

2006 Religious Studies

Standard Grade Credit

Finalised Marking Instructions

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GENERAL RUBRIC:

The answers outlined are indicative but not exhaustive. Marks should be given for alternative correct information (KU) or valid supporting reasons (E).

Note: in Evaluation answers, marks are not given for the stating of opinion but for the reasons that support the opinion. At 'F' and 'G' in Evaluation, up to 2 marks for a valid reason. At 'C' an exceptionally well-argued point can gain 3 marks.

Religious Studies Standard Grade 2006 – Credit Level

Section A – Christianity

1. (a)
- Marks for stating clearly what Incarnation means.
 - Event was witnessed/recorded so it must have happened, so Jesus was God in flesh.
 - God said ‘this is my son’ so reinforces the idea of what Incarnation means.
 - The events (heaven, dove, etc) show that Jesus was special – not just a man.
 - Baptism helps Christians to see the human side of Jesus – obedient.
 - Baptism could suggest the idea of God taking the sins of world through a perfect man.
 - Baptism could show that Jesus’ incarnation was the ‘answer’ to how God could communicate with people.

2 marks for each clear reason given

(6)

(b) **Important**

- Sign of Christian unity – to the world.
- Shows that their differences are small – they have more in common.
- Shows that differences need not be divisive.
- Jesus command ‘love one another’ – celebrations together show this.

Not Important

- They should celebrate the way they want to and they don’t need to be together to do this – in fact it’s better if they aren’t.
- How can they ‘truly’ celebrate together when they have such different beliefs.
- Celebrating together could lead to ‘dull’ and non-individualistic’ churches and what would be appealing about that?
- ‘Come out from among them’ argument.

2 sided evaluation needed. Max 4 marks if only one side given

(6)

2. (a) Note 'trials' not just 'trial'

Trial before Sanhedrin (elders, priests, teachers of Law)

- Asked questions (the Messiah?, the Son of God?)
- Answers with 'Son of Man'.
- Accused of blasphemy?

Trial before Pilate (1)

- Questions related to rebellion and treason.
- No reason to condemn/Chief Priest and others insisted.
- Sent to Herod.

Trial before Herod

- Questions asked.
- No answer given.
- Accusations made.
- Mocked.
- Treated with contempt.
- Robe put on him.
- Sent back to Pilate.

Trial before Pilate (2)

- Statement with regard to no guilt found (neither did Herod).
- Crowds refuse Pilate's arguments.
- Shouts – Free Barabbas, Crucify Jesus.
- Sentence finally passed.
- Condemned to death/Barabbas freed.

Answers must show knowledge of there being more than one trial.
2 marks for each point described. Max of 4 if just a list.

(6)

- (b) **Agree**

- Some denominations don't have communion and they are still part of the Church.
- What difference does 'bread and wine' make to me being part of the Church.
- Feeling part of the Church is an individual thing/personal experience so why should one need to share with others?
- Christians are 'in Christ' already so surely that is being part of the Church – communion not needed.

Disagree

- Communion is one of the sacraments of the Church – important to being part of the Church.
- Jesus commanded communion – can't be a part of the Church if you are disobeying Jesus.
- Sharing a meal with others develops the relationship – same with sharing a 'spiritual' meal.
- Sharing in the 'body of Christ' = the 'body of the Church'.

2 sided evaluation needed. Max of 4 marks if only one side given

(6)

Section B – Hinduism

3. (a)
- Dharma means duty/social, moral and religious duty/holy law. Every Hindu has a particular dharma according to their caste (varna).
 - In order to have good Karma, a Hindu must try their best to fulfil their dharma.
 - It is only when a Hindu has accrued enough good karma and fulfilled their dharma that they may be released from the cycle of Samsara – birth, death and rebirth and attain Moksha – union with the universal supreme spirit, Brahman.

(6)

(b) Reincarnation is appealing to non Hindus because:

- it takes away/lessens fear of death
- death means a new beginning rather than the end of life
- people can hope for a better rebirth
- people can hope/look forward to a second chance to experience new things/rectify old mistakes.

Hindus do not find the idea of reincarnation appealing because:

- many lives on earth may be boring
- people may have to endure unpleasant rebirths, for example, as an untouchable
- to be reborn as a human *again* may lead to a sense of failure, having yet to attain Moksha.

2 marks for each point. 3 marks for a well developed point

Any reasonable answer accepted

To achieve 6 marks candidates must consider both sides

(6)

4. (a)
- When a Hindu man marries and takes familial responsibilities he enters the second stage of life or ashrama - the householder stage. As a householder he must carry out his dharma and provide for his family. Parents believe they are fulfilling their dharma by following tradition and through these ceremonies.
 - Several samskaras (rituals) are associated with the birth ceremonies. Each samskara prepares a baby for the stages of life. If correct observances are undertaken the negative effects of karma can be overcome and a better rebirth obtained.
 - Hindu babies are often named after gods/goddesses, marking devotion to a particular family god. This is a form of bhakti (devotion to a personal/family god) and fulfils a Hindu's dharma.

2 marks for each point. 3 marks for a well developed point

(6)

- (b) The festival celebrates the victory of good over evil – Durga's victory over the evil buffalo demon and/or Rama's defeat of Ravana.

The stories and customs are helpful because:

- the stories are inspirational, for example, Rama's bravery and his loyalty to Sita
- the stories are comforting – evil is defeated if you fulfil your dharma
- maintaining customs/festival activities is an enjoyable way of fulfilling dharma and worshipping the gods.

The stories and customs are not helpful because:

- the stories are too far fetched to have any real meaning
- the stories are dated and irrelevant in contemporary society
- the customs/activities make Hindus stand out too much and they may receive unwanted negative attention.

2 marks for each point. 3 marks for a well developed point

Any reasonable answer accepted

To achieve 6 marks candidates must consider both sides

(6)

Section C – Islam

5. (a)
- Muhammad a man of good character – known to be fair and just.
 - Known as Al – Amin – the trustworthy one.
 - Muhammed from a poor background – had concern for the poor and the dispossessed (orphans and widows).
 - A spiritual person – receptive to God – spending time in Cave Hira prior to the Revelation.
 - Muhammed – the perfect Muslim – a role model to all Muslims.

2 marks for every developed point – max 3 for one

(6)

(b) A lot:

- event of the Revelation indicates compassion and assistance God offers to Muslims – direct contact with humanity
- content of Revelation – Qur’an offers a blue print for Muslims – guidance for submission, knowledge about God
- through the revealed Qur’an that Muslims will find out about God – Lord of the World, Creator, etc.

A little:

- revelation happened only to one man – may consider that Hajj/prayer allows a more direct relationship with God
- revelation happened through Jibreel – not God directly appearing to Muhammed
- other events may show more clearly the nature of God – eg, Judgement Day
- can humans ever really know the nature of God?

2 – sided evaluation max 4 marks for only one viewpoint

(6)

6. (a) **The Welcome into the Ummah**

The head of the family takes the baby and whispers the Call of Prayer (the Adhan) into the left ear and the command to rise and worship in the right ear (the Iqamah).

The significance of this action may be to ensure that the life of the child begins with a declaration of faith, it sets the scene for the future direction of the child. Indicates family's willingness to bring up the child as a Muslim – sign of submission.

The Tahnik

A small piece of crushed date or sugar is rubbed into the child's gums or placed on the tongue, usually by a respected relative. This is to symbolise making the child sweet and obedient. A prayer usually follows this event.

Aqiqah

Seven days after birth comes Aqiqah, this consists of a feast and the naming ceremony.

The baby's head is shaved and the weight of hair is made up in gold or silver, this money is donated to the poor, often extra money is given as a symbol of thanking Allah for the gift of the child.

An animal is sacrificed as a symbol of thanksgiving for the gift of a child from Allah. Two animals are offered for a boy and one for a girl. The meat is cooked and eaten, some will be given to the poor, once again as a symbol of thanksgiving and submission for what Allah has given to the family.

The name given to the baby is either the family name or one of the names of the prophets family, the name must not suggest any moral qualities, however, as Muslims believe that only Allah possesses moral qualities.

Khitan

For a boy circumcision must take place shortly after birth. Part of the foreskin is removed, this is both for reasons of hygiene and is continuing the tradition of the prophets before.

Need to mention 2/3 aspects of birth ceremonies with appropriate details and link to submission (Aqiqah – if fully covered will get 6 points).

(6)

- (b) Submission to the **will** of Allah – that no other object, activity or person, no other thought, deed or expectation is more important than following God’s will – education, success and wealth take second place to God. All thoughts and deeds are done for God.

Possible to fully submit:

- no mystery to know how to submit to the will of God – laid down in the Qur’an
- five pillars – practical and manageable duties of Islam – may expand with examples (3 marks)
- task of submission not too onerous – Muslims are expected to live an ‘everyday life’ and for submission to take place within that context
- supplementary advice supplied in the Hadith and Shariah (not in syllabus but points scored if mentioned).

Not possible to fully submit:

- to err is to be human
- at some stage in life even with the best intentions it may be difficult to fully submit
- modern day distractions offer a great temptation away from submission – may expand with examples. (3 marks)

2 sided evaluation 4 marks max for one point of view

Will give 2 marks if good definition of submission is provided

(6)

Section D – Judaism

7. (a)
- Chametz – reminds Jews that it was God that delivered them from slavery, they have not to boast (swell up with pride) that they did it on their own.
 - Salt water – delivered from the ‘tears’ of slavery (God heard their cries).
 - Haroset – God delivered them from the backbreaking toil.
 - Bitter Herbs – delivered from the bitterness of slavery.
 - Questions – remind them of the events of the deliverance (Exodus).
 - Synagogue service – thank God for freeing their ancestors from slavery.
 - Haggadah – tells the story and the order of events of the escape.
 - The seder elements represent both slavery and freedom.
 - Wine – the 4 ways that God spoke about freeing the Israelites: I will bring you out, I will deliver you, I will redeem you, I will take you to me (Exodus 6v6-7).
 - Wine – the blood of freedom.
 - Songs – about the departure from Egypt.

2 marks for each explanation – must show some link to the concept of deliverance. (6)
Max of 4 if no link to deliverance given.

(b) **Shows God’s nature:**

- the event of Deliverance shows a caring, compassionate, loving side of God
- shows a God whose nature is to be involved in human history
- the action of deliverance shows that the nature of God is to use his power to help his people
- shows that God’s nature is to be faithful and keep his promises.

Does not show God’s nature:

- can humans ever really know the nature of God?
- deliverance took place through Moses – so God’s nature was not directly shown
- what about the ‘failed’ deliverances of the Jews – what sort of God ‘fails’ to help all his people – what does this tell us of God?
- the stories are only interpretations of the events – the interpretations could be wrong so doesn’t really show the nature of God.

2 sided evaluation. Max 4 marks if only one side given (6)

8. (a) Answers should demonstrate the **link** of the ceremonies to the Torah to get full marks.

- Circumcision at 8 days – Torah instruction (Leviticus 12v3).
- Marks entry of Jewish males into the covenant which is contained within the Torah.
- Instructions for circumcision are commanded in Torah (Genesis 17 v9-11).
- Sign in the flesh of the covenant.
- Father gives blessing that acknowledges God has commanded the operation in the Torah.
- Reform Jews: baby girl gets ‘Covenant of Life’ ceremony which is linked to the Torah command to ‘sanctify life’.
- Redemption of the First Born (Pidyon Habon).
- First born belongs to God – Torah says so as the Israelite first born were spared by God in Egypt.
- God’s intention that first born sons would be priests – but this was forfeited (Golden Calf incident) so now sons have to be bought back from God for 5 shekels (Numbers 18v16 – in the Torah) (Exodus 13v2 – what opens the womb).
- Naming may be linked to Torah as often ‘heroes of the Torah’ are chosen as a name to use.
- All these actions can be seen as following the Torah.

2 marks for each example given but maximum of 4 if no link to Torah shown **(6)**

(b) **Possible:**

- it’s the Holy Book – so it tells you what to do
- part of your life – grow into it – becomes natural
- why should where you live make a difference?
- religious leaders/writings can help you to keep the Torah (they have thought it through to help you)
- God made it a realistic goal.

Not Possible:

- out of date/unachievable in a modern world
- too many modern distractions in Scotland
- (if expanded with specific examples then possibly 3 marks)
- no human could live according to the Torah
- even with good intentions they will find it difficult.

2 sided evaluation. Max 4 marks if only one side given **(6)**

Section E – Issues of Belief and Morality

9. (a)
- Argument from design/teleological argument.
 - William Paley/watch idea.
 - Everything is just right for its purpose so must have been designed for that purpose = a designer.
 - Examples can be given (eg snowflake, human hand).
 - Earth is right distance from sun argument = planned.
 - Regularity and order = orderer.
 - Anthropic principle.

2 marks for each developed point – 3 if well developed

(6)

(b) **Agree:**

- the beginning of world was a long time ago so what has that got to do with decisions now?
- I believe the scientific theories but science is not meant to help me to make my life choices – is it?
- the way that I live my life is decided by doing what's best for me/family/society – not by something that happened before I was born.

Disagree:

- if you believe God created the world then this would affect your life as you would want to 'please' the creator in your life
- if you believed in the 'Big Bang' ideas then this could suggest that there will only be one world like this so you would want to 'look' after it
- surely the things that you believe 'have' to affect your life = otherwise what's the point of belief?

2 sided evaluation needed. Max 4 marks if one side only given

(6)

- 10 (a)
- ‘Gentle and easy death’.
 - ‘The act of bringing about an easy death’.
 - ‘Mercy killing’.
 - Voluntary euthanasia.
 - Involuntary euthanasia.
 - Active/passive euthanasia.
 - Indirect euthanasia.

2 marks for each developed point – possibly 3 if well developed

(6)

(b) **YES:**

- death penalty argument – punishment/deterrent/retribution
- ‘eye for an eye’/punishment suit the crime, etc
- war – needed to defeat evil
- euthanasia – to relieve pain, etc
- abortion – lesser of two evils/avoid suffering
- greater good argument.

NO:

- all life is sacred
- it is playing God – God should decide not us
- shows that we do not value all life equally
- do not kill (teaching of religions)
- everyone deserves to live.

2 sided evaluation needed. Max 4 marks if only one side given

(6)

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]