

No account should be taken of the quality of Written Communication in the answers themselves; this mark is awarded separately, for the specified question only. In the same way there are no marks to be lost or gained for the transliteration of words from non-Roman alphabets.

Examiners must bear in mind that throughout these syllabuses, except where specifically noted, candidates may answer exclusively from a denominational perspective of their choice.

Full instructions on non-subject-specific aspects of the marking process are to be found in the OCR 'Instructions for Assistant Examiners' book issued with the stationery; examiners should be familiar with this, particularly noting any changes from previous sessions, before attending the Standardisation meeting.

USING THE MARK SCHEME

- (a) All scripts must be marked in red, except for those initially marked in pencil prior to the Standardisation Meeting.
- (b) Each page of a script must display an indication that it has been seen and read by the Examiner.
- (c) The Level of Response achieved will be apparent from the mark awarded for each part of the question, which should be written in the right-hand margin. There is no overlap in marks between the Levels of Response and therefore there is no need to write anything other than the mark.
- (d) Examiners should use the full range of marks available within the Levels of Response and not hesitate to award the maximum where it is deserved.
- (e) Examiners must not exceed the total marks allowable for the Level achieved or the total allowable for the part of the question.
- (f) The ringed total at the end of the question should represent the total of the marks recorded in the margin.

MATRIX TO BE USED FOR AWARDING MARKS ACCORDING TO LEVELS OF RESPONSE

Mark Weighting	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
8	1-2	3-4	5-6	7-8
7	1-2	3-4	5-6	7
5	1-2	3	4	5

LEVELS OF RESPONSE

The statements which follow should be used to determine the appropriate level of response for each objectives. They should be applied as appropriate to the question and as the assessment of the work of an average 16 year old.

AO1

The candidates' work will show at:

Level 1 1-2	An attempt to answer the question. The inclusion of a small amount of relevant information. Some facts may be reported in outline only. Answers may be simplistic and the essential issues ignored.
Level 2 3-4	A valid attempt to answer the question. Some of the relevant information will have been selected with evidence of organisation. Interpretation lacking in depth, considering only one possible viewpoint. Ideas may be stated but not developed.
Level 3 5-6	An appropriate attempt to answer the question. Selection of relevant material with appropriate development.
Level 4 7-8	A good attempt to respond to the question. A fairly comprehensive account of the range and depth of relevant material.

AO2

The candidates' work will show at:

Level 1 1-2	An attempt to answer the question with limited understanding of religious language and concepts and of the relevance and application of a religion. There will be few explanations offered. Limited ability to recognise the relationship between an issue and the study of religion. Some facts may be reported in outline only. Answers may be simplistic and the essential issues ignored.
Level 2 3-4	A valid attempt to answer the question with some understanding of religious language and concepts and of the relevance and application of a religion although lacking in depth. The ability to make simple comparisons and recognise similarities and differences. Some ability to recognise the relationship between an issue and the study of religion.
Level 3 5-6	An appropriate attempt to answer the question with a wider level of understanding of religious language and concepts and of the relevance and application of a religion. The ability to recognise the relationship between an issue and the study of religion. The ability to recognise and handle religious issues.
Level 4 7	A good attempt to respond to the question with the demonstration of a good understanding of religious language and concepts and of the relevance and application of a religion.

AO3

The candidates' work will show at:

Level 1 1–2	A statement of the obvious, a one-sided judgement with little or no argument.
Level 2 3	An expression of one opinion directly related to the issue raised with an argument offered in support of it or a simple expression of two points of view.
Level 3 4	The ability to recognise some of the significance of the issue raised. The expression of opinions directly related to it supported with some use of evidence and argument.
Level 4 5	The ability to recognise some of the significance of the issue(s) raised and to express valid opinions about different points of view supported by evidence and argument.

The Assessment of WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

Below Threshold performance	0 marks	
Threshold performance	1 mark	Candidates spell, punctuate and use the rules of grammar with reasonable accuracy; they use a limited range of specialist terms appropriately.
Intermediate performance	2 marks	Candidates spell, punctuate and use the rules of grammar with considerable accuracy; they use a good range of specialist terms with facility.
High performance	3 marks	Candidates spell, punctuate and use the rules of grammar with almost faultless accuracy, deploying a range of grammatical constructions; they use a wide range of specialist terms adeptly and with precision.

