



Rewarding Learning

**ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)
General Certificate of Education
2017**

Religious Studies

Assessment Unit AS 5

assessing

The Origins of the Celtic Church in Ireland
and the beginnings of its missionary outreach

[AR151]

THURSDAY 25 MAY, MORNING

**MARK
SCHEME**

Part 1: Levels of Response

The specification requires that candidates demonstrate the following assessment objectives in the context of the learning outcomes and skills set out in the specification.

- Select and demonstrate clearly relevant knowledge and understanding through the use of evidence, examples and correct language and terminology appropriate to the course of study.
- Critically evaluate and justify a point of view through the use of evidence and reasoned argument.

Each of the two assessment objectives has been categorised into five levels of performance relating to the respective abilities of the candidates. Having identified, for each assessment objective listed opposite, the band in which the candidate has performed, the examiner should then decide on the appropriate mark within the range for the band.

(AO1) Knowledge and Understanding

Band 5 ([29]–[35])

- a full response to the task
- demonstrates a high level of accurate knowledge and comprehensive understanding
- uses a very good range of relevant evidence and examples
- a mature style of writing demonstrating a clear and coherent structure
- almost totally faultless use of spelling, punctuation and grammar
- makes use of a very wide range of technical language and terminology.

Band 4 ([22]–[28])

- a reasonably full response to the task
- demonstrates a very good level of accurate knowledge and understanding
- uses a good range of relevant evidence and examples
- a reasonably mature style of writing demonstrating a clear and coherent structure
- mainly accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar
- makes use of a wide range of technical language and terminology.

Band 3 ([15]–[21])

- a good response to the task
- demonstrates a good level of accurate knowledge and understanding
- uses a range of relevant evidence and examples
- an appropriate and reasonably coherent style of writing
- reasonably accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar
- makes use of a range of technical language and terminology.

Band 2 ([8]–[14])

- a limited response to the task
- demonstrates little accurate knowledge and understanding
- uses a limited range of evidence and examples
- style of writing is just appropriate to the task and may lack coherence in places
- limited command of spelling, punctuation and grammar
- evidence of some technical language and terminology.

Band 1 ([0]–[7])

- a very basic response to the task
- demonstrates minimal knowledge and understanding
- very little use of evidence or examples
- style of writing is such that there is very little coherence or structure
- very poor grasp of spelling, punctuation and grammar
- little or no use of technical language and terminology.

(AO2) Critical Line of Argument

Band 5 ([13]–[15])

- a full and coherent response
- demonstrating a very good attempt at critical analysis
- very good reference to other points of view
- highly accurate and fluent
- very good evidence of sustained and informed argument which is set, where necessary, in the context of other aspects of human experience
- almost totally faultless use of spelling, punctuation and grammar
- makes use of a very wide range of technical language and terminology.

Band 4 ([10]–[12])

- a reasonably full response
- demonstrating a good attempt at critical analysis
- good reference to other points of view
- accurate and fluent
- good evidence of sustained and reasoned argument which is set, where necessary, in the context of other aspects of human experience
- mainly accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar
- makes use of a wide range of technical language and terminology.

Band 3 ([7]–[9])

- a reasonable response
- demonstrating some attempt at critical analysis
- some reference to other points of view
- reasonably accurate and fluent
- some evidence of sustained argument, which is set, where necessary, in the context of other aspects of human experience
- reasonably accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar
- makes use of a range of technical language and terminology.

Band 2 ([4]–[6])

- a limited response
- demonstrating a modest attempt at critical analysis, although references to other points of view are limited
- some inaccuracy in places
- a limited argument which struggles to relate, where necessary, to other aspects of human experience
- limited command of spelling, punctuation and grammar
- evidence of some technical language and terminology.

Band 1 ([0]–[3])

- a simplistic response
- demonstrating little attempt at critical analysis
- practically no reference to other points of view
- minimal argument which fails to relate, where necessary, to other aspects of human experience
- very poor grasp of spelling, punctuation and grammar
- little or no use of technical language and terminology.

Quality of Written Communication

All questions require candidates to answer in continuous prose in English. Quality of written communication is incorporated within the assessment objectives and reflected in the above assessment bands. Assistant examiners are instructed to take this criterion into account when allocating marks to candidates' responses.

Part 2: Contextual Reference Points

The generic level of response mark scheme set out above is elucidated in this part of the mark scheme through the provision of contextual reference points in terms of the content appropriate to the particular question under consideration.

Section A

AVAILABLE
MARKSAnswer **one** question from Section A.

- 1 (a) With reference to examples to explain the truth of the statement that the religious beliefs and practices in Ireland before the arrival of Patrick greatly influenced the nature of Christianity that emerged could include, e.g.:
- Celts were used to paganism /druidism inspired by Druidic priests leading religious ceremonies
 - Celts were a religious people receptive to ritual and belief
 - awareness of belief in many Gods, such as Cernunnos with the serpent as his emblem, use of magic, role of Druids, festivals and sun worship
 - whenever possible Patrick tried to accept the cherished values and practices of the Druids to Christianity in his policy of enculturation
 - sacred wells and festivals, such as Bealtaine and Samhain, were incorporated into Christianity and given a Christian outlook
 - belief in nature, animals and birds as creation of the Gods
 - accepted the cultural interest in the number 3, as seen in three faced figures at Boa island, blended into the Christian Trinity
 - awareness of sanctuaries associated with places containing water and springs with the sacred symbolism of water for Christian baptism
 - rejected certain paganistic elements of culture such as the veneration of severed heads as war trophies and religious symbols of divinity, alongside sun worship especially at New Grange
 - Sun becomes associated with Christ, the Son of God
 - gifts on altars as sacrifices in place of animals/humans
 - Christian beliefs and ideas were not totally new to the Celts as Christianity was already present in Ireland alongside services associated with Christian sacraments and festivals
 - sense of reluctance to change their pagan ways as evidenced by the challenges faced by Patrick
 - views of scholars such as Joyce, Mc Neill, Davies & Bowie [35]
- (b) An exploration of the claim that there is little historical evidence for the arrival of Christianity into Ireland may include, e.g.:
- mention of little historical evidence leads to assumptions and speculation about the period
 - sources of contact between Irish and Roman Empire automatically seen as the entry of Christianity into Ireland
 - general acceptance that any group from Roman Britain living in Ireland was Christian
 - frequent trading between Irish and others lends itself to a meeting with Christians
 - continental scholars brought learning to Ireland and were accepted as being Christian
 - acceptance that slave raids brought Christians to Ireland
 - awareness of the existence of a body of limited factual documentation
 - Prosper's statement of the appointment of Palladius as Bishop to the Irish indicating that there is a significant number of Christians in Ireland to require a Bishop
 - evidence of the existence of heresies contaminating Irish Christianity
 - linguistic evidence of Christian terminology such as the word for priest

- evidence from Confessio that Patrick met monks and virgins of Christ
- mention of pre-Patrician saints working in parts of Ireland such as St. Ibar in Wexford
- some external evidence such as that of St. Jerome
- views of scholars such as Carney, Warner, Kenney

[15]

AVAILABLE
MARKS

50

2 (a) An account of the contribution of monasticism to the development of Church and society in Celtic Ireland could include, e.g.:

- awareness of the economic strength of the system
- combination of apostolic and anchoritic ideals
- severe private asceticism with intense prayer was seen as the necessary way to reach a God-like state
- awareness that certain practices of asceticism, such as praying crosfigil, became a distinctive exercise for the Irish monks
- awareness of severe penitential exercises such as fasting
- allowed the use of initiative in personal worship
- use of scriptorium and a new approach to the production of books
- dichotomy between monastic solitude and community practices
- in general monasticism enhanced community life
- prayer accompanied by other practices such as genuflections
- monasteries mirrored elements of the system in society
- monasteries were places of employment with specific skills
- services in monasteries used by community such as farming, education, hospitality
- community reciprocated and helped monastic lifestyle
- awareness of other contributions of monasticism such as journeying, food regulations
- views of scholars such as Ryan, Charles-Edwards, K. Hughes [35]

(b) A commentary on the claim that the influence of monasticism in Ireland was entirely negative may include, e.g.:

- monastic sites were isolated from people for solitude such as Skellig Michael
- some sites only accommodated hermits on mountains
- monastic life could be viewed as being divorced from reality
- the lifestyle encouraged the notion of a spiritual elite
- aspects of spirituality dominate religious life and become a trend
- almost total dependence on physical harshness
- awareness that the existing abbot could appoint a successor
- structures of organisation in place so monks could concentrate on the spiritual through the physical encounters
- awareness that the nucleus of the structure was loosely based on Jesus and apostles
- each area of monastery had a leader such as “seniores” mentoring the young monks
- focus on a life of perfection as a role for others
- delegating leadership to each monastic element led to the enhancement of specific skills
- awareness of how the governing organisation enhanced monastic lifestyle
- some were built on highways of sea and rivers while others were at important road junctions for accessibility to transport
- some initially were pagan areas of worship and taken over by Christianity
- awareness of references, examples from monastic founders
- views of scholars such as Ryan, Hamlin, Leask [15]

Section A

AVAILABLE
MARKS

50

50

Section B

AVAILABLE
MARKSAnswer **one** question from Section B.

- 3 (a) An account of the main themes in Patrick's **Letter to Coroticus** and his **Confessio** could include, e.g.:
- possible contrast of the tone of the Confessio against that of the Letter to Coroticus
 - defends the divine nature of his vocation as a Bishop
 - awareness of the ability of Patrick to handle resentment from others and refute the personal accusations against him
 - emphasis on his own sinful youth and lack of education
 - his experiences as a youth returned him to God
 - awareness of his need to give praise and thanksgiving for God's help and guidance
 - awareness of Patrick's ability in handling imprisonment and threats, to state and record his pride in his missionary successes
 - exhortation of his rights as a Bishop to the Irish to protest following the treatment of his neophytes by the soldiers of Coroticus
 - Letter full of anger with a demand for repentance and excommunication
 - awareness of a Bishop instilling his authority as a defender of Irish Christians
 - the emphasis on the unity of all Christians through baptism
 - awareness that Patrick is involving all Christians in the Letter
 - awareness of other themes in relation to the two writings
 - views of scholars such as Hanson, K. Hughes, Bieler [35]
- (b) A commentary on the view that religious faith is of essential importance in the modern world may include, e.g.:
- consideration of the view in relation to other aspects of human experience
 - an open-ended response citing relevant contemporary and/or historical examples
 - many have no faith at all in modern society
 - a mind-set exists that intelligent people have no need for a religious faith as it is only for the weak minded
 - faith has hindered progress as it has censored the sciences such as seen with the theory of evolution
 - awareness of handling obstacles such as the impact of the media and materialism
 - handling of conflicts between Church and individual free will
 - handling of moral issues between state and religious beliefs such as abortion
 - social morals are generally based on religious doctrine
 - there is a need to connect to a spiritual side and regain a sense of humanity
 - more important, the underlying belief allows an opening for examination and questioning which in turn strengthens belief
 - the stronger the belief, the more acceptance of your resultant behaviour
 - require a belief separated from the world of wars, poverty and natural disasters
 - awareness of a trend that organised religion may not be as important as previously accepted [15]

50

4 (a) With reference to the statement that Colmcille (Columba) can only be understood as both a politician and missionary, an explanation of the importance of Colmcille could include, e.g.:

- brought up in a political household but turned to God
- used his political skills to further Christianity such as his negotiations with Bruide
- his work resulted in an integration of Church and state
- contributions to culture and learning such as the protection of poets
- political involvement presented additional problems and dilemmas for his mission
- political involvements brought peace and provided a solid foundation for a Church
- awareness that his success is somewhat tarnished by his involvement in battles and violence
- achievements of establishing a number of monasteries such as Derry, Drumcliffe
- worked a while in Ireland before founding a monastery on Iona where he spent years in evangelising
- awareness of the evangelisation of Picts/Dál Riata
- a complete picture of Colmcille involves the politician and the missionary
- views of scholars such as Simpson, Finlay, Mc Neill [35]

(b) An exploration of the view that religious leadership is neither relevant nor important may include, e.g.:

- consideration of the claim in relation to other aspects of human experience
- an open-ended response citing relevant contemporary and/or historical examples
- need for religious leadership whether individual or collective is conditional upon the particular religious community
- most religious leaders are picked by an executive and not by a democratic process that can lead to disharmony
- the picking of a leader can cause division in the community and society
- for some, authority comes from the Bible and not from religious leaders
- movements like the Reformation would never have happened if religious leaders had been obeyed
- awareness that decisions need to be made on humanitarian grounds and not religious grounds
- tendency for religious leaders to be placed above the law
- tendency for religion leaders to involve themselves and influence political decisions
- primacy of conscience for all religious believers and the right to disobey
- religion can be seen as the conscience of the society that needs to be heard before any final decisions
- government may be dictatorial and suspend opposition such as religious groups

AVAILABLE
MARKS

- religions are the main providers of charity in local community and society and so need to provide an input into political decisions that may result in affecting their work
- awareness of reminding society of other elements beyond economics
- moral and other concerns should be taken into account before decisions finalised

[15]

Section B

Total

AVAILABLE MARKS
50
50
100