be an opportunity to spread dawah.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

Part (b) achieved 2 marks for giving one developed reason which was about equality of jobs. However there is a lot of repetition in this answer.

Part (c) was awarded Level 1 – 2 marks as the candidate only gave a description of the issue. They have not written how the issue was presented or why this was a problem for Muslims. However, the Quality of Written Communication is good so it gets the upper of the 2 marks in the level.

Two marks were awarded for a developed reason given in (d)(i). The reason given was that it can lead to bullying, harassment and fear.

In part (d)(ii) 3 marks were awarded for three simple reasons which were tolerance, learning about other religions and opportunity to spread dawah.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Exam timing is important. Many good candidates do not finish section 4 and so cannot access these marks.

This candidate has timed the exam well and has enough time to answer these questions well. However they did not refer to Islam in the part (d) question so cannot go beyond 3 marks for the whole of part (d).

(b) I think attitudes to the role of men and ~~was~~ women have changed in the UK because years ago women were not seen as fit to work and were paid less than men for the work they did. In those times women were meant to stay home and look after the family. However today women are allowed to work the same jobs as men and are given equal payments. Also before women were not allowed to vote, since they thought only men had a say in what happened in society. However now that has changed and both men and women have a say in society and can both work, since women's roles have changed and they could work.

(c) In a TV programme called eastenders a Indian muslim family live amongst white british families. However the family are liked by ~~so~~ most people but some people see them as

outsiders. To fit in with the community the family open their own business there and open an indian restaurants. This helped everyone to get to know them and understand their culture, therefore people accepted them. Also, ~~this~~ the family acted friendly towards their neighbours and supported them in times of need, this gained them trust from other people and to be more accepted. One of the men in the programme



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

Four marks were awarded in part (b) for two developed reasons which were about equality of jobs and being allowed to vote.

In part (c) Level 4 – 8 marks was achieved as the candidate gave a comprehensive explanation of how an Indian family have become part of the community in Eastenders. The Quality of Written Communication is good so it gets the upper of the 2 marks in the level.

In part (d)(i) 2 marks were awarded for two simple reasons which were that everyone is equal and that religious people can perform rituals freely.

In (d)(ii) 1 mark was awarded. Although the candidate has given two simple reasons they have not referred to Islam so cannot get more than 3 marks for the whole of part (d).



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Make sure candidates can identify an issue when teaching the media bullet point of the specification. Many candidates wrote about Bend It Like Beckham but did not identify any issue and therefore got 0 marks. If they had written about multi-faith societies in relation to Bend It Like Beckham then they would have been credited.

Paper Summary

Candidates produced some very interesting answers to the questions posed. Candidates not only have studied the topics but more importantly have linked their answers to their everyday life experiences and the society around them.

Teachers and candidates should note the following points:

- There is a choice of two questions per section, each as 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 numbers). Candidates who choose questions from a mixture of the top and bottom questions are not able to access all the marks available for that section.
- The number of lines given on the paper is more than adequate for candidates to achieve maximum marks. Any candidate who needs extra space can use that space allocated to other questions as long as they clearly indicate on their paper this is what they have done.
- There were a number of candidates who did not complete the final section this year due to timing difficulties. Candidates should be encouraged to spend about twenty minutes per question leaving ten minutes to check through work at the end of the paper.
- One way to get maximum marks on the part (a) questions is by learning the Edexcel glossary definitions and this is a constant feature throughout the paper.
- Only the candidate's point of view is credited in part (b) questions. The question doesn't ask for other people's views. One 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 to develop each of the reasons with an example or a quote.
- Candidates can gain the higher mark within the level by writing coherently and therefore meeting the Quality of Written Communication descriptor in the mark scheme.
- Part (c) questions test AO1 and so will either ask for candidates to 'Explain why' or to 'Explain how', looking at past mark schemes can help see the different type of answers required for these.
- Many of the part (d) questions ask candidates to state their own view and reasons for it in the (d)(i) part and state reasons why someone might hold a different view in the (d)(ii). At least one of the reasons given in either (d)(i) or (d)(ii) must be explicitly Islamic to go beyond 3 marks.
- From Summer 2013 there will be extra marks added for spelling punctuation and grammar. There will be 4 marks added to section one 'Believing in Allah'. Information on this has been sent to all centres.

Grade Boundaries

Grade boundaries for this, and all other papers, can be found on the website on this link:

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