

# RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Paper 2048/01

Luke and Acts (1.21:15) Short Answer Questions

## General comments

A good range of marks were achieved and there were some outstanding scripts that reflected good knowledge and understanding of the text. It should be noted that the questions demand an accurate knowledge of the actual text and it was clear that a number of candidates had this.

In **Section A** there was no noticeable difference between the quality of answers on Luke's Gospel compared with those on Acts of the Apostles. However, candidates had a better knowledge and understanding of Luke's Gospel than of Acts of the Apostles in **Section B**.

## Comments on specific questions

### **Section A**

#### **Question 1**

- (a) This was generally well answered and some variation in spelling was accepted.
- (b) The key words in the question – “according to Luke” –needed to be referred to by saying that Luke wanted Theophilus to be sure of the certainty of what he had been taught.

#### **Question 2**

- (a) This was generally well answered. The actual names (Simeon and Anna) were required rather
- and (b) than just reference to a righteous man or a prophetess.

#### **Question 3**

- (a) Most candidates answered this correctly.
- (b) Some candidates referred to miracles being performed. A good answer needed to say that Jesus told them to tell John.

#### **Question 4**

- (a) Almost every candidate referred to the Good Samaritan. The other most popular occasion used
- and (b) was the woman at the well. This occasion is only in John's Gospel and it is important that candidates only use Luke's Gospel.

#### **Question 5**

- (a) It is important that candidates know Luke's Gospel rather than drawing on general knowledge of all
- and (b) the gospels. As well as recalling the incident candidates needed to make reference to Judas being at the table. It is important not to confuse the incident, for example with Simon Peter and his denial of Jesus.

**Question 6**

- (a) Most candidates answered this correctly.
- (b) Most candidates referred to the man jumping and praising God. Answers should also include fact that the man went into the Temple courts.

**Question 7**

- (a) This was generally well answered. It was important not to confuse the incident with the healing of  
**and (b)** the centurion's servant or with the events surrounding Cornelius. The question required facts about Sergius Paulus rather than Elymas. The distinction between Paulus and Paul is important to know.

**Question 8**

- (a) Most candidates answered this correctly.
- (b) Again, most candidates answered this correctly.

**Question 9**

- (a) Most candidates answered this correctly. The most popular wrong answer was Jesus.
- (b) A variety of answers were acceptable that identified the place as in Damascus e.g. house of Judas.

**Question 10**

- (a) Most candidates correctly identified Artemis. The Roman goddess Diana was also credited.
- (b) Most candidates answered this correctly. The most popular wrong answers were Jerusalem and Damascus.

**Section B**

**Question 11**

- (a) Most candidates answered correctly. It was important not to reverse the answer claiming that Jesus turned bread into stones.
- (b) Most candidates correctly identified the quotation as being from Deuteronomy, with some actually being able to give the actual chapter and verse reference. It was important not to confuse it with Isaiah.
- (c) Candidates need to read the question carefully, this question was not about the occasion when Jesus was shown the Kingdoms of the world and tempted to worship the devil. Some candidates referred to Jesus throwing himself off the highest point of the Temple. The answer was worth two marks so more was required for the full marks to be awarded.
- (d) This was generally well answered. It is important to give answers to the correct questions, for example the answer to (c) could not be credited here.

**Question 12**

- (a) This question produced lots of paraphrasing. Candidates should note the marks being awarded as an indication of the length of answer required. Reference to just "house of prayer" is not sufficient for the full marks.
- (b) This question was not well answered. Candidates could have answered with any of the following: Chief priests; scribes; teachers of law; or leaders among the people.

- (c) This question was an instance of the episode being well-remembered by most candidates. It was important when paraphrasing the text everything is made clear, for example the Temple. Candidates were afraid of the people's possible reaction because "the people hung on Jesus' words".

**Question 13**

- (a) Again this question was generally well answered. To get all the marks candidates needed to refer to Son of Man not just Son of God or Jesus. Candidates need to read the question, reference to what Stephen prayed as he was being stoned was not appropriate.
- (b) This was generally well answered.

**Question 14**

- (a) A variety of names were given in answer to this question.
- (b) The correct answer for this question was Epicureans and Stoics. This question was the one that gained the least correct answers and was omitted most.
- (c) It was important here to understand that "Jesus" and "resurrection" sounded like the names of strange gods.

# RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Paper 2048/02

Luke and Acts (1-21:15) Essay Questions

## General comments

A good range of marks were achieved. Candidates need to read the instructions on papers, they do not need to answer all the questions on this paper.

As in previous years the questions on Luke's Gospel were generally better answered than those on Acts of the Apostles, with the majority of candidates selecting to answer their fifth question from **Section A**. There is some improvement in performance and a growing awareness of the demands of the assessment objective used in **part (b)** questions. The level descriptors make clear that Level 3 and 4 involve more than "a purely descriptive approach". There needs to be "a willingness to engage with and discuss the material".

## Comments on specific questions

### **Section A**

#### **Question 1**

- (a) This was generally well answered and quite a popular choice as a question. It is important to know about the difference between the Temple and synagogues, a few candidates referred to Jesus at the church. However the event was well recounted with lots of the detail included. It was important not to confuse this event with the incident in Luke 2 when Jesus was taken to the Temple as a baby.
- (b) Candidates need to note the focus of the question for discussion. In this question it was what could be learnt from THIS incident about Jesus' relationship with God and his parents. Material used from other parts of the gospel could not be credited.

#### **Question 2**

- (a) Another popular question. Again, the details seemed well known to candidates.
- (b) Again, the focus of the question was sometimes ignored. It was about the cost of discipleship rather than discipleship in general. Many candidates did allude to a number of relevant texts from Luke's Gospel. Making clear how those texts illustrated the cost aspect would have improved answers.

#### **Question 3**

- (a) This was not a popular question. Those who did attempt it were generally able to recount the details of the excuses and the two requests to bring uninvited guests to the banquet. To improve answers the words said at the end of the banquet could have been correctly quoted or paraphrased.
- (b) Many candidates limited universalism to just the poor. More able candidates took the wider understanding and included Gentiles as well as other rejected groups. It was important not to miss the point of the parable and suggest that the teaching was about inviting the poor rather than the rich, as the poor cannot repay you.

#### Question 4

- (a) This story seemed well known and was accurately retold. The statement about son of man and that the Son of Man had come to seek and to save what was lost would have impacted on many answers.
- (b) Some candidates had no difficulty linking salvation to the story of Zacchaeus, whilst others saw no such connection. Those who saw no connection either wrote in general terms about salvation or only answered part (a).

#### Question 5

- (a) To answer this question well, the text of Luke needed to be known and not an account made up from the other gospels.
- (b) Many answers stated that Jesus had predicted his resurrection before his death and that was why the disciples were convinced. A few discussed the physical evidence of Jesus' appearances and eating food. Still fewer referred to the Emmaus incident when their eyes were opened and they recognised him.

#### Section B

#### Question 6

- (a) A popular question that was generally well answered. The best answers included various aspects, especially the requirement by the apostle of being with them from John's baptism to the time when Jesus ascended.
- (b) Despite a wealth of material available to select from, many answers were restricted to discussion of preaching and healing.

#### Question 7

- (a) Another popular question and it was important to know which vision was being referred to. This was not Paul's conversion on the Damascus road. Those that did identify the correct visions generally gave full accounts showing a good knowledge of the text.
- (b) Some good answers that addressed both the meaning of the visions and what resulted from them.

#### Question 8

- (a) Only a few candidates attempted this question. It was important to know the content of the speech and not give vague statements about Jesus.
- (b) To answer this question more was needed than the basic point about the author having been present on some occasions.

#### Question 9

- (a) The contents of the letter were generally well known but less well answered were the reasons why the letter was sent.
- (b) There was a wealth of material to select from. Some answers were limited to stating that the Christians were persecuted because they had different teaching to the Jews.

#### Question 10

- (a) The focus of the question was the advice Paul gave to the Ephesian elders. A summary of all that Paul said was too general.
- (b) The role of elders is a specific topic in the syllabus. More was needed beyond the statement that the elders preached and took care of people.