



General Certificate of Secondary Education
2017

Religious Studies

Paper 4

Christianity through a Study
of the Gospel of Matthew

[GRS41]

WEDNESDAY 17 MAY, AFTERNOON

**MARK
SCHEME**

General Marking Instructions and Mark Grids

Introduction

Mark schemes are intended to ensure that the GCSE examination is marked consistently and fairly. The mark schemes provide markers with an indication of the nature and range of candidates' responses likely to be worthy of credit. They also set out the criteria that they should apply in allocating marks to candidates' responses. The mark schemes should be read in conjunction with these marking instructions.

Assessment objectives

Below are the assessment objectives for GCSE Religious Studies.

Candidates must:

- describe, explain and analyse, using knowledge and understanding (AO1); and
- use evidence and reasoned argument to express and evaluate personal responses, informed insights and differing viewpoints (AO2).

AO1 and AO2 are interrelated and connections must be made.

Quality of candidates' responses

In marking the examination papers, examiners should be looking for a quality of response reflecting the level of maturity which may reasonably be expected of a 16-year-old which is the age at which the majority of candidates sit their GCSE examinations.

Flexibility in marking

Mark schemes are not intended to be totally prescriptive. No mark scheme can cover all the responses which candidates may produce. In the event of unanticipated answers, examiners are expected to use their professional judgement to assess the validity of answers. If an answer is particularly problematic, then examiners should seek the guidance of the Supervising Examiner.

Positive marking

Examiners must be positive in their marking, giving appropriate credit for description, explanation and analysis, using knowledge and understanding and for the appropriate use of evidence and reasoned argument to express and evaluate personal responses, informed insights and differing viewpoints. Examiners should make use of the whole of the available mark range of any particular question and be prepared to award full marks for a response which is as good as might reasonably be expected of a 16-year-old GCSE candidate.

Awarding zero marks

Marks should only be awarded for valid responses and no marks should be awarded for an answer which is completely incorrect or inappropriate.

Types of mark scheme

Mark schemes for questions which require candidates to respond in extended written form are marked on the basis of levels of response which take account of the quality of written communication.

Other questions which require only short answers are marked on a point for point basis with marks awarded for each valid piece of information provided.

Levels of response

Questions requiring candidates to respond in extended writing are marked in terms of levels of response. In deciding which level of response to award, examiners should look for the “best fit” bearing in mind that weakness in one area may be compensated for by strength in another. In deciding which mark within a particular level to award to any response, examiners are expected to use their professional judgement. The following guidance is provided to assist examiners.

- **Threshold performance:** Response which just merits inclusion in the level and should be awarded a mark at or near the bottom of the range.
- **Intermediate performance:** Response which clearly merits inclusion and should be awarded a mark at or near the middle of the range.
- **High performance:** Response which fully satisfies the level description and should be awarded a mark at or near the top of the range.

Quality of written communication

Quality of written communication is taken into account in assessing candidates’ responses to all tasks and questions that require them to respond in extended written form. These tasks and questions are marked on the basis of levels of response. The description for each level of response includes reference to the quality of written communication. Where the quality of content is not matched by the quality of written communication, marks awarded will not exceed maximum for Level 2.

For conciseness, quality of written communication is distinguished within levels of response as follows:

Level 1: Quality of written response is limited.

Level 2: Quality of written response is satisfactory.

Level 3: Quality of written response is of a high standard.

In interpreting these level descriptions, examiners should refer to the more detailed guidance provided below:

AO1: [5] marks

A [0] mark will be awarded if the answer is inappropriate.

Level 1 (Limited) ([1])

The candidate gives a basic answer with limited description, explanation and analysis using little knowledge and understanding. There is only a limited selection and use of an appropriate form and style of writing. The organisation of material may lack clarity and coherence. There is little use of specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar may be such that intended meaning is not clear.

Level 2 (Satisfactory) ([2]–[3])

The candidate gives a satisfactory answer with appropriate description, explanation and analysis using some knowledge and understanding. There is a reasonable selection and use of an appropriate form of style and writing. Relevant material is organised with some clarity and coherence. There is some use of appropriate specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently competent to make meaning clear.

Level 3 (High) ([4]–[5])

The candidate gives a competent answer with very good description, explanation and analysis using knowledge and understanding throughout. The candidate successfully selects and uses an appropriate form and style of writing. Relevant material is organised with a high degree of clarity and coherence. There is widespread use of appropriate specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar are of a consistently high standard to make meaning clear.

AO2: [5] marks

A [0] mark will be awarded if the answer is inappropriate.

Level 1 (Limited) ([1])

The candidate uses a basic selection of evidence and gives limited reasoned arguments to express and evaluate personal responses, informed insights and differing viewpoints. There is a limited selection and use of an appropriate form and style of writing. The organisation of material may lack clarity and coherence. There is little use of specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar may be such that intended meaning is not clear.

Level 2 (Satisfactory) ([2]–[3])

The candidate uses a satisfactory selection of evidence and gives good reasoned arguments to express and evaluate personal responses, informed insights and differing viewpoints. There is a reasonable selection and use of an appropriate form and style of writing. Relevant material is organised with some clarity and coherence. There is some use of appropriate specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently competent to make meaning clear.

Level 3 (High) ([4]–[5])

The candidate uses a very good selection of evidence and gives well formed and reasoned arguments to express and evaluate personal responses, informed insights and differing viewpoints. The candidate successfully selects and uses an appropriate form and style of writing. Relevant material is organised with a high degree of clarity and coherence. There is widespread use of appropriate specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar are of a consistently high standard to make meaning clear.

AO2: [10] marks

A [0] mark will be awarded if the answer is inappropriate.

Level 1 (Limited) ([1]–[3])

The candidate uses a basic selection of evidence and gives limited reasoned arguments to express and evaluate personal responses, informed insights and differing viewpoints. There is a limited selection and use of an appropriate form and style of writing. The organisation of material may lack clarity and coherence. There is little use of specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar may be such that intended meaning is not clear.

Level 2 (Satisfactory) ([4]–[7])

The candidate uses a satisfactory selection of evidence and gives good reasoned arguments to express and evaluate personal responses, informed insights and differing viewpoints. There is a reasonable selection and use of an appropriate form and style of writing. Relevant material is organised with some clarity and coherence. There is some use of appropriate specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently competent to make meaning clear.

Level 3 (High) ([8]–[10])

The candidate uses a very good selection of evidence and gives well formed and reasoned arguments to express and evaluate personal responses, informed insights and differing viewpoints. The candidate successfully selects and uses an appropriate form and style of writing. Relevant material is organised with a high degree of clarity and coherence. There is widespread use of appropriate specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar are of a consistently high standard to make meaning clear.

Section A

Answer **all** questions.**1 The ministry of John the Baptist**

- | | | AVAILABLE
MARKS |
|--|-----|--------------------|
| (a) (i) Jordan (ch3v6)
(AO1) | [1] | |
| (ii) Pharisees; Sadducees (ch3v7)
(AO1) | [2] | |
| (iii) The heaven was opened; the Spirit of God descended like a dove and lighted on Jesus; a voice spoke from heaven (ch3 v16–18)
(AO1) | [2] | |
| (b) Answers may include: | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • His message challenged people to repent and be baptised. • He emphasised the need for personal repentance and that salvation was a personal matter. • He challenged the religious leaders who thought that because they were descendants of Abraham their Jewish ancestry assured them place in the Kingdom of God. Their place in the kingdom was not guaranteed. • He called the religious leaders snakes and told them that they would not be exempt from punishment. They were like trees which would be cut down and thrown into a fire. • He warned people that their lives needed to show godly living. • He made clear that he was preparing the way for the long awaited Messiah and he was challenging the people to be ready for this. | | |
| Accept valid alternatives
Mark in levels
(AO1) | [5] | |

(c) Answers may include:

- Judgement especially if it's destructive can destroy the confidence of another person and make them feel of no use to society.
- Christians have many faults themselves and need to address these rather than highlight the faults in the lives of other people. Jesus said that people should sort out the faults in their own lives before they criticised others.
- They should not be judging or criticising the behaviour and lifestyle of others because they may not know all the background circumstances. Only God can judge people fairly.

On the other hand:

- Criticism can be constructive because the Christian genuinely wants to help a person improve their life style. It is done through love and concern.
- Criticism can help people address failings in their lives and they become a more confident person as a result.
- In the bible the Old Testament prophets judged the people of Israel for turning away from God. Both John the Baptist and Jesus criticised the behaviour of the religious leaders and Christians today would be following their examples.
- A quiet word with a person rather than a public outburst could be the best way to point out a person's faults.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[5]

15

AVAILABLE
MARKS

2 Jesus at Gethsemane

- | | | AVAILABLE MARKS |
|---------|---|-----------------|
| (a) (i) | Stay here and keep watch (ch26v38); Watch and pray (ch26v41)
(AO1) | [1] |
| (ii) | Three (ch26v44)
(AO1) | [1] |
| (iii) | Judas Iscariot (ch26v47)
(AO1) | [1] |
| (iv) | A kiss (ch26v48)
(AO1) | [1] |
| (v) | He was struck with a sword; his ear was cut off (ch26v51)
(AO1) | [1] |

(b) Answers may include:

- Jesus was struggling to fulfil God's will and he was tempted to back down.
- There was the personal anguish as he struggled with what lay ahead and the suffering he knew he would have to endure.
- He thought that God had abandoned him.
- He had to cope with the behaviour of the disciples who failed to support him in prayer by falling asleep on three occasions.
- He was about to be betrayed by a friend.
- Throughout the events in the garden he experienced physical and mental pressure. He had told the disciples on a number of occasions that he had to suffer and be put to death and he could not go back on his word.

On the other hand:

- Other events in his life were equally as difficult or even more challenging.
- His temptations in the wilderness when having fasted for 40 days he was at his weakest and was confronted with the temptations of the devil.
- There was the humiliation of his trials which were unfair and unjust.
- The physical abuse and suffering he endured at the hands of the Roman soldiers which culminated in his crucifixion on the cross. By then he had been abandoned by the majority of his followers.
- The continual criticism of the religious leaders who continually were trying to undermine his ministry and to find an excuse to arrest him.
- The entry into Jerusalem which was the first step on the road to the cross.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2) [10]

15

3 The Last Supper

- (a) Candidates should select and describe the main features of Matthew 26 v23–30

²³ Jesus answered, “One who dips his bread in the dish with me will betray me. ²⁴ The Son of Man will die as the Scriptures say he will, but how terrible for that man who will betray the Son of Man! It would have been better for that man if he had never been born!”

²⁵ Judas, the traitor, spoke up. “Surely, Teacher, you don’t mean me?” he asked.

Jesus answered, “So you say.”

The Lord’s Supper

²⁶ While they were eating, Jesus took a piece of bread, gave a prayer of thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples. “Take and eat it,” he said; “this is my body.”

²⁷ Then he took a cup, gave thanks to God, and gave it to them. “Drink it, all of you,” he said; ²⁸ “this is my blood, which seals God’s covenant, my blood poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹ I tell you, I will never again drink this wine until the day I drink the new wine with you in my Father’s Kingdom.”

³⁰ Then they sang a hymn and went out to the Mount of Olives.

Mark in levels
(AO1)

[5]

- (b) Answers may include:

- Jesus said that Judas would betray him and this happened at the Garden of Gethsemane.
- The bread and wine referred to his suffering and death.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels
(AO1)

[5]

- (c) Answers may include:

- It brings Christians together in fellowship.
- It is a visual reminder as well as a thanksgiving of the sacrifice made for Christians.
- It shows obedience to an instruction given by Jesus.
- It gives spiritual nourishment for the week ahead.

On the other hand:

- It is not necessary to receive communion in order to be reminded of the death and resurrection of Jesus. There is a continual reminder through studying the scriptures.
- Receiving communion does not necessarily make you a better person.
- Taking communion too often can become meaningless ritual and of little value.

AVAILABLE
MARKS

- It is more valuable to study and expound the Scriptures because they offer guidelines for everyday living.
- Christians need to spend more time applying the teachings of Jesus to their lives.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[5]

AVAILABLE
MARKS

15

4 The Great Commission

- (a) Candidates should select and describe the main features of Matthew 28 v 16–20

The eleven disciples went to the hill in Galilee where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him, even though some of them doubted. ¹⁸ Jesus drew near and said to them, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go, then, to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples: baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And I will be with you always, to the end of the age.”

Mark in levels

(AO1)

[5]

- (b) Answers may include:

- There are missionaries worldwide proclaiming the good news and living out the Gospel values.
- People in their local situations are living out the role of discipleship in their everyday lives and are attracting others to commit to the Christian faith.
- There is continued growth of the Christian faith particularly in South American and African countries.
- With technological advances it is so much easier to communicate the message of a religion to huge numbers of people.
- The lives of inspirational religious people are examples for others to follow.

On the other hand:

- The church in Western Europe is losing its influence due to the scandals which have come to light in the recent times and a decline in faith. It will take time to recover before it can move in a positive way again and gain new members.
- People are more self-centred and driven by materialism and are not interested in religion.
- World religions are in competition with each other and people cannot make up their minds.
- There are some parts of the world where it is illegal to preach the Gospel message.
- The different denominations are finding it difficult to attract people to minister in the church.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[10]

AVAILABLE
MARKS

15

Section A

60

Section B

AVAILABLE
MARKS**Assessment of Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar**

If the answer does not address the question then no SPaG marks are available. If the candidate has attempted to answer the question but produced nothing of credit, SPaG marks may still be awarded.

Threshold performance [1]

Candidates spell, punctuate and use the rules of grammar with reasonable accuracy in the context of the demands of the question. Any errors do not hinder meaning in the response. Where required, they use a limited range of specialist terms appropriately.

Intermediate performance [2]–[3]

Candidates spell, punctuate and use the rules of grammar with considerable accuracy and general control of meaning in the context of the demands of the question. Where required, they use a good range of specialist terms with facility.

High performance [4]–[5]

Candidates spell, punctuate and use the rules of grammar with consistent accuracy and effective control of meaning in the context of the demands of the question. Where required, they use a wide range of specialist terms adeptly and with precision.

5 Parables

- (a) Candidates should select and describe relevant sections from Matthew 22 v1–14

22 Jesus again used parables in talking to the people. ² “The Kingdom of heaven is like this. Once there was a king who prepared a wedding feast for his son. ³ He sent his servants to tell the invited guests to come to the feast, but they did not want to come. ⁴ So he sent other servants with this message for the guests: ‘My feast is ready now; my steers and prize calves have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast!’ ⁵ But the invited guests paid no attention and went about their business: one went to his farm, another to his store, ⁶ while others grabbed the servants, beat them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was very angry; so he sent his soldiers, who killed those murderers and burned down their city. ⁸ Then he called his servants and said to them, ‘My wedding feast is ready, but the people I invited did not deserve it. ⁹ Now go to the main streets and invite to the feast as many people as you find.’ ¹⁰ So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, good and bad alike; and the wedding hall was filled with people.

¹¹ “The king went in to look at the guests and saw a man who was not wearing wedding clothes. ¹² ‘Friend, how did you get in here without wedding clothes?’ the king asked him. But the man said nothing. ¹³ Then the king told the servants, ‘Tie him up hand and foot, and throw him outside in the dark. There he will cry and gnash his teeth.’”

¹⁴ And Jesus concluded, “Many are invited, but few are chosen.”

Mark in levels
(AO1)

[5]

(b) Answers may include:

- The parable puts emphasis on universalism in that the gospel message is for all people regardless of their nationality, beliefs or social status.
- In the story the Jews because of national pride had come to believe that being a Jew was all that was needed to enter the Kingdom of heaven. The kingdom was open to everybody.
- Today the church should not be an inclusive club but should be welcoming new members just as the Gentiles were invited to the wedding feast in the parable.
- The unsuitably dressed man is a reminder to Christians that they must show complete commitment to following the teaching and lifestyle of Jesus.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO1)

[5]

(c) Answers may include:

- The teaching of Jesus in the Sermon the Mount covers matters that young people still have to encounter today. It deals with anger, revenge, showing forgiveness and loving your enemies.
- This sermon also tackles spiritual issues in relation to religious observances. These include giving to charity, fasting and praying.
- Human nature has not changed from the time of Jesus.
- The means of salvation remains the same and Jesus' teaching sets out what is needed.
- Jesus teaching give clear guidelines on how to love God and to love your neighbour.

On the other hand:

- The context of some of Jesus' advice is very different from those of his day and some people may find it difficult to understand what he is saying. For example fasting is no longer a religious discipline in the lives of Christians today.
- Teenagers today live in a more secular and materialistic society and do not feel the need for God.
- Other world religions also attract the attention of young people and they feel they are more relevant to their spiritual needs.
- Some teenagers find the teachings of Jesus too challenging to implement and so they are not relevant for them.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[10]

20

AVAILABLE
MARKS

6 Miracles

- (a) Candidates should select and describe relevant sections from Matthew 12 v 9–14

⁹ Jesus left that place and went to a synagogue, ¹⁰ where there was a man who had a paralyzed hand. Some people were there who wanted to accuse Jesus of doing wrong, so they asked him, “Is it against our Law to heal on the Sabbath?”

¹¹ Jesus answered, “What if one of you has a sheep and it falls into a deep hole on the Sabbath? Will you not take hold of it and lift it out? ¹² And a human being is worth much more than a sheep! So then, our Law does allow us to help someone on the Sabbath.” ¹³ Then he said to the man with the paralyzed hand, “Stretch out your hand.”

He stretched it out, and it became well again, just like the other one. ¹⁴ Then the Pharisees left and made plans to kill Jesus.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO1)

[5]

- (b) Answers may include:

- He was a man of compassion.
- He showed no prejudice because he healed outcasts, men and women, Jews and Gentiles and those associated with the Roman occupying forces.
- He did not perform miracles to bring glory upon himself.
- They realised that he had special powers. He was not only human but divine and that he was the Son of God.
- He responded to people who showed faith.
- He put the welfare of others before the regulations of the religious laws.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO1)

[5]

AVAILABLE
MARKS

(c) Answers may include:

- The Jewish authorities were unhappy because he healed the man with a paralysed hand on a Sabbath. By doing this he was showing disrespect to the Sabbath day.
- He forgave the sins of the paralysed man and this annoyed the religious leaders because they believed that only God could do this.
- He healed people who were considered outcasts in society. These included people with leprosy, women and Gentiles.
- He upset the religious leaders by complementing the Roman officer for the great faith he displayed. In this miracle he was conversing with a member of the occupying army.
- He touched the man who had leprosy.

On the other hand:

- Those who were healed were overjoyed. Jairus and his family would have been delighted that their daughter had been brought back to life.
- At the healing of the paralysed man in the crowded house those who witnessed the event were so amazed that they praised God for giving such authority to Jesus.
- The miracles led people to follow Jesus and this gave Jesus to also teach the people about the kingdom of God.
- Those who were healed had experienced a life changing moment. Once the priest had certified that the leprosy servant was cured this man would no longer be treated as a social outcast.
- The miracles also allowed the people and the disciples to learn more about the identity of Jesus.
- Some candidates may pursue a more philosophical or contemporary approach.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[10]

20

AVAILABLE
MARKS

7 The Place and Nature of Christian Discipleship

AVAILABLE
MARKS

- (a) Candidates should select and describe relevant sections from Matthew 6 v1–4 and ch 6 v16–18

6 “Make certain you do not perform your religious duties in public so that people will see what you do. If you do these things publicly, you will not have any reward from your Father in heaven.

² “So when you give something to a needy person, do not make a big show of it, as the hypocrites do in the houses of worship and on the streets. They do it so that people will praise them. I assure you, they have already been paid in full. ³ But when you help a needy person, do it in such a way that even your closest friend will not know about it. ⁴ Then it will be a private matter. And your Father, who sees what you do in private, will reward you.

¹⁶ “And when you fast, do not put on a sad face as the hypocrites do. They neglect their appearance so that everyone will see that they are fasting. I assure you, they have already been paid in full. ¹⁷ When you go without food, wash your face and comb your hair, ¹⁸ so that others cannot know that you are fasting—only your Father, who is unseen, will know. And your Father, who sees what you do in private, will reward you.

Mark in levels
(AO1)

[5]

- (b) Answers may include:

- He used these everyday items because they were relevant to his audience.
- To explain what was required of those who followed him and how they should lead their lives.
- Just as a city needs to be lit up at night or a lamp put on a stand to light up a room in a house so the faith, witness and daily living should shine out in the world as an example to other people. If they did not set a good example they would be like a light hidden under a bowl.
- Just as salt was used to preserve some foodstuffs or add flavour to a meal so his followers through their commitment to God and through setting an example should never lose the impact for good that they can have on other people. They are not to lose their loyalty to God or they will be ineffective just as salt does if it loses its saltiness.
- True discipleship is not just about words of belief but a call to a practical faith.

Accept valid alternatives
Mark in levels
(AO1)

[5]

(c) Answers may include:

- Some Christians worry about not having enough money on a daily basis.
- Money and possessions are needed in order to have a basic standard of living.
- Christians cannot rely on God's providence in a world of poverty and strife.
- Media encourages consumerism and as a result Christians are tempted.
- Christians are human and human nature is weak and sinful.
- Society is corrupt and Christians feel they need to have wealth to succeed.
- Some believe that wealth and possessions will make them happy.
- Christians have to survive in a consumer society and so they need to earn sufficient money to live.
- There is nothing wrong in wanting some of the luxuries of life provided you have worked hard for them.

On the other hand:

- There are many Christians who are not selfish and self-centred.
- There is nothing wrong in desiring wealth and possessions provided the desire is controlled.
- Many Christians give generously to good causes.
- Through daily devotions to God Christians are focusing on God rather than on material things.
- They are more concerned about meeting the needs of their families.
- The teachings of Jesus stress that wealth is not needed to receive eternal life.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[10]

20

Section B

40

SPaG

5

Total

105

AVAILABLE
MARKS