

GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES B

(8063)

Marked Papers

Summer 2018 - Paper 2 Judaism

See a range of responses and how different levels are achieved and understand how to interpret the mark scheme.

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EXAMPLE RESPONSES

Whilst every attempt has been made to show a range of student responses, the following responses and examiner comments provide teachers with the best opportunity to understand the application of the mark scheme. They are not intended to be viewed as 'model' answers although they are genuine student responses from Summer 2018 and have been standardised by senior examiners.

Four mark questions (A01.3)

0 1 . 3

Explain two ways in which the religious beliefs about monotheism are similar in Judaism and in the main religious tradition of Great Britain. You should name the main religious tradition of Great Britain in your answer.

[4 marks]

Answer A

Monotheism is a religion that believes in one God. Judaism is one example of this religion and in Great Britain Catholicism is another. In Judaism they believe there is only one God this is shown in the Shema, "the Lord alone is our God." Similarly, Catholics believe in one God, as seen in the Ten Commandments. Furthermore both religions believe that God is the creator of all things, that God alone create the universe. This supports the idea of monotheism as it was only God who created the universe no help from another God.

Answer A

This response begins by defining monotheism and naming the religions that will be used in the answer. It is not necessary to do this, although naming the 'main religious tradition of Great Britain' is required in the response is required. Two correct similarities are identified and both are explained well.

4 marks

Four mark questions (A01.2)

0 2 . 3 Explain two ways in which observing Shabbat influences Jewish life.

[4 marks]

Answer A

One way observing Shabbat influences Jewish life is by them not being able to work in any way, shape or form on Friday evenings up until Saturday evenings. Another way observing Shabbat influences Jewish life is having to prepare everything beforehand so no work can be done. The preparation can be time consuming.

Answer A

This answer is well focused on the assessment objective (AO1.2) and clearly explains two correct influences. The first point is simple, and could have been developed with an example. The second point is developed with the explanation that the preparation is time consuming.

3 marks

Five mark questions (A01.1)

0 2 . 4 Exp

Explain two Jewish beliefs about prayer. Refer to scripture or another source of Jewish belief and teaching in your answer.

[5 marks]

Answer A

Many Jews believe the Shema to be the most important prayer as it reminds them that there is only one God and they do everything possible to honour their God. "Hear O Israel, the Lord is your God, the Lord alone you shall love him with all your heart." Some Jews recite this many times a day. Jews believe prayer brings a Jew closer to God, strengthening their relationship.

Answer B

One Jewish belief about prayer is orthodox. They believe they should pray in the morning, afternoon and evening saying the Shema "The Lord, only one" in the synagogue. Another belief about prayer is its important way of respecting God, showing thanks, mercy and praise like in the Amidah.

Answer A

The point about the Shema is developed with an explanation of it reminding them of core beliefs and the idea of honouring God. The quote from the Shema is a relevant source of authority so gains the mark for the reference. The second point is brief, but still shows development in the explanation that this strengthens their relationship with God.

5 marks

Answer B

This response is concise and meets all the requirements of this question. The first point about praying several times a day is developed with the example of the Shema, which also gains the mark for the reference to a source of authority (3 marks). The second point on respecting God is developed with 'showing thanks, mercy and praise like in the Amidah'.

5 marks

12 mark questions

Levels of response

Level	Criteria	Marks
4	A well-argued response, reasoned consideration of different points of view.	10-12
	Logical chains of reasoning leading to judgement(s) supported by knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence and information.	
	References to religion applied to the issue.	
3	Reasoned consideration of different points of view.	7-9
	Logical chains of reasoning that draw on knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence and information.	
	Clear reference to religion.	
2	Reasoned consideration of a point of view.	4-6
	A logical chain of reasoning drawing on knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence and information.	
	OR	
	Recognition of different points of view, each supported by relevant reasons / evidence.	
	Maximum of Level 2 if there is no reference to religion or the argument is one-sided.	
1	Point of view with reason(s) stated in support.	1-3
0	Nothing worthy of credit.	0

12 mark questions

0 4

The most important Covenant for Jews was the one made at Sinai.' Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you should:

- give reasoned arguments to support this statement
- give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
- refer to Jewish teaching
- reach a justified conclusion.

[12 marks + SPaG]

Answer A

A covenant is an agreement between God and another person, in religion. In the Torah Jews are told about the covenant between God and Moses. God promised to look after the Jews and protect them, so long as they followed the 10 commandments, given to Moses as two stone plagues.

Many Jews would say this covenant was the most important for them, as they provide the basis of the 613 mitzvot. These are the laws that Jews follow on Earth and believe help them to restore a healthy relationship with God, 'do not worship any other God.'

Furthermore, many Jews would support this statement as it they show Jews how to have a healthy relationship not only between God and men, shows in the just fair but also how to have a good relationship between man and man on Earth, shown in the last six. For example, 'do not kill,' 'do not steal.' Without these commandments many Jews wouldn't have a good relationship with God.

In contrast to this many Jews would say that the covenant made between God and Abraham is of more significance today. This covenant forms the basis of the monotheistic religion. Abraham, lived in Ur, he unlike many people of the time believed in one God. Him and his family went on a journey to Israel. However, stopped and lived there for many years. When God told him to persue his journey he did. He was given the promised land and his wife Sarah was able to give birth despite being old. However, to fulfil this covenant he must be circumcised and so he was.

Some Jews would say this covenant is of more significance nowadays, through Brit Milar. This symbolises the Jews and shows theire commitment to God. Also, many Jews would disagree with the statement because they believe all the covenants are equal. They all have great meaning and should teach Jews how to live a good Jewish life.

To conclude I agree with this statement because through this covenant all other Jewish Laws come about, 613 mitzvot, these guide Jews to make the correct decision in life.

Answer A

This response fulfils all the criteria for Level 4. The first paragraph forms an introduction, although it isn't necessary and doesn't add to the evaluation. The knowledge given here is explained elsewhere in the response. The subsequent paragraphs are well focussed on the statement in the question and effectively evaluate both sides. The reasoning leads to an overall judgement in the final sentence.

Level 4, 12 marks

SPaG 2 – the grammar in paragraph 4 leads to lack of coherence, and there are several other errors in spelling. As such, intermediate performance is best fit for this response.

Answer B

Some Jews may agree with this statement because they believe that the covenant at mount Sinai was the most important one because it is where Moses got the 10 commandments which tell the Jews how to live their life by fullfilling God's law, "You shall not idolise," only having one God no one else. Without this they wouldn't know how to fullfill God's law which is why it's important. Another reason why some Jews may agree with the statement is because they feel that without this covenant all the others would have no meaning and that this covenant forms the bases of all Jewish life which is why it's so important.

On the other hand some Jews may disagree with the statement because they believe that all covenants are equal to each other and therefore one isn't more important than the other, the all have equal value to the Jewish faith, therefore they disagree with the statement, "equal" this shows that in the Torah they are taught as equal to each other. Another reason why some Jews may disagree with the statement is that the most important covent made was with God and Abraham, "make you a good nation" and without this they may think they're not that important which is why they disagree with the statement. Another reason why they disagree is because they may believe non of them are important and therefore disagree.

In conclusion, looking at both sides of the argument, I disagree with the statement because I think the covenants are all equal to each other not that the Sinai is the most important.

Answer B

The first paragraph is very good and well reasoned. The second paragraph presents the alternative view and is reasoned, although sometimes lacks clarity. The conclusion gives some sense of judgement, but lacks development.

Level 4, 10 marks

SPaG 2 – the best fit here is intermediate performance due to spelling and grammar errors; the errors in punctuation and grammar do at times obscure meaning.



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You can talk directly to the religious studies subject team

E: religious studies@aqa.org.uk

T: 0161 957 3881