
ISLAMIC STUDIES

9013/23

Paper 2

October/November 2016

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 100

Published

This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and candidates, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which Examiners were instructed to award marks. It does not indicate the details of the discussions that took place at an Examiners' meeting before marking began, which would have considered the acceptability of alternative answers.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the question paper and the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers.

Cambridge will not enter into discussions about these mark schemes.

Cambridge is publishing the mark schemes for the October/November 2016 series for most Cambridge IGCSE[®], Cambridge International A and AS Level components and some Cambridge O Level components.

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Section A

- 1 ‘The descendants of ‘Abbas were more Islamic than the descendants of the Banu Umayya.’ How far do you agree with this claim? [20]**

Basic answers will give a few factual details about the two dynasties, but will not go much further. Fuller answers will add further details and will show signs of attempting to compare the two dynasties.

More advanced answers will give a series of reasons for the religious differences between the dynasties, instancing individual caliphs and their relative piety.

The fullest answers will give a range of differences, and may also challenge the idea that one dynasty was more pious than the other.

- 2 Outline the achievements of either the Umayyad caliph ‘Abd al-Malik or the ‘Abbasid caliph Harun al-Rashid, and explain how these achievements helped the development of the early Islamic state. [20]**

Basic answers will give incomplete factual descriptions of the reign of the chosen caliph.

Fuller answers will give more complete factual details of the caliph’s reign, and will make some attempt at showing the wider effects of his main actions.

More advanced answers will elaborate on these details and explain why his actions were so important.

The fullest answers will give a rounded account of the caliph’s reign, and will give a confident account of the significance of his achievements.

- 3 Explain why Mu’awiyah moved the capital of the Islamic state to Damascus, and why the ‘Abbasid caliph al-Mansur later moved the capital to Baghdad. [20]**

Basic answers will give sketchy and incomplete factual details about the two caliphs.

Fuller answers will give further facts and will attempt to explain the importance of the new capitals.

More advanced answers will discuss in some detail the political, social and religious factors behind the two caliphs’ decisions.

The fullest answers will give complete and confident accounts of a range of reasons motivating the two caliphs.

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Section B

- 4 Both the legal scholars Malik ibn Anas and al-Shafi'i attached importance to *Sunnah*. Explain how they differed in their understanding of this concept. [20]**

Basic answers will be restricted to a few factual details about the two scholars.

Fuller answers will still be mainly factual, but will show attempts at explaining the significance of *Sunnah* to each.

More advanced answers will explain how each scholar understood *Sunnah*, and will give clear accounts of their understandings of *Sunnah*.

The fullest answers will give clear accounts of the two understandings of *Sunnah*, and will draw implications from them.

- 5 While six collections of Hadiths have authority among Sunni Muslims, the collections of al-Bukhari and Muslim ibn Hajjaj are given special importance. Explain the reason for this. [20]**

Basic answers will attempt to identify the two Hadith collectors, but will not go much further.

Fuller answers will begin to describe the methods used by the two collectors to verify Hadiths.

More advanced answers will give a full account of the methods they used, and show how these produced more reliable collections.

The fullest answers will show confidently how the two collectors were able by their careful methods to single out reliable Hadiths, and explain how their collections can be regarded as authoritative.

- 6 Explain the importance of '*aq*' (reason) in Mu'tazili teachings about the principles of *tawhid* (divine unity) and '*adl*' (divine justice). [20]**

Basic answers will make general remarks about the Mu'tazila but not go much further.

Fuller answers will attempt to explain the two major Mu'tazili principles.

More advanced answers will attempt to explain how the Mu'tazila defended their principles by rational means.

The fullest answers will explain the centrality of reason in Mu'tazili thinking, and will go some way in showing how one or both of these two principles is based on rational argument.

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Section C

- 7 (a) Give brief accounts of the lives of Fatima [the daughter of the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh)], and Husayn [the son of 'Ali]. [12]

Basic answers will identify the two figures but not go much further.
 Fuller answers will say who they are and give basic facts about them.
 More advanced answers will give full accounts of their lives.
 The fullest answers will give complete and rounded biographies.

- (b) Explain the importance of both of these persons in Shi'a Islam. [8]

Basic answers will only show elementary awareness of their importance.
 Fuller answers will begin to attempt explanations of their importance.
 More advanced answers will show their significance as figures in Shi'i beliefs, as opposed to Islamic history.
 The fullest answers will show how they function as examples and intercessors.

- 8 Why has Sufism often been such a powerful attraction in many Muslims, and why has it been regarded as suspicious by many Muslim religious authorities? [20]

Basic answers will give a few elementary facts about Sufi beliefs and practices.
 Fuller answers will attempt to explain either why Sufism has been attractive or why authorities have suspected it.
 More advanced answers will attempt to discuss both elements of the question, and will provide full explanations, referring to either historical or present day situations.
 The fullest answers will contain comprehensive discussions of Sufism as a means of attaining true encounter with God, and as a threat to established authorities, and will draw implications from these points.

- 9 (a) Outline the main differences between *mutakallimun* (theologians) and *falasifah* (philosophers) in early Islam. [8]

Basic answers will show some understanding of the two groups, but not much.
 Fuller answers will begin to say who each group were.
 More advanced answers will begin to introduce the importance of the Qur'an for theologians and reason for philosophers.
 The fullest answers will give rounded accounts of the two groups that will clearly show the differences between them.

- (b) Explain why the *mutakallim* al-Ghazali opposed the teachings of the *falasifah*. [12]

Basic answers will say who al-Ghazali was but not much more.
 Fuller answers will attempt to describe al-Ghazali's main achievements.
 More advanced answers will give detailed accounts of al-Ghazali's main arguments against philosophy.
 The fullest answers will explain the dangers that al-Ghazali perceived in philosophy as baseless supposition that challenged Islam.

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Section D

- 10 (a) Outline the main principles of the teachings of Sayyid Ahmad Khan and Hasan al-Banna. [12]**

Basic answers will do little more than identify the two figures.
 Fuller answers will give biographical details and say something about their main teachings.
 More advanced answers will outline the main elements of their respective teachings.
 The fullest answers will give full and confident descriptions of the main elements of their teachings.

- (b) Explain two of the main differences between them. [8]**

Basic answers will attempt to give descriptions of what they taught.
 Fuller answers will show signs of attempts to identify differences.
 More advanced answers will identify differences and try to explain the reasons behind them.
 The fullest answers will discuss clearly the reasons why they arrived at these teachings.

- 11 Explain why many Muslim women are concerned to ensure their bodies are covered in public. [20]**

Basic answers will simply say what women do without offering explanations.
 Fuller answers will refer to the Qur'an and maybe the Sunnah, but will not go beyond that.
 More advanced answers will give fuller accounts of traditional teachings, and will also give other reasons based on security, modesty, etc.
 The fullest answers will give the traditional arguments, and will give with confidence a series of reasons why Muslim women do this.

- 12 'Women and men are different but equal.' How far do you think Muslim teachings agree with this statement? [20]**

Basic answers will agree or disagree with the statement, but will not be able to go much further.
 Fuller answers will attempt to explain Islamic teachings about men and women, and may compare these with the statement.
 More advanced answers will go into detail about the differences between men and women, and will justify agreeing or disagreeing with the statement on the basis of these.
 The fullest answers will show how the statement does or does not accord with Muslim teachings, and will offer clear and comprehensive reasons.