



General Certificate of Secondary Education
January 2019

Religious Studies

Paper 4

**Christianity through a Study
of the Gospel of Matthew**

[GRS41]

MONDAY 21 JANUARY, MORNING

**MARK
SCHEME**

General Marking Instructions and Mark Grids

Introduction

Mark schemes are intended to ensure that the GCSE examination is marked consistently and fairly. The mark schemes provide markers with an indication of the nature and range of candidates' responses likely to be worthy of credit. They also set out the criteria that they should apply in allocating marks to candidates' responses. The mark schemes should be read in conjunction with these marking instructions.

Assessment objectives

Below are the assessment objectives for GCSE Religious Studies.

Candidates must:

- describe, explain and analyse, using knowledge and understanding (AO1); and
- use evidence and reasoned argument to express and evaluate personal responses, informed insights and differing viewpoints (AO2).

AO1 and AO2 are interrelated and connections must be made.

Quality of candidates' responses

In marking the examination papers, examiners should be looking for a quality response reflecting the level of maturity which may reasonably be expected of a 16-year-old which is the age at which the majority of candidates sit their GCSE examinations.

Flexibility in marking

Mark schemes are not intended to be totally prescriptive. No mark scheme can cover all the responses which candidates may produce. In the event of unanticipated answers, examiners are expected to use their professional judgement to assess the validity of answers. If an answer is particularly problematic, then examiners should seek the guidance of the Supervising Examiner.

Positive marking

Examiners must be positive in their marking, giving appropriate credit for description, explanation and analysis, using knowledge and understanding and for the appropriate use of evidence and reasoned argument to express and evaluate personal responses, informed insights and differing viewpoints. Examiners should make use of the whole of the available mark range of any particular question and be prepared to award full marks for a response which is as good as might reasonably be expected of a 16-year-old GCSE candidate.

Awarding zero marks

Marks should only be awarded for valid responses and no marks should be awarded for an answer which is completely incorrect or inappropriate.

Types of mark scheme

Mark schemes for questions which require candidates to respond in extended written form are marked on the basis of levels of response which take account of the quality of written communication.

Other questions which require only short answers are marked on a point for point basis with marks awarded for each valid piece of information provided.

Levels of response

Questions requiring candidates to respond in extended writing are marked in terms of levels of response. In deciding which level of response to award, examiners should look for the “best fit” bearing in mind that weakness in one area may be compensated for by strength in another. In deciding which mark within a particular level to award to any response, examiners are expected to use their professional judgement. The following guidance is provided to assist examiners.

- **Threshold performance:** Response which just merits inclusion in the level and should be awarded a mark at or near the bottom of the range.
- **Intermediate performance:** Response which clearly merits inclusion and should be awarded a mark at or near the middle of the range.
- **High performance:** Response which fully satisfies the level description and should be awarded a mark at or near the top of the range.

Quality of written communication

Quality of written communication is taken into account in assessing candidates’ responses to all tasks and questions that require them to respond in extended written form. These tasks and questions are marked on the basis of levels of response. The description for each level of response includes reference to the quality of written communication. Where the quality of content is not matched by the quality of written communication, marks awarded will not exceed maximum for Level 2.

For conciseness, quality of written communication is distinguished within levels of response as follows:

Level 1: Quality of written response is limited.

Level 2: Quality of written response is satisfactory.

Level 3: Quality of written response is of a high standard.

In interpreting these level descriptions, examiners should refer to the more detailed guidance provided below:

AO1: [5] marks

A [0] mark will be awarded if the answer is inappropriate.

Level 1 (Limited) ([1])

The candidate gives a basic answer with limited description, explanation and analysis using little knowledge and understanding. There is only a limited selection and use of an appropriate form and style of writing. The organisation of material may lack clarity and coherence. There is little use of specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar may be such that intended meaning is not clear.

Level 2 (Satisfactory) ([2]–[3])

The candidate gives a satisfactory answer with appropriate description, explanation and analysis using some knowledge and understanding. There is a reasonable selection and use of an appropriate form of style and writing. Relevant material is organised with some clarity and coherence. There is some use of appropriate specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently competent to make meaning clear.

Level 3 (High) ([4]–[5])

The candidate gives a competent answer with very good description, explanation and analysis using knowledge and understanding throughout. The candidate successfully selects and uses an appropriate form and style of writing. Relevant material is organised with a high degree of clarity and coherence. There is widespread use of appropriate specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar are of a consistently high standard to make meaning clear.

AO2: [5] marks

A [0] mark will be awarded if the answer is inappropriate.

Level 1 (Limited) ([1])

The candidate uses a basic selection of evidence and gives limited reasoned arguments to express and evaluate personal responses, informed insights and differing viewpoints. There is a limited selection and use of an appropriate form and style of writing. The organisation of material may lack clarity and coherence. There is little use of specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar may be such that intended meaning is not clear.

Level 2 (Satisfactory) ([2]–[3])

The candidate uses a satisfactory selection of evidence and gives good reasoned arguments to express and evaluate personal responses, informed insights and differing viewpoints. There is a reasonable selection and use of an appropriate form and style of writing. Relevant material is organised with some clarity and coherence. There is some use of appropriate specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently competent to make meaning clear.

Level 3 (High) ([4]–[5])

The candidate uses a very good selection of evidence and gives well formed and reasoned arguments to express and evaluate personal responses, informed insights and differing viewpoints. The candidate successfully selects and uses an appropriate form and style of writing. Relevant material is organised with a high degree of clarity and coherence. There is widespread use of appropriate specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar are of a consistently high standard to make meaning clear.

AO2: [10] marks

A [0] mark will be awarded if the answer is inappropriate.

Level 1 (Limited) ([1]–[3])

The candidate uses a basic selection of evidence and gives limited reasoned arguments to express and evaluate personal responses, informed insights and differing viewpoints. There is a limited selection and use of an appropriate form and style of writing. The organisation of material may lack clarity and coherence. There is little use of specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar may be such that intended meaning is not clear.

Level 2 (Satisfactory) ([4]–[7])

The candidate uses a satisfactory selection of evidence and gives good reasoned arguments to express and evaluate personal responses, informed insights and differing viewpoints. There is a reasonable selection and use of an appropriate form and style of writing. Relevant material is organised with some clarity and coherence. There is some use of appropriate specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar are sufficiently competent to make meaning clear.

Level 3 (High) ([8]–[10])

The candidate uses a very good selection of evidence and gives well formed and reasoned arguments to express and evaluate personal responses, informed insights and differing viewpoints. The candidate successfully selects and uses an appropriate form and style of writing. Relevant material is organised with a high degree of clarity and coherence. There is widespread use of appropriate specialist vocabulary. Presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammar are of a consistently high standard to make meaning clear.

Section A

**AVAILABLE
MARKS**

Answer **all** questions.

1 Parables

- (a) (i)** A simple story with a heavenly meaning.
A story or saying that uses an event from everyday life to explain something about the Kingdom of God.
Accept valid alternatives
(AO1) [1]
- (ii)** Parables are easy to understand and to remember.
It was the traditional way of teaching at the time of Jesus.
They are interesting and catch the hearers' attention.
Accept valid alternatives
(AO1) [1]
- (iii)** 1. Eaten by the birds (ch13 v 4)
2. Grew only for a short time until the sun came out and withered the plant as it had a shallow foundation (ch13 v 5-6)
3. It grew and was then choked by thorns (ch13 v 7)
(AO1) [3]
- (b)** Answers may include:
- That everyone is equal in God's kingdom.
 - The vineyard is thought to be God's kingdom and the owner is God.
 - It is God who is in control and he will decide who enters.
 - It also stresses that people can come to Christ at any stage in their lives.
 - God is the one who offers mercy and forgiveness.
 - All who decide to become a Christian will receive the same reward of eternal life regardless of when they made that decision.
 - In a sense God sets the rules for entry into his kingdom and people have to obey them even if they think they are unfair.
- Accept valid alternatives
Mark in levels
(AO1) [5]

(c) Answers may include:

- Many of the parables told by Jesus have never been forgotten. The message behind the parable is still relevant even though the cultural background is different.
- People still enjoy listening to stories especially if there is a personal aspect to it.
- Stories are retold and the message behind them is passed on.
- Parables can help explain a Christian belief in a non threatening way. The belief can be explained in terms that people can understand.
- Stories are contemporary and can be adapted to today's society.

On the other hand:

- There are other ways to explain Christian beliefs which can be more effective today.
- Christians live in a very visual society with multi media presentations. The use of powerpoint, internet, DVD materials and drama is very appealing to a younger generation.
- People today spend less time in conversation and listening and the power of stories has become less effective.
- Using stories can result in the story being remembered and the key belief being overlooked. Even Jesus had to explain some of his parables to his disciples.
- Stating the belief in black and white terms can just be as effective. Stories can blur the meaning.
- The best way is to use a variety of different strategies. Something different can make people sit up and take notice.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[5]

15

AVAILABLE
MARKS

2 The Transfiguration of Jesus

AVAILABLE
MARKS

- (a) (i) At the top of a high mountain (ch17 v1)
(AO1) [1]
- (ii) His face shone like the sun; his clothes were dazzling white (ch17 v2)
(AO1) [1]
- (iii) Moses, Elijah (ch17 v3)
(AO1) [1]
- (iv) Three tents, booths, tabernacles (ch17 v4)
(AO1) [1]
- (v) James, John (ch17 v1)
(AO1) [1]

(b) Answers may include:

- The disciples were eyewitnesses to the events in the life of Jesus.
- The quality of Jesus' life convinced others of the reality of God.
- It was an age in which the existence of God was taken for granted.

On the other hand:

- Fewer people today believe in God in a secular, scientific society.
- People today who did not witness the events of Jesus' life find it more difficult to believe.
- The problem of suffering and evil poses a challenge to belief in God.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2) [10]

15

3 Jesus' Entry into Jerusalem

AVAILABLE
MARKS

- (a) Candidates should select and describe the main features of Matthew ch 21v 5–11

⁵ “Tell the city of Zion,
Look, your king is coming to you!
He is humble and rides on a donkey
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”

⁶ So the disciples went and did what Jesus had told them to do: ⁷ they brought the donkey and the colt, threw their cloaks over them, and Jesus got on. ⁸ A large crowd of people spread their cloaks on the road while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ The crowds walking in front of Jesus and those walking behind began to shout, “Praise to David’s Son! God bless him who comes in the name of the Lord! Praise be to God!”

¹⁰ When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was thrown into an uproar. “Who is he?” the people asked.

¹¹ “This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth in Galilee,” the crowds answered.

Mark in levels
(AO1)

[5]

- (b) Answers may include:

- By riding on a donkey he was emphasising that he was not coming as a military and political leader to overthrow the occupying Roman forces.
- By fulfilling the Old Testament prophecy he showed he was coming in peace and that he was a different type of Messiah from what the Jewish people were expecting.
- He was descended from the great King David of the Old Testament.
- He was coming to save the nation in a spiritual rather than a political way.
- Some recognised him as a prophet through his teachings and miraculous acts.

Accept valid alternatives
Mark in levels
(AO1)

[5]

(c) Answers may include:

- He knew that at some stage in his life he would have to do this if he was to achieve God's will for his life.
- He knew the significance of what he was doing and how it would help reconcile humankind to God.
- He was fulfilling what the Old Testament prophets had stated.
- He realised the time had come to complete his ministry on earth.
- It was part of his role as Messiah.
- When he completed his mission God would be glorified.
- It was all part of God's plan to bring salvation.

On the other hand:

- It was difficult because he knew what lay ahead in that he faced suffering, crucifixion and death on a cross.
- He knew that his disciples had not grasped this and the coming events would be a traumatic and disturbing experience for them.
- He might be building up the peoples' expectation in the wrong way.
- Coming in such a way made it easier for the authorities for Jesus to be arrested by the Jewish authorities.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[5]

15

AVAILABLE
MARKS

4 Miracles

AVAILABLE
MARKS

(a) Candidates should select and describe the main features of Matthew 9 v 1–7

¹ Jesus got into the boat and went back across the lake to his own town,

² where some people brought to him a paralyzed man, lying on a bed.

When Jesus saw how much faith they had, he said to the paralyzed man, “Courage, my son! Your sins are forgiven.”

³ Then some teachers of the Law said to themselves, “This man is speaking blasphemy!”

⁴ Jesus perceived what they were thinking, and so he said, “Why are you thinking such evil things? ⁵ Is it easier to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up and walk’? ⁶ I will prove to you, then, that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.” So he said to the paralyzed man, “Get up, pick up your bed, and go home!”

⁷ The man got up and went home. ⁸ When the people saw it, they were afraid, and praised God for giving such authority to people.

Mark in levels
(AO1)

[5]

(b) Answers may include:

- Christians today believe that miracles are possible but they cannot be expected.
- Many people show they have faith by going to religious places in the hope of being healed.
- Christians offer prayers to God in the hope they will be healed.
- Some miracles which happen today cannot be explained by science.

On the other hand:

- Miracles do not happen in the 21st century, science can explain most miracles today.
- You do not need to have a lot of faith for miracles to happen because people have recovered from serious illness.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels
(AO2)

[10]

15

Section A

60

Section B

AVAILABLE
MARKS

Assessment of Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar

If the answer does not address the question then no SPaG marks are available. If the candidate has attempted to answer the question but produced nothing of credit, SPaG marks may still be awarded.

Threshold performance [1]

Candidates spell, punctuate and use the rules of grammar with reasonable accuracy in the context of the demands of the question. Any errors do not hinder meaning in the response. Where required, they use a limited range of specialist terms appropriately.

Intermediate performance [2]–[3]

Candidates spell, punctuate and use the rules of grammar with considerable accuracy and general control of meaning in the context of the demands of the question. Where required, they use a good range of specialist terms with facility.

High performance [4]–[5]

Candidates spell, punctuate and use the rules of grammar with consistent accuracy and effective control of meaning in the context of the demands of the question. Where required, they use a wide range of specialist terms adeptly and with precision.

5 The Sermon on the Mount

- (a) Candidates should select and describe relevant sections from Matthew ch 6 v 5–13

⁵ “When you pray, do not be like the hypocrites! They love to stand up and pray in the houses of worship and on the street corners, so that everyone will see them. I assure you, they have already been paid in full. ⁶ But when you pray, go to your room, close the door, and pray to your Father, who is unseen. And your Father, who sees what you do in private, will reward you. ⁷ “When you pray, do not use a lot of meaningless words, as the pagans do, who think that their gods will hear them because their prayers are long. ⁸ Do not be like them. Your Father already knows what you need before you ask him. ⁹ This, then, is how you should pray:
‘Our Father in heaven:
May your holy name be honored;
¹⁰ may your Kingdom come;
may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
¹¹ Give us today the food we need.^[a]
¹² Forgive us the wrongs we have done,
as we forgive the wrongs that others have done to us.
¹³ Do not bring us to hard testing,
but keep us safe from the Evil One.’

Mark in levels
(AO1)

[5]

(b) Answers may include:

- This prayer contains key aspects of what makes a good prayer.
- It recognises who God is and that Christians are praying to a father figure who is holy and special. In this way they are showing their adoration to God and this is the best way to commence a prayer.
- Christians are recognising that God has an overall purpose for the world and for their lives.
- It recognises that God supplies their needs and that they can make requests to God. These can be prayers of intercession or petition.
- The prayer highlights the need for seeking forgiveness because all Christians let God down through their sinful actions.
- It is very important that Christians show forgiveness to other people
- Christians live in a dangerous and evil world in which there are many temptations and they need to pray for God's protection and support to combat these.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO1)

[5]

(c) Answers may include:

- The Sermon on the Mount covers matters that people still have to encounter today. It deals with anger, revenge and loving your enemies.
- It tackles spiritual issues in relation to religious observances. These include giving to charity, fasting and praying.
- The Sermon on the Mount gives clear guidance on how Christians should behave and it presents some very challenging and thought provoking ideas.
- It stresses the need for reconciliation and forgiveness as a way to create harmony in society.
- It encourages that prompt action be taken rather than letting the issue fester and create even more harm.
- Religion is mainly a private thing and not to be used as an opportunity to create personal glorification.
- The section on moral behaviour encourages that people aim for perfection in their lives and this challenge and goal is a good thing.
- Candidates could evaluate some of the individual topics which Jesus covers in his address.

On the other hand:

- The context of some of Jesus' advice is very different from those of his day and some people may find it difficult to understand what he is saying.
- Fasting is no longer a religious discipline in the lives of Christians today.
- The demands of Jesus are not realistic for the secular and materialistic society of today.
- People would be taken advantage of others and would make unrealistic demands on them.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[10]

20

6 The Nature of Christian Discipleship

AVAILABLE
MARKS

- (a) Candidates should select and describe relevant sections from Matthew 19 v16–26

¹⁶ Once a man came to Jesus. “Teacher,” he asked, “what good thing must I do to receive eternal life?”

¹⁷ “Why do you ask me concerning what is good?” answered Jesus. “There is only One who is good. Keep the commandments if you want to enter life.”

¹⁸ “What commandments?” he asked.

Jesus answered, “Do not commit murder; do not commit adultery; do not steal; do not accuse anyone falsely; ¹⁹ respect your father and your mother; and love your neighbor as you love yourself.”

²⁰ “I have obeyed all these commandments,” the young man replied. “What else do I need to do?”

²¹ Jesus said to him, “If you want to be perfect, go and sell all you have and give the money to the poor, and you will have riches in heaven; then come and follow me.”

²² When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he was very rich.

²³ Jesus then said to his disciples, “I assure you: it will be very hard for rich people to enter the Kingdom of heaven. ²⁴ I repeat: it is much harder for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of God than for a camel to go through the eye of a needle.”

²⁵ When the disciples heard this, they were completely amazed. “Who, then, can be saved?” they asked.

²⁶ Jesus looked straight at them and answered, “This is impossible for human beings, but for God everything is possible.”

Mark in levels
(AO1)

[5]

- (b) Answers may include:

- They had to make sacrifices by leaving their family, friends, homes and jobs.
- They were putting their lives in danger and faced the possibility of being persecuted.
- Jesus was put under pressure by the religious authorities and as his followers they could expect the same treatment.
- They found it difficult at times to understand the teachings of Jesus.
- They had to mix with men who had different social and religious backgrounds. Among the Twelve was a tax collector and tax collectors were despised by many.

Mark in levels
(AO1)

[5]

(c) Answers may include:

- There are many Christians who have been prepared to make huge sacrifices and put their lives at risk for the Christian faith.
- Jesus said that to follow him means being prepared to suffer and to face hardships. Christians live in a world of constant suffering and hardship.
- Priests and ministers see their work as vocation and an opportunity to serve God. That has to take priority over everything else.
- Christians openly show mercy and forgiveness to one another.
- Christians today do not face the same hardships as the Early Church.
- Serving God will bring spiritual rewards at a later date.

On the other hand:

- Society today has caused changes in the attitudes of people. Most people like to know what they will get in return for giving up their time and resources.
- Jesus' teaching on the cost of discipleship is hard to apply in a money driven and possession based world.
- Secular society has caused people to become very self-centred and less religious.
- Some people believe that discipleship will only lead to isolation, discrimination, persecution and even death.
- Christians today can be more cynical and are not willing to devote time and energy to something they doubt or something which they find too challenging.
- Christians can devote their life to Jesus without giving up everything. Ministers spend time with family and own possessions.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[10]

20

AVAILABLE
MARKS

7 The Crucifixion and the Resurrection of Jesus

AVAILABLE
MARKS

- (a) Candidates should select and describe relevant sections from Matthew 28: v1–9

¹ After the Sabbath, as Sunday morning was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. ² Suddenly there was a violent earthquake; an angel of the Lord came down from heaven, rolled the stone away, and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. ⁴ The guards were so afraid that they trembled and became like dead men.

⁵ The angel spoke to the women. “You must not be afraid,” he said. “I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here; he has been raised, just as he said. Come here and see the place where he was lying.

⁷ Go quickly now, and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from death, and now he is going to Galilee ahead of you; there you will see him!’ Remember what I have told you.”

⁸ So they left the tomb in a hurry, afraid and yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples.

⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Peace be with you.” They came up to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him.

Mark in levels
(AO1)

[5]

- (b) Answers may include:

- They saw Jesus as a threat. As Jesus’ popularity increased, so that of the religious leaders decreased.
- Jesus was critical of some of the religious activities of the Pharisees and the Sadducees. He criticised their attitudes to prayer, fasting and alms giving.
- Jesus claimed to be the Messiah and the Son of God. The religious leaders claimed that he was a blasphemer.
- Jesus showed disregard for some of the Jewish laws when it came to Sabbath day regulations or issues to do with mixing with Gentiles and so called unclean members of society.
- Huge crowds were gathering to hear Jesus preach and the religious leaders wanted to put an end to this.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels
(AO1)

[5]

(c) Answers may include:

- In the resurrection Jesus overcame the power of death and sin.
- It gives Christians hope of a future resurrection and eternal life.
- The resurrection is the focal point of the Christian faith.
- It proved that Jesus was the Son of God and that he had fulfilled the prophecies he had made.
- God had achieved the greatest miracle by raising Jesus from the dead.
- Both the resurrection and the death of Jesus are of equal importance. Both were essential elements in God's plan for humankind.

On the other hand:

- Jesus' crucifixion and death were the perfect sacrifice for the sins of humankind. Other types of sacrifices were no longer needed.
- Through his death Jesus was opening the way to salvation. He was taking the punishment for the sins of the world.
- Through his death Jesus had opened the way for man to be reconciled to God.
- Without the death of Jesus there could have been no resurrection.
- Jesus had fulfilled God's plan for his life.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[10]

Section B

SPaG

Total

**AVAILABLE
MARKS**

20

40

5

105