
GCSE

RELIGIOUS STUDIES A

Paper 2A Thematic Studies

Thursday 16 May 2024 Afternoon Time allowed: 1 hour 45 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The examining body for this paper is AQA. The **paper reference** is 8062/2A.
- Do all rough work in the answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.
- Choose **four** themes.
- Answer **all** questions on the four themes you have chosen.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 96 plus 3 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- Spelling, punctuation and grammar (**SPaG**) will be assessed in the 12-mark question. The marks for **SPaG** are shown below the mark allocation for each question. The best of these marks will be included in your total for the paper.

Advice

You are advised to spend 25 minutes on each theme.

You should answer **all** questions from **four** themes.

0 1

Theme A: Relationships and families

0 1 . 1

The family unit is important to many religious people.

Which **one** of the following describes an extended family?

[1 mark]

- A** A couple living without children
- B** A person living with their pets
- C** Children living with parents
- D** Parents living with children and grandparents

0 1 . 2

Give **two** religious beliefs about human sexuality.

[2 marks]

0 1 . 3

Explain **two** contrasting religious beliefs about polygamy.

In your answer you must refer to one or more religious traditions.

[4 marks]

0 1 . 4

Explain **two** religious beliefs about gender discrimination.

Refer to sacred writings or another source of religious belief and teaching in your answer.

[5 marks]

0 1 . 5

‘Marriage is **not** important in today’s world.’

Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you:

- should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement
- should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
- should refer to religious arguments
- may refer to non-religious arguments
- should reach a justified conclusion.

[12 marks]

[Plus SPaG 3 marks]

0 2**Theme B: Religion and life****0 2 . 1**

Which **one** of the following is a term used to express the belief that human life is sacred and special?

[1 mark]

- A** Meaning of life
- B** Purpose of life
- C** Quality of life
- D** Sanctity of life

0 2 . 2

Give **two** reasons why some religious believers support animal experimentation.

[2 marks]**0 2 . 3**

Explain **two** contrasting religious beliefs about the origins of human life.

In your answer you must refer to one or more religious traditions.

[4 marks]**0 2 . 4**

Explain **two** reasons why religious believers should help to reduce pollution.

Refer to sacred writings or another source of religious belief and teaching in your answer.

[5 marks]**0 2 . 5**

'Religious believers should be against abortion.'

Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you:

- should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement
- should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
- should refer to religious arguments
- may refer to non-religious arguments
- should reach a justified conclusion.

[12 marks]**[Plus SPaG 3 marks]**

Turn over ►

0 3**Theme C: The existence of God and revelation****0 3 . 1**Which **one** of the following is **not** an example of General Revelation?**[1 mark]**

- A** Being told about God by other people
- B** Feeling a sense of awe when seeing a beautiful sunset
- C** Learning about a miraculous event
- D** Seeing a vision of God

0 3 . 2Give **two** reasons why many religious believers think that God is impersonal.**[2 marks]****0 3 . 3**Explain **two** similar reasons why enlightenment is important for religious believers.

In your answer you must refer to one or more religious traditions.

[4 marks]**0 3 . 4**Explain **two** religious beliefs about scripture (holy books) as a source of revelation about the divine (God).

Refer to sacred writings or another source of religious belief and teaching in your answer.

[5 marks]**0 3 . 5**'The Design argument does **not** prove that God exists.'

Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you:

- should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement
- should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
- should refer to religious arguments
- may refer to non-religious arguments
- should reach a justified conclusion.

[12 marks]**[Plus SPaG 3 marks]**

0 4**Theme D: Religion, peace and conflict****0 4 . 1**

Which **one** of the following terms may be used to describe the belief that all violence is wrong?

[1 mark]**A Deterrence****B Justice****C Pacifism****D Terrorism****0 4 . 2**

Give **two** ways in which religious believers might act as peacemakers.

[2 marks]**0 4 . 3**

Explain **two** contrasting religious beliefs about countries having a nuclear deterrent.

In your answer you must refer to one or more religious traditions.

[4 marks]**0 4 . 4**

Explain **two** religious beliefs that encourage people to help victims of war.

Refer to sacred writings or another source of religious belief and teaching in your answer.

[5 marks]**0 4 . 5**

'Self-defence is the only good reason for going to war.'

Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you:

- should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement
- should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
- should refer to religious arguments
- may refer to non-religious arguments
- should reach a justified conclusion.

[12 marks]**[Plus SPaG 3 marks]****Turn over ►**

0 5**Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment****0 5 . 1**

Which **one** of the following is a term given to a crime that involves violent actions against someone because of their race or religion?

[1 mark]

- A** Drug crime
- B** Financial crime
- C** Hate crime
- D** Property crime

0 5 . 2

Give **two** reasons why religious people might oppose an unjust law.

[2 marks]**0 5 . 3**

Explain **two** contrasting religious views about sending criminals to prison.

In your answer you must refer to one or more religious traditions.

[4 marks]**0 5 . 4**

Explain **two** religious views about theft (stealing).

Refer to sacred writings or another source of religious belief and teaching in your answer.

[5 marks]**0 5 . 5**

'Religious believers should never support the use of the death penalty.'

Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you:

- should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement
- should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
- should refer to religious arguments
- may refer to non-religious arguments
- should reach a justified conclusion.

[12 marks]**[Plus SPaG 3 marks]**

0 6**Theme F: Religion, human rights and social justice****0 6 . 1**Which **one** of the following best describes the meaning of prejudice?**[1 mark]**

- A** An action that treats someone unfairly
- B** Judging someone without knowing them
- C** Telling lies about someone
- D** Using violence against someone

0 6 . 2Give **two** ways in which religious believers work for social justice.**[2 marks]****0 6 . 3**Explain **two** similar religious beliefs about racial prejudice.

In your answer you must refer to one or more religious traditions.

[4 marks]**0 6 . 4**Explain **two** religious beliefs about attitudes to wealth.

Refer to sacred writings or another source of religious belief and teaching in your answer.

[5 marks]**0 6 . 5**

'The right to follow a religion is the most important human right.'

Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you:

- should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement
- should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
- should refer to religious arguments
- may refer to non-religious arguments
- should reach a justified conclusion.

[12 marks]**[Plus SPaG 3 marks]****END OF QUESTIONS**

There are no questions printed on this page

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