

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Paper 2048/12

Luke and Acts (1-21:15) Short Answer Questions

General comments

Though the full range of marks was achieved, a significant number of candidates gained less than 25%. Many candidates showed excellent knowledge and understanding.

Comments on specific questions

Section A

Question 1

- (a) The majority of candidates answered this correctly. The most common wrong answer was to refer to just general disbelief and not link it to the message of the angel.
- (b) This was well answered with 85% of the candidates giving the correct answer.

Question 2

- (a) Generally well answered.
- (b) There was some confusion between the synagogue and the Temple, and between Nazareth and Jerusalem.

Question 3

- (a) Less than half the candidates answered this correctly. Many claimed that the link was healing, which may suggest that candidates misread the question.
- (b) A large number of candidates confused the synagogue with the Temple.

Question 4

- (a) Incorrect answers usually mentioned correctly that the man sold what he had but did not add that he then gave it to the poor.
- (b) A number of candidates gave very full answers showing good detailed knowledge of the text. Others tried to improvise from Jesus' other teaching about wealth.

Question 5

- (a) Similar names of other people in the Acts of the Apostles caused some confusion. For instance, a common wrong answer was Barnabas or Barsabbas.
- (b) Simon of Cyrene was better known and so this was generally well answered.

Question 6

- (a) This question produced the largest number of correct answers (95%).
- (b) This was generally well answered.

Question 7

- (a) and (b) A variety of answers were acceptable but some candidates struggled to answer. The most common wrong answers referred to Son of God rather than Son of Man, and God rather than Jesus.

Question 8

- (a) and (b) Most candidates correctly referred to circumcision but struggled to identify the second demand. There was some confusion with the Council of Jerusalem and this question produced the most wrong answers.

Question 9

- (a) Candidates struggled with this question and loosely paraphrased omitting the emphasis on receiving the message with eagerness.
- (b) This was generally well answered. It should be noted that where a question asks for only ONE name then it is not acceptable to list more than one.

Question 10

- (a) and (b) This question produced the highest number of no responses for stating the second piece of information about Apollos. There were a number of answers possible.

Section B

Question 11

- (a) A number of candidates confused presentation with circumcision.
- (b) and (c) Generally well answered.

Question 12

- (a) and (b) Candidates need to read the question carefully. Many gave what the elder son said to the father.

Question 13

- (a) and (b) and (c) Although most candidates clearly knew the account, many gave less than full answers, especially in part (c).

Question 14

- (a) Only 1/3 of candidates answered this correctly.
- (b) and (c) These were generally well answered.
- (d) Many candidates needed to give the full circumstances on which Paul based his refusal, not just part.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Paper 2048/13

Luke and Acts (1-21:15) Short Answer Questions

General Comments

There were a number of good scripts that showed thorough and detailed knowledge of the texts. However, there were also some very poor scripts that included numerous no responses to questions. Candidates should be aware that the examination is assessing Bible Knowledge and so accurate knowledge of the text is vital.

Comments on specific questions

Section A

Question 1

- (a) The majority of candidates answered this correctly. However, a number of candidates confused the birth story with that of Matthew's account and so referred to the Magi and the star. They then put the answer to (a) as the answer to part (b).
- (b) This was generally well answered.

Question 2

- (a) The reference to being at the tax booth or tax office was required. Some answers were too vague.
- (b) Some answers needed to be fuller and to refer to the whole of the quote. For example, "Did not come to call the righteous" rather than the full quote that included calling the sinners to repentance.

Question 3

- (a) and (b) A variety of examples were possible, with the widow of Nain, the lepers and the blind beggar being the most popular. Most candidates selected at least one correct example.

Question 4

- (a) This was generally well answered.
- (b) This was not so well known with many candidates referring to who was going to betray Jesus.

Question 5

- (a) and (b) Again, there were a variety of answers possible with most candidates selecting at least one that was correct.

Question 6

- (a) Most candidates answered correctly.
- (b) This was a well-known story, although a full answer was required, for example, "I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give you" rather than "I give you what I have."

Question 7

- (a) and (b) Although there was a lot of choice of answers, many candidates did not state two things Acts tells us about Gamaliel. Few got beyond saying he was a member of the Sanhedrin (Council), whilst others confused him with Joseph of Arimathea.

Question 8

- (a) This was the least well answered question. A common wrong answer was Peter.
(b) A common wrong answer was Barnabas.

Question 9

- (a) This question produced the highest number of no responses in part A.
(b) There were also a large number of no responses to this question.

Question 10

- (a) Many candidates guessed at various towns or cities in answer to this question. A few gave the correct answer.
(b) A similar comment as for (a).

Section B

Question 11

- (a) Candidates were generally confident with the details of John the Baptist, with this question gaining the highest number of correct answers on the paper.
(b) Most candidates answered this question fairly well.
(c) Although candidates seemed to know the incident, a full answer including the name of Herodias or any attempt to identify her was required.

Question 12

- (a) This question was answered very well.
(b) In contrast, this question produced the highest number of candidates failing to gain the full 2 marks available. Most gained just 1 mark out of the 2.
(c) and (d) Both of these questions were generally well answered.

Question 13

- (a) A number of candidates did not identify the place.
(b) and (c) These questions were answered fairly well.

Question 14

- (a) It is important to remember the details of the text, many candidates did not seem to for this question.
- (b) Candidates are encouraged to give as full an answer as possible, there were many part answers for this question and many no responses.
- (c) This was not well answered with most candidates suggesting Jason or Silas.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Paper 2048/22

Luke and Acts (1-21:15) Essay Questions

General Comments

The marks covered the full range with evidence of some good answers. Many candidates had detailed knowledge of the text and good understanding of the material. Their answers were focused and clearly expressed.

Some candidates used removing fluid to erase some errors on their scripts. It should be noted that the exam regulations do not allow removing fluid to be used.

Very few candidates broke the rubric and attempted more than five questions. However, some candidates are still attempting questions without first reading both parts to check that they can fully answer it. As a result, some candidates did not answer both parts of the questions.

Comments on specific questions

Section A

Question 1

- (a) This was a popular question. Most candidates achieved Level 3 and were able to accurately relate the three temptations. The most common detail omitted concerned the challenge by the devil “If you are the Son of God...” and the statement by the devil that “all this authority and glory are mine to give to whom I will”.
- (b) In contrast to part (a), this was generally very poorly answered. Most candidates referred to the feeding of 5000 or some other bread related incident from Jesus’ ministry rather than to his future ministry and what type of Messiah he would be. A lot of answers talked about temptation of other people rather than temptations faced by Jesus.

Question 2

- (a) Another popular question. Both miracles were narrated in some detail.
- (b) This seemed an area that many candidates had been well-prepared for, resulting in some interesting responses.

Question 3

- (a) Most candidates who attempted this question had good knowledge of the details, though there were some candidates who confused the parable with another one. However, though a wrong parable was described, in part (2) some of the comments given were credited.

The most common reason for candidates not gaining the highest level was the omission of the host’s anger whilst others ended at bringing in the poor and disabled, missing the final group from the highways and byways.
- (b) There were some good answers that contained a number of areas of teaching, though a number of candidates omitted any reference to the Jewish-Gentile aspect.

Question 4

- (a) Most candidates who answered this knew both events.
- (b) Again, there were two aspects to this question and so candidates who just discussed only one aspect could not gain a Level 4. The weakest aspect was commenting on the significance of the land going dark.

Question 5

- (a) This was a popular question. However, though candidates knew the account of the two people on the road to Emmaus, they rarely addressed the focus of what made the two people believe that Jesus had risen from the dead.
- (b) This was well answered with a variety of evidence being given.

Section B

Question 6

- (a) This was well answered with a number of candidates gaining the highest level. The weakest section was (ii) which covered Acts 1:21-22.
- (b) Descriptions of the work of an apostle were limited mainly to missionary activity and healings. Only a minority referred to the founding of churches, the delegation of work to others, the laying-on of hands, etc.

Question 7

- (a) This was not a popular question, though there was a lot of material from which candidates could have selected.
- (b) Again, few answered this question. Those that did tended to restrict discussion to Jesus claiming to be Messiah.

Question 8

- (a) A popular question that was generally well answered. However, many candidates went beyond what was asked for in the question and discussed Ananias meeting with Saul in Damascus. No marks could be awarded for this extra material.
- (b) Many answers failed to give a proper comparison, some just gave the two accounts in sequence.

Question 9

- (a) This was answered by very few candidates and was generally poorly answered.
- (b) This was also poorly answered.

Question 10

- (a) A minority attempted this question. Of those who did, there was some lack of detail but on the whole a reasonable account of the riot at Ephesus was given.
- (b) The critical aspect was poorly addressed, in that candidates tended only to claim the stay had been a success.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Paper 2048/23

Luke and Acts (1-21:15) Essay Questions

General Comments

There were some excellent answers. Many candidates had detailed knowledge of the text and good understanding of the material. Their answers were focused and clearly expressed.

For the part **(b)** questions the level descriptors make clear that level 3 and 4 involve more than a “purely descriptive approach”. There needs to be engagement with the material and a need to be selective noting the focus of the question.

Comments on specific questions

Section A

Question 1

- (a) This was a popular question and was answered well. Some omitted details about what Jesus’ parents said when they found Jesus in the Temple courts.
- (b) There were some good answers covering Jesus’ divinity and his humanity, as well as his sense of mission.

Question 2

- (a) Another popular question. However, many candidates omitted Jesus’ reference to the Son of Man in the first miracle and conflated the various Sabbath story accounts in the second miracle.
- (b) There were some good answers with candidates relating back to both miracles. Some candidates ignored the focus of the question and answered in general terms.

Question 3

- (a) A few candidates attempted this question with mixed results. Some had good knowledge of the details, whilst others were general in their answering, using material from other parts to answer the hypocrisy focus.
- (b) This was generally well answered though limited in breadth.

Question 4

- (a) Those candidates that related the parable set in the question tended to know the details. However a significant number of candidates confused the parable with the parable of the labourers in the vineyard that is in Matthew’s Gospel.
- (b) The allegory was often stated in basic terms and lacked development. The characters were identified but the significance of the son’s death was often not discussed.

Question 5

- (a) There were a number of very accurate answers for this question. For some candidates the detail tended to be rather sparse and the three questionings were often confused and conflated.
- (b) Most candidates limited their material to Peter's call and his betrayal, not making use of the other events where Peter makes an appearance.

Section B

Question 6

- (a) Describing the events that happened was generally well answered, but the focus on what was said tended to be weaker with much of the material omitted.
- (b) Many candidates limited the discussion to boldness of speech and doing miracles.

Question 7

- (a) The accounts were well known and generally well answered, although many candidates seemed unable to narrate events involving Ananias without also recounting events that happened on the road to Damascus. Some candidates did not focus on Ananias and Philip whilst narrating the events.
- (b) Candidates were much more confident discussing Saul than they were about the Ethiopian.

Question 8

- (a) The detail of the two accounts was often omitted, especially on the healing of Aeneas.
- (b) Some candidates just limited themselves to the two accounts in part (a), which significantly limited their answer.

Question 9

- (a) Only a few candidates attempted this question. Some answered part (b) only. Candidates needed to collect together the background material that this question required but this was not always successfully done.
- (b) This was poorly answered since most candidates only discussed the occasion when John Mark left the first missionary journey and not responding to the rest of the question.

Question 10

- (a) This was not a popular question and some candidates confused events with Paul's visit to Ephesus.
- (b) The few candidates who attempted this question tended not to relate it to the author, other than saying that the author was an eyewitness who travelled with Paul during the "we" sections.