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FOREWORD

This booklet contains reports written by Examiners on the work of candidates in certain papers. **Its contents are primarily for the information of the subject teachers concerned.**

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

GCE Ordinary Level

Paper 2048/01

Paper 1 (Luke and Acts) Short Answer Questions

General comments

The quality of scripts varied and tended to polarise. A significant number of candidates gained maximum or very nearly maximum marks whilst an equally significant number scored less than 25%, with many answers not attempted. **Section B** proved more demanding than **Section A**, but there were a good number of scripts that demonstrated excellent knowledge and understanding of the Biblical texts.

The demands of the paper were equivalent to those of the June exam.

Comments on specific questions

Section A

Question 1

- (a) "Simeon" was not widely known and many candidates wrote "Simon".
- (b) A well answered question.

Question 2

- (a)(b) Clearly this miracle story was well known and most candidates were able to answer both parts.

Question 3

- (a)(b) Some candidates confused the parable of the great banquet with other parables.

Question 4

- (a) Some candidates referred to the idea of a market place and this was accepted as a valid answer.
- (b) Most candidates found this straightforward and the idea of a house of worship was equally acceptable as an answer.

Question 5

- (a) A surprising number of candidates did not seem to know this detail about Judas.
- (b) This was well answered by most candidates.

Question 6

- (a) A number of alternatives were given, with the most frequent being "three days", presumably confusing events with the resurrection. Generally this question was not well answered.
- (b) Some candidates referred to "The Comforter" and this was an acceptable answer.

Question 7

- (a) A number of candidates found this question difficult and suggestions such as “Pharisees” and “Sadducees” were offered.
- (b) Again this question was not well answered and many made reference to Peter touching people.

Question 8

- (a)(b) There was clearly some confusion with the words of Jesus from the Cross. However, if candidates included the idea of receiving his spirit and the idea of forgiveness, then marks were awarded.

Question 9

- (a)(b) Both parts were well answered.

Question 10

- (a) Most candidates clearly knew the story though no marks were awarded if they just stated that Eutychus died since this was already given in part (b). What was required was the reference to falling from a window or a height.
- (b) Many candidates repeated the information given in the question and so did not gain a mark.

Section B

Question 11

- (a)(b)(c) This passage seemed well known and there were some good answers to all parts of the question. Some candidates missed out on full marks because of lack of detail in (b) and (c).

Question 12

- (a) This was well answered and most gave the correct answer.
- (b) Many candidates confused the day with Holy Communion or the Last Supper.
- (c) This was generally well answered, though a frequent wrong answer was “a small room”.

Question 13

- (a)(b)(c) The details were not well known and many candidates clearly guessed at the answer.

Question 14

- (a)(b) These were well answered with many candidates scoring full marks.
- (c) The detail was not well known and many candidates scored just one mark for referring to preaching.

Paper 2048/02
Paper 2 (Luke and Acts) Essay Questions

General comments

The examination saw a good range of marks though there were a significant number of very poor scripts that suggested a very limited study of the material. A number of candidates did not adhere to the rubric and answered more than five questions. This resulted in their answers being so brief that few marks could be awarded. There was equal selection for the fifth question from **Section A** and **Section B**. There were a pleasing number of good quality answers for part **(b)** of the questions, showing some good teaching in developing the AO2 understanding/discussion skill.

Comments on specific questions

Section A

Question 1

- (a) This was a popular question and generally well answered, reflecting a good knowledge of the text.
- (b) Candidates found this part more difficult and many were not aware of the significance of the age of 12 or the significance of the event for Jesus.

Question 2

- (a) There was some confusion with other miracle stories but generally the three parts were well answered and many candidates achieved a Level 4.
- (b) There were some good answers showing understanding; clearly many Centres had taught this well.

Question 3

- (a) Most candidates scored well on this question and only a few confused the parable with other incidents involving tax collectors.
- (b) Most made reference to "exalt" and "boasting" but few developed the discussion further.

Question 4

- (a) Some attempted this question but did not really know the details of the narrative. Others confused the account and wrote about the Good Samaritan.
- (b) The understanding and evaluation aspect was generally brief and often repeated the idea about the difficulty for the rich man to enter the Kingdom of God. There were some good answers but they were the exception rather than the rule.

Question 5

- (a) This was quite a demanding question in that a specific part of the narrative was required. As a result, many candidates wrote the entire account covering material additional to that required. There were also lots of accounts that conflated the gospel's narratives.
- (b) Most candidates did not go much beyond relating the narrative about the two criminals. Such an answer was awarded a maximum of Level 1.

Section B

Question 6

- (a) This was well answered and candidates had good knowledge of the details of the event.
- (b) This was a challenging question and some good attempts were made at identifying some differences.

Question 7

- (a) This was a popular question and well answered with most candidates scoring Level 3 or 4.
- (b) This produced some excellent discussions and showed good preparation by many Centres.

Question 8

- (a) Another popular question although the details were not so well known. There were three aspects to the question and candidates did not always address all three and so could not gain Level 4.
- (b) Most candidates merely recounted Saul's conversion without comment. In such instances, a Level 1 was the highest that could be awarded.

Question 9

- (a) This was not a popular question and few candidates opted for it. Those that did had varied success.
- (b) Few scored above a Level 1 or 2 for this part of the question.

Question 10

- (a) This attracted few responses. Clearly candidates were much more confident in narrating events or stories than collecting together material concerning a particular person.
- (b) This question produced vague and general answers such as "Apollos preached about Jesus". The question was two part in that it referred to "other Christian believers" and "assisting the church". This was intended to help the candidate but few picked up on the two areas.