

GCE

Religious Studies

H573/06: Developments in Buddhist thought

Advanced GCE

Mark Scheme for November 2020

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This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and students, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which marks were awarded by examiners. It does not indicate the details of the discussions which took place at an examiners' meeting before marking commenced.

All examiners are instructed that alternative correct answers and unexpected approaches in candidates' scripts must be given marks that fairly reflect the relevant knowledge and skills demonstrated.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the published question papers and the report on the examination.

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	Indicative content – Responses might include:	Guidance
	1. 'Pure Land Buddhism is not an easy path.' Discuss	
	Candidates may demonstrate knowledge and understanding ugh the use of some of the following ideas:	
•	Pure Land Buddhists follow the teachings found in the Lotus Sutra, which suggests that this is a degenerate age where the world has been overcome by greed, hatred and ignorance and therefore achieving enlightenment is currently impossible. Pure Land Buddhists look to be reborn in the Pure Land in order to achieve enlightenment, because it is not possible to do so from the world as it is at the moment. Pure Land Buddhists chant and this will enable them to be reborn in the Pure Land. the arhat path by comparison may stretch over more than three lives and involve strict monastic discipline. Therefore, some have suggested that by comparison Pure Land Buddhism is an 'easy' path.	
	Candidates may demonstrate evaluation and analysis through the of some of the following arguments.	
•	Some candidates might argue that Pure Land Buddhism is not an easy path because:	
0	Pure Land Buddhists believe that there are more distractions that would inhibit a person's progress to enlightenment in the modern age and therefore, focusing on Amitabha Buddha is not 'easy'	
0	the Pure Land Buddhist chant is repeated constantly whilst going about a person's daily routine. However, being constantly mindful of this chant is not easy	
0	Pure Land Buddhism still requires that same commitment to renunciation and moral conduct as every other form of Buddhism, so it is no easier than others	
0	once a person has been re-born in the Pure Land they still have to learn and practise in the same way that monks or nuns might and therefore they will have to undergo the same disciplines outlined by the Buddha. Therefore, they have not avoided this 'difficult' path.	
• easy	Some candidates might argue that Pure Land Buddhism is an path because:	
0	the Pure Land Buddhist chant is the only appropriate thought when one considers the actions of Amitabha Buddha	
0	Pure Land Buddhism focuses more on devotional practice than meditation, and has more lenient rules (for example killing fish is not seen as an unskilful action), which makes it more accessible to all Buddhists, particularly those who cannot access philosophical teachings the Pure Land is made specifically to be conducive to gaining	

	Indicative content – Responses might include:	Guidance
o	enlightenment. Therefore, it is easier than trying to gain enlightenment in the degenerate world as it is Amitabha Buddha has vowed to save all beings and therefore this makes it easier to gain enlightenment	
•	Some candidates may combine these views and argue that:	
0	Pure Land Buddhism recognises that it is difficult in the modern world to meditate for long periods or to become a monk/ nun and therefore their teachings are a short cut (easy path) to a more 'enlightenment-friendly' world some might argue that it has and will always be difficult to focus the mind because the three fires/poisons are always present in the human mind and they are the main barrier to enlightenment. Therefore, there is no easy path.	

	Indicative content – Responses might include:	Guidance
	2. 'The Buddha would not agree with the teachings of Nagarjuna's Madhyamaka (middle way) philosophy.' Discuss.	
	Candidates may demonstrate knowledge and understanding ugh the use of some of the following ideas:	
•	Nagarjuna founded the Madhyamaka (middle way) school in the first century CE he focused on the teachings in the Heart Sutra this taught that all things are empty of inherent existence (sunyata) because they are dependently co-arisen Nagarjuna also taught that there are two truths: conventional and ultimate these teachings are seen by some as a departure from the teachings of the historical Buddha namely the Four Noble Truths and Eightfold Path.	
	2 Candidates may demonstrate evaluation and analysis through the of some of the following arguments.	
1	Some candidates might argue that the historical Buddha would agree with the teachings of Madhyamaka (middle way) philosophy ause:	
0	Some Theravada Buddhist texts suggest that all things exist as separate items or have own existence (svabhava) and can be categorised. Therefore, the Buddha would probably disagree with Nagarjuna's rejection of svabhava (own being) the historical Buddha may not have agreed with the concept of two truths. the Buddha taught using skilful means (upaya) therefore truth was relative to the ability of those who were being taught	
0	the Heart Sutra is not recognised by some as a teaching of the historical Buddha. It is a teaching by the Bodhisattva Avalokiteshvara (and endorsed by the Buddha) Nagarjuna seems to focus more on awakening the human's Buddha nature rather than the morality, wisdom and contemplation taught by the historical Buddha.	
_	Some candidates might argue that the historical Buddha would be with the teachings of Madhyamaka (middle way) philosophy ause:	
0 0	the historical Buddha taught that all phenomena are interlinked and that they dependently originate. This would support Nagarjuna's teaching on sunyata (emptiness) all things exist because of all other things that exist. 'This being, that exists; through the arising of this that arises. This not being, that does not exist; through the ceasing of this that ceases.' (MN79) it is believed that Nagarjuna received these teachings from	

	Indicative content – Responses might include:	Guidance
	spirits, who had been taught them by the historical Buddha, and kept them safe until such time as someone could understand them	
0	there is much debate over the Theravada teachings, with many arguing that it teaches that dhammas can be categorised by their characteristics but this does not mean that dhammas have own being. Therefore, there are no differences between these teachings and Nagarjuna's.	
•	Some candidates may combine these views and argue that:	
o	Madhyamaka (middle way) philosophy is a development of the historical Buddha's teachings so it is consistent with but not the same as the original teachings.	

	Indicative content – Responses might include:	Guidance
;	3. To what extent could a Buddhist ever accept the need for	
	war?	
AO1	Candidates may demonstrate knowledge and understanding	
	gh the use of some of the following ideas:	
•	Buddhism has always seen itself as a religion of peace and this is	
	promoted by the Buddha throughout his teaching career	
•	Buddhist countries engaged in warfare but it is difficult to find any	
	Buddhist rationale for the use of war	
•	Buddhism has a wide range of resources used to dissolve conflicts	
	hatred is one of the three fires/poisons	
•	'greater in battle, than the man who would conquer a thousand-	
	thousand men, is he who would conquer just one — himself.'	
	(Dhammapada 103)	
•	'overcome the angry by non-anger' (Dhammapada 223).	
AO2	Candidates may demonstrate evaluation and analysis through the	
	of some of the following arguments.	
•	Some candidates might argue that it is possible to accept the	
need	for war because:	
	To that because:	
0	although the Buddha always taught that violence was never the	
	skilful response and that monks and nuns should never use	
	violence, it has sometimes been necessary for lay Buddhists to	
_	use violence in times of war.	
0	a war can be fought in defence of family/ country/ religion because the intention is not to kill but to save lives	
0	candidates might illustrate their arguments using examples they	
U	have studied. Some examples that might be considered include	
	the following:	
0	in Thailand national service is required from all men except those	
	who are long term monks. Former monks are often employed as	
	army chaplains	
0	in Sri Lanka the Buddhist monasteries supported the	
	government's fight against the invading Tamil people, the earliest	
0	example of this being in 90 BCE. in Myanmar the 969 movement is led by Buddhist monks. They	
0	promote anti-Islamic attitudes and have been reported as	
	suggesting that killing a Muslim is a kindness so that they stand a	
	chance of being reborn as a Buddhist.	
•	Some candidates might argue that it is impossible to accept the	
need	for war because:	
•	in the Eightfold Dath, right livelihood forbide a Duddhist frame	
0	in the Eightfold Path, right livelihood forbids a Buddhist from handling weapons	
0	the Dhammapada states 'Greater in battle, than the man who	
-	would conquer a thousand-thousand men, is he who would	

	Indicative content – Responses might include:	Guidance
	conquer just one — himself' (Dhammapada 103) and 'Overcome the angry by non-anger' (Dhammapada 223)	
0	the three fires/poisons include hatred, which causes suffering, therefore overcoming hatred is essential for enlightenment.	
0	the Buddha taught that conflict arose from attachment and greed or from material deprivation	
0	propaganda used in war times is seen as an example of wrong speech.	
•	Some candidates may combine these views and argue that:	
0	the Buddha failed on several occasions to give his view on the morality of soldiers, but he did make it clear that any soldier shares the guilt of killing even if they have not themselves killed	
0	lay Buddhists have put aside the First Precept in order to defend themselves and this has been seen to be morally acceptable but still generating negative kamma.	

	Indicative content – Responses might include:	Guidance
	4. Assess the claim that the is sangha the most important	
	part of modern Buddhism.	
	1 Candidates may demonstrate knowledge and understanding	
thro	ugh the use of some of the following ideas:	
	the conche is one the Three Defuges, the other two being the	
•	the sangha is one the Three Refuges, the other two being the Buddha and the dhamma	
	the sangha was established by the Buddha	
•	the sangha can refer to the monastic community of monks and	
	nuns or it could refer to the whole of the Buddhist society which	
	includes the monks and nuns and the lay men and women	
•	the fourfold sangha is the basis of a Buddhist society	
•	the sangha is the repository of the teachings of the Buddha. It is	
	responsible for keeping them alive and passing them on to the	
	next generation.	
•	the sangha generates good kamma and passes this on to the	
	local community	
۸۵٬	Condidates may demonstrate evaluation and analysis through the	
	2 Candidates may demonstrate evaluation and analysis through the of some of the following arguments.	
use	or some of the following arguments.	
•	Some candidates might argue that the sangha is the most	
imp	ortant part of modern Buddhism because:	
	·	
0	it keeps the teachings of the historical Buddha and passes them	
	on to the next generation, therefore keeping Buddhism alive	
0	the sangha interprets the Buddha's many teachings and explains	
	these to others so that they can make progress towards	
	enlightenment. This is especially important so long after the	
0	Buddha has passed away the sangha has a social role in providing for the local	
	communities' moral, spiritual and religious education and well-	
	being.	
0	this has become an important function today with the sangha	
	providing education, healthcare, community organisation and	
	leadership and environmental awareness	
0	The sangha has psychological value in its ability to bind society	
	together and provide support for all people	
imn	Some candidates might argue that the sangha is not the most ortant part of modern Buddhism because:	
l mib	ortain part of modern buddinsin because.	
0	the sangha would not exist without the historical Buddha who	
	established it to begin with and it is him that people look to	
0	without the dhamma the sangha would not have anything to	
	keep and pass on to others. Today this has been published in	
	many languages and uploaded to the internet so that everyone	
	has access to it. It can be argued that this has replaced the	
	need for the sangha	
0	in many countries there is no longer a functioning sangha but	
	Buddhism still exists and flourishes	
0	Mahayana Buddhism developed without the same monastic	

	Indicative content – Responses might include:	Guidance
	structure as Theravada Buddhism but this did not hinder its development. Western Buddhism is flourishing without a sangha.	
•	Some candidates may combine these views and argue that:	
o	the sangha has played a fundamental role in the development and spread of Buddhism but part of that role has now been replaced by the publication of the dhamma and commentaries	
0	it can be argued that in countries such as the UK the collection of translated text has become the sangha.	

Level	Levels of Response for A Level Religious Studies: Assessment Objective 1 (AO1)	Note: The descriptors below must be considered in the context of all
(Mark)	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religion and belief, including:	listed strands of Assessment Objectives 1 (AO1) and the indicative
,	Religious, philosophical and/or ethical thought and teaching	content in the mark scheme.
	Approaches to the study of religion and belief	
6	An excellent demonstration of knowledge and understanding in response to the question:	
(14–16)	fully comprehends the demands of, and focusses on, the question throughout	
,	excellent selection of relevant material which is skillfully used	
	accurate and highly detailed knowledge which demonstrates deep understanding through a complex and nual	nced approach to the material used
	thorough, accurate and precise use of technical terms and vocabulary in context	
	• extensive range of scholarly views, academic approaches, and/or sources of wisdom and authority are used to	o demonstrate knowledge and understanding
5	A very good demonstration of knowledge and understanding in response to the question :	J J
(11–13)	focuses on the precise question throughout	
	very good selection of relevant material which is used appropriately	
	accurate, and detailed knowledge which demonstrates very good understanding through either the breadth or	depth of material used
	accurate and appropriate use of technical terms and subject vocabulary.	·
	• a very good range of scholarly views, academic approaches, and/or sources of wisdom and authority are used	to demonstrate knowledge and understanding
4	A good demonstration of knowledge and understanding in response to the question:	·
(8–10)	addresses the question well	
	good selection of relevant material, used appropriately on the whole	
	 mostly accurate knowledge which demonstrates good understanding of the material used, which should have reasonable amounts of depth or breadth 	
	 mostly accurate and appropriate use of technical terms and subject vocabulary. 	
	a good range of scholarly views, academic approaches, and/or sources of wisdom and authority are used to demonstrate knowledge and understanding	
3	A satisfactory demonstration of knowledge and understanding in response to the question:	
(5–7)	generally addresses the question	
	mostly sound selection of mostly relevant material	
	some accurate knowledge which demonstrates sound understanding through the material used, which might however be lacking in depth or breadth	
	generally appropriate use of technical terms and subject vocabulary.	
	A satisfactory range of scholarly views, academic approaches, and/or sources of wisdom and authority are us	ed to demonstrate knowledge and understanding with only partial success
2	A basic demonstration of knowledge and understanding in response to the question:	
(3–4)	might address the general topic rather than the question directly	
	limited selection of partially relevant material	
	some accurate, but limited, knowledge which demonstrates partial understanding	
	some accurate, but limited, use of technical terms and appropriate subject vocabulary.	
	a limited range of scholarly views, academic approaches, and/or sources of wisdom and authority are used to	demonstrate knowledge and understanding with little success
1	A weak demonstration of knowledge and understanding in response to the question:	
(1–2)	almost completely ignores the question	
	very little relevant material selected	
	knowledge very limited, demonstrating little understanding	
	very little use of technical terms or subject vocabulary.	
2 (2)	• very little or no use of scholarly views, academic approaches and/or sources of wisdom and authority to demo	nstrate knowledge and understanding
0 (0)	No creditworthy response	

Level	Levels of Response for A Level Religious Studies: Assessment Objective 2 (AO2)	Note: The descriptors below must be considered in the context of all
(Mark)	Analyse and evaluate aspects of, and approaches to, religion and belief, including their significance, influence and	elements of Assessment Objective 2 (AO2) and the indicative
	study	content in the mark scheme.
6	An excellent demonstration of analysis and evaluation in response to the question:	
(21–24)	excellent, clear and successful argument	
	confident and insightful critical analysis and detailed evaluation of the issue	
	views skillfully and clearly stated, coherently developed and justified	
	answers the question set precisely throughout	
	thorough, accurate and precise use of technical terms and vocabulary in context	
extensive range of scholarly views, academic approaches and sources of wisdom and authority used to support analysis and evaluation Assessment of Extended Response: There is an excellent line of reasoning, well-developed and sustained, which is coherent, relevant and logically structured.		analysis and evaluation
5	A very good demonstration of analysis and evaluation in response to the question:	,
(17–20)	clear argument which is mostly successful	
, ,	successful and clear analysis and evaluation	
	views very well stated, coherently developed and justified	
	answers the question set competently	
	accurate and appropriate use of technical terms and subject vocabulary.	
	a very good range of scholarly views, academic approaches and sources of wisdom and authority used to suppor	rt analysis and evaluation
	Assessment of Extended Response: There is a well-developed and sustained line of reasoning which is coherent,	
4	A good demonstration of analysis and evaluation in response to the question:	3 7
(13–16)	argument is generally successful and clear	
	generally successful analysis and evaluation	
	views well stated, with some development and justification	
	answers the question set well	
	mostly accurate and appropriate use of technical terms and subject vocabulary.	
	 a good range of scholarly views, academic approaches and sources of wisdom and authority are used to support 	t analysis and evaluation
Assessment of Extended Response: There is a well–developed line of reasoning which is clear, relevant and logically structured		
3	A satisfactory demonstration of analysis and/evaluation in response to the question:	•
(9–12)	some successful argument	
	partially successful analysis and evaluation	
	views asserted but often not fully justified	
	mostly answers the set question	
	generally appropriate use of technical terms and subject vocabulary.	
	• a satisfactory range of scholarly views, academic approaches and sources of wisdom and authority are used to so	upport analysis and evaluation with only partial success
	Assessment of Extended Response: There is a line of reasoning presented which is mostly relevant and which has	s some structure.
2	A basic demonstration of analysis and evaluation in response to the question:	
(5–8)	some argument attempted, not always successful	
	little successful analysis and evaluation	
	views asserted but with little justification	
	only partially answers the question	
	some accurate, but limited, use of technical terms and appropriate subject vocabulary.	
	• a limited range of scholarly views, academic approaches and sources of wisdom and authority to support analysis	s and evaluation with little success
	Assessment of Extended Response: There is a line of reasoning which has some relevance and which is presented	
1	A weak demonstration of analysis and evaluation in response to the question:	
(1–4)	very little argument attempted	
	very little successful analysis and evaluation	
	views asserted with very little justification	
	unsuccessful in answering the question	

	very little use of technical terms or subject vocabulary.
	very little or no use of scholarly views, academic approaches and sources of wisdom and authority to support analysis and evaluation
	Assessment of Extended Response: The information is communicated in a basic/unstructured way.
0 (0)	No creditworthy response



Annotations

Annotation	Meaning
L1	Level one – to be used at the end of each part of the response in the margin.
L2	Level two – to be used at the end of each part of the response in the margin.
L3	Level three – to be used at the end of each part of the response in the margin.
L4	Level four – to be used at the end of each part of the response in the margin.
L5	Level five – to be used at the end of each part of the response in the margin.
L6	(H573 only) Level six - to be used at the end of each part of the response in the margin.
2	Highlighting a section of the response that is irrelevant to the awarding of the mark.
SEEN	Point has been seen and noted, e.g. where part of an answer is at the end of the script.

SUBJECT-SPECIFIC MARKING INSTRUCTIONS H173, H573 AS and A Level Religious Studies

Introduction

Your first task as an Examiner is to become thoroughly familiar with the material on which the examination depends. You should ensure that you have copies of these materials:

- the specification, especially the assessment objectives
- the question paper and its rubrics
- the mark scheme.

Please ask for help or guidance whenever you need it. Your first point of contact is your Team Leader.

Information and instructions for examiners

The practice scripts provide you with *examples* of the standard of each band. The marks awarded for these scripts will have been agreed by the Lead Marker and Team Leaders.

The specific task-related indicative content for each question will help you to understand how the band descriptors may be applied. However, this indicative content **does not** constitute the mark scheme: it is material that candidates **might** use, grouped according to each assessment objective tested by the question. It is hoped that candidates will respond to questions in a variety of ways. Rigid demands for 'what must be a good answer' would lead to a distorted assessment. Candidates' answers must be relevant to the question. Beware of prepared answers that do not show the candidate's thought and which have not been adapted to the thrust of the question. Beware also of answers where candidates attempt to reproduce interpretations and concepts that they have been taught but have only partially understood.

Using the Mark Scheme

Please study the Mark Scheme carefully. The Mark Scheme is an integral part of the process that begins with the setting of the question paper and ends with the awarding of grades. Question papers and Mark Schemes are developed in association with each other so that issues of differentiation and positive achievement can be addressed from the very start.

This Mark Scheme is a working document; it is not exhaustive; it does not provide 'correct' answers. The Mark Scheme can only provide 'best guesses' about how the question will work out, and it is subject to revision after we have looked at a wide range of scripts.

Please read carefully all the scripts in your allocation and make every effort to look positively for achievement throughout the ability range. Always be prepared to use the full range of marks.

The Mark Scheme contains a description of possible/content only; all legitimate answers and approaches must be credited appropriately. Learners are expected to make use of scholarly views, academic approaches and sources of wisdom and authority to support their argument.

The Levels of Response must be used in conjunction with the outlined indicative content.

Assessment Objectives

Two Assessment Objectives are being assessed in all questions:

AO1 (Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religion and belief) and

AO2 (Analyse and evaluate aspects of, and approaches to, religion and belief, including their significance, influence and study).

Responses are credited for **AO1** for selection, detail and accuracy of the knowledge and understanding of religion and belief deployed.

Responses are credited for **AO2** for how well the response addresses the question, for candidates using their knowledge and understanding to draw, express and support conclusions in relation to the question posed. Candidates will be assessed on the quality of the conclusions and points they argue and the clarity and success of their argument.

Levels of Response

Questions in this paper are marked using a levels of response grid. When using this grid examiners must use a **best fit** approach. Where there are both strengths and weaknesses in a particular response or particularly imbalanced responses in terms of the assessment objectives, examiners must carefully consider which level is the best fit for the performance.

Note that candidates can achieve different levels in each assessment objective, for example a Level 3 for AO1, and a Level 2 for AO2.

Please note that the Assessment Objectives being assessed are listed at the top of the mark scheme. Where a candidate does not address all of the Assessment Objective strands listed, the candidate cannot achieve the top level of response.

Assessment of Extended Response

The GCE General Conditions of Recognition state that:

GCE 5.1 In designing and setting the assessments for a GCE qualification which it makes available, or proposes to make available, and awarding organization must ensure that, taken together, those assessments include questions or tasks which allow Learners to -

a) provide extended responses

As such, the quality of extended responses are assessed in all questions. While marks are not specifically given for this, descriptors for extended responses can be found in the AO2 Levels of Response *in italics*.

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