



*Rewarding Learning*

**General Certificate of Secondary Education  
2025**

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## **Religious Studies**

**Paper 5**

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

**[GRE51]**

**WEDNESDAY 21 MAY, AFTERNOON**

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# **MARK SCHEME**

## **General Marking Instructions**

### ***Introduction***

Mark schemes are intended to ensure that the GCSE examinations are 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 which they should apply in allocating marks to candidates' responses.

### ***Assessment objectives***

Below are the assessment objectives for Religious Studies.

#### **Candidates must:**

- AO1** demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religion, including beliefs, practices and sources of authority; and
- AO2** analyse and evaluate aspects of religion and belief, including their significance and influence.

### ***Quality of candidates' responses***

In marking the examination papers, examiners should be looking for a quality of 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 are encouraged to be positive in their marking, giving appropriate credit for what candidates know, understand and can do rather than penalising candidates for errors or omissions. Examiners should make use of the whole of the available mark range for 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 schemes***

Mark schemes for tasks or 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**

Tasks and 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 in the level 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.

AO1 (5 mark responses):

**Level 1:** The candidate presents something relevant or worthy of credit; elementary knowledge and understanding.

**Level 2:** The candidate presents a clear knowledge and understanding with some development.

**Level 3:** The candidate presents a detailed answer showing very good development.

AO2 (5 mark responses):

**Level 1:** The candidate presents opinion supported by one simple reason.

**Level 2:** The candidate presents opinion supported by two simple reasons or one developed reason.

**Level 3:** The candidate presents a well-argued response with evidence of informed insights.

### **Quality of written communication**

Quality of written communication is assessed in the extended writing questions worth 10 marks in Section B of each examination paper. These 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.

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

Level 1: Quality of written communication is basic.

Level 2: Quality of written communication is limited.

Level 3: Quality of written communication is good.

Level 4: Quality of written communication is very good.

Level 5: Quality of written communication is excellent.

In interpreting these level descriptions, examiners should refer to the more detailed guidance which is provided on the next page:

AO2 (10 mark responses):

**Level 1 (Basic):** The candidate presents some information in a simple form. **Basic arguments** are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses and informed insights. Inaccurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar; inappropriate style of writing with no coherent structure. Basic use of specialist vocabulary.

**Level 2 (Limited):** The candidate presents one or two relevant points. **Limited arguments** are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses and informed insights, some accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar; style of writing just appropriate with limited coherent structure. Limited use of specialist vocabulary.

**Level 3 (Good):** A Level 3 response could be one-sided. One developed reason and one with slight development would reach this level. There must be relevance to religion, but this could be slight/general. **Good reasoned arguments** are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses and informed insights. Mainly accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar; a reasonably mature style of writing and some coherent structure evident. Good use of specialist vocabulary.

**Level 4 (Very good):** Different points of view must be considered, but the consideration does not need to be balanced i.e. one view could be much briefer than the other. **Well-formed and reasoned arguments** are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses and informed insights, accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar; a mature style of writing with a mainly coherent structure. Very good use of specialist vocabulary.

**Level 5 (Excellent):** The difference between Level 4 and Level 5 is the quality of the argument and the coherence of the response. There needs to be more than a passing reference to religion. However, the points of view may not be completely balanced, and a non-religious counter-argument is still acceptable. **Very well-formed and reasoned arguments** are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses and informed insights, highly accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar; a sophisticated style of writing set within a coherent structure. Excellent use of specialist vocabulary.

## Section A

AVAILABLE  
MARKS

Candidates must answer **all** questions in this section.

### 1 Jesus the miracle worker

(a) (i) **Whose mother-in-law did Jesus heal?**

- Simon Peter's (Mark 1:30)  
(AO1)

[1]

(ii) **Name *one* miracle that happened on the Sabbath day.**

- A man with an evil spirit (Mark 1:21)
- The man with a paralysed hand (Mark 3:1)

Accept valid alternatives

(AO1)

[1]

(iii) **Who brought the paralysed man to Jesus?**

- His four friends
- Four men (Mark 2:3)

(AO1)

[1]

(iv) **How old was Jairus' daughter when she was healed?**

- 12 years old (Mark 5:42)

(AO1)

[1]

(v) **In the story of Jairus' daughter, what is the meaning of the words "Talitha koum"?**

- Little girl, I tell you to get up. (Mark 5: 41)

Accept valid alternatives

(AO1)

[1]

**(b) Explain the significance of the healing of the boy with an evil spirit.**

**AVAILABLE  
MARKS**

**Target: Knowledge and understanding of the significance of Jesus healing the boy with an evil spirit.**

Levels	Criteria	Comments	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.		0
Level 1	Something relevant or worthy of credit; elementary knowledge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• One relevant and accurate point.</li></ul>	1
Level 2	A clear knowledge and understanding with some development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Two relevant and accurate points.</li><li>• Two or more relevant and accurate points with one developed.</li><li>• A single point that is exceptionally well-developed may reach this level.</li></ul>	2–3
Level 3	A detailed answer showing very good development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Two or three relevant and accurate points with development.</li><li>• Level 3 answers will be well-structured with good development.</li></ul>	4–5

Answers may include:

- Jesus was exasperated at the disciples' lack of faith and belief. He made it clear that "everything is possible for the one who believes". This emphasises the importance of faith in the healing process.
- Jesus healed the boy, demonstrating his incredible power over evil.
- The story highlights the human struggle of doubt. The father responds to Jesus "I do have faith, but not enough. Help me to have more!" Jesus responds with compassion. This reminds Christians that faith is not always absolute and unwavering. It is a journey that involves moments of doubt, however it can be overcome by the power of God's grace and assistance.
- Jesus was willing to respond to people's needs even when their faith is imperfect.
- Jesus highlighted that prayer is needed to strengthen one's faith.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO1)

[5]

(c) “Mark’s Gospel shows that faith is always necessary for miracles to happen.”

Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer.

Target: Evaluation of the relationship between faith and healing.

Levels	Criteria	Comments	Marks
0	Unsupported opinion or no relevant evaluation.		0
Level 1	Opinion supported by one simple reason.	The candidate presents some relevant information.	1
Level 2	Opinion supported by two simple reasons or one developed reason.	Reasoned arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses.	2–3
Level 3	A well-argued response with evidence of informed insights.	Well-formed and reasoned arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses.	4–5

Answers may include:

- The man with a dreaded skin disease had great faith in Jesus and knew Jesus had the power to help him: “If you are willing, you can make me clean.” (Mark 1:40) Jesus was filled with pity and rewarded the man’s faith by healing him.
- Seeing the faith of the men who brought their friend to Jesus, Jesus said to the paralysed man “Son, your sins are forgiven.” (Mark 2:5) Faith was necessary for this miracle to happen.
- Jairus had faith that Jesus had the power to help his daughter. On the way to Jairus’ house, they received the message that the girl has died yet Jesus encouraged Jairus to keep faith: “Don’t be afraid; just believe.” (Mark 5:36)

On the other hand:

- Some miracles don’t have any reference to faith. Some miracles show Jesus overpowering evil spirits. At Capernaum on the Sabbath, Jesus was confronted by a man with an evil spirit. Jesus commanded the impure spirit to leave the man and it did so immediately – faith wasn’t necessary for this miracle. (Mark 1:21–28)
- In the Calming of the Storm (Mark 4:35–41), Jesus performed the miracle even though the disciples lacked faith that he would protect them from danger.
- Other miracles that don’t show the importance of faith but make a point that people are more important than sabbath laws. When Jesus healed the man with a paralysed hand (Mark 3:1–6), faith in Jesus wasn’t necessary for the man to be healed but Jesus healed him to indicate that the Sabbath should be used to do good and to save a life.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[5]

AVAILABLE  
MARKS

15

**2 The role and nature of Christian discipleship**

**AVAILABLE  
MARKS**

**(a) (i) When Jesus sent out the twelve, what did he give them authority over?**

- The evil spirits
- Demons (Mark 6:7)

(AO1)

[1]

**(ii) List two things they were not allowed to take on their journey.**

- No bread
- No bag
- No money
- No extra shirt (Mark 6: 8–9)

(AO1)

[2]

**(iii) Give two other instructions the disciples were given on this occasion.**

- When they entered a house, stay until they leave
- If they were not welcome, leave and shake the dust off their feet
- Preach
- Heal the sick (Mark 6:10-13)

Accept valid alternatives

(AO1)

[2]

**(b) Do you think the challenges faced by Christians today are greater than those faced by the first disciples? Give reasons for your answer.**

**AVAILABLE  
MARKS**

**Target: Analysis of the challenges of discipleship.**

Levels	Criteria	Comments	Marks
0	Unsupported opinion or no relevant evaluation.		0
Level 1	Opinion supported by one simple reason.	The candidate presents some relevant information.	1
Level 2	Opinion supported by two simple reasons or one developed reason.	Reasoned arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses.	2–3
Level 3	A well-argued response with evidence of informed insights.	Well-formed and reasoned arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses.	4–5

Answers may include:

- In today's world, Christians are faced with modern pressures for example atheism, secularism, and modern relativism which the first disciples did not encounter. These pressures make it difficult to maintain and practise one's faith.
- Today's materialistic world has led to more distractions thus making it challenging to fulfil the role of a disciple.
- Many Christians today in various parts of the world still face severe persecution, including violence and discrimination, simply for their religious beliefs. This level of persecution may be seen as more intense than what the first disciples encountered.
- The digital age has brought an abundance of information and competing world views. Christians today must navigate through information including misinformation and anti-religious content which can be spiritually challenging.

On the other hand:

- The first disciples faced physical persecution, imprisonment and martyrdom for their faith which is considered greater than the persecution faced by modern Christians.
- The first disciples were sent out to spread the gospel to the ends of the earth, often in hostile environments. Although challenges still exist today it does not compare to the task of the first disciples defending and spreading the faith on limited resources.
- In many countries today, Christians have religious freedom to practise their faith without fear of persecution which was not the case for the first disciples. This religious freedom can be seen as an advantage for modern Christians.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[5]

- (c) **“Wealth and money should not be important to a Christian.”**  
**Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer.**

**AVAILABLE  
MARKS**

**Target: Evaluation of the place of wealth and money in the life of a Christian.**

<b>Levels</b>	<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Marks</b>
0	Unsupported opinion or no relevant evaluation.		0
Level 1	Opinion supported by one simple reason.	The candidate presents some relevant information.	1
Level 2	Opinion supported by two simple reasons or one developed reason.	Reasoned arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses.	2–3
Level 3	A well-argued response with evidence of informed insights.	Well-formed and reasoned arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses.	4–5

Answers may include:

- Jesus taught that his followers should give up their possessions and give the money to the poor. (Mark 10:21) He also said that it would be difficult for rich people to enter the Kingdom of God. (Mark 10:23)
- Trust in God should be the most important part of being a follower of Jesus. In the story about the Widow’s Offering (Mark 12:41–44), Jesus praised the widow for giving up all she had to live on.
- Many believe that having wealth and money can lead to unchristian characteristics such as greed and selfishness.

On the other hand:

- Money and wealth can be used to help people and to do good by serving others. Money is only bad if people make it the most important part of their life.
- Being wealthy doesn’t make someone a bad Christian – they can still show love of God and neighbour through how they live their lives.
- People need money to survive and to afford the rising costs for daily living.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[5]

15

### 3 The teaching of Jesus

(a) Retell the rest of this story.

**Target: Knowledge of the Greatest Commandment. (Mark 12:28–34)**

Levels	Criteria	Comments	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.		0
Level 1	Something relevant or worthy of credit; elementary knowledge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One relevant and accurate point.</li> </ul>	1
Level 2	A clear knowledge and understanding with some development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two relevant and accurate points.</li> <li>Two or more relevant and accurate points with one developed.</li> <li>A single point that is exceptionally well-developed may reach this level.</li> </ul>	2–3
Level 3	A detailed answer showing very good development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two or three relevant and accurate points with development.</li> <li>Level 3 answers will be well-structured with good development.</li> </ul>	4–5

Mark 12:29–34		
GNB	NIV	RSV
<p><sup>29</sup> Jesus replied, “The most important one is this: ‘Listen, Israel! The Lord our God is the only Lord. <sup>30</sup> Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ <sup>31</sup> The second most important commandment is this: ‘Love your neighbour as you love yourself.’ There is no other commandment more important than these two.”</p> <p><sup>32</sup> The teacher of the Law said to Jesus, “Well done, Teacher! It is true, as you say, that only the Lord is God and that there is no other god but him.”</p>	<p><sup>29</sup> “The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. <sup>30</sup> Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ <sup>31</sup> The second is this: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.”</p> <p><sup>32</sup> “Well said, teacher,” the man replied. “You are right in saying that God is one and there is no other but him.”</p>	<p><sup>29</sup> Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one; <sup>30</sup> and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ <sup>31</sup> The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”</p> <p><sup>32</sup> And the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that he is one, and there is no other but he;</p>

AVAILABLE  
MARKS

<p><sup>33</sup> And you must love God with all your heart and with all your mind and with all your strength; and you must love your neighbour as you love yourself. It is more important to obey these two commandments than to offer on the altar animals and other sacrifices to God.”</p> <p><sup>34</sup> Jesus noticed how wise his answer was, and so he told him, “You are not far from the Kingdom of God.” After this nobody dared to ask Jesus any more questions.</p>	<p><sup>33</sup> To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.”</p> <p><sup>34</sup> When Jesus saw that he had answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” And from then on no one dared ask him any more questions.</p>	<p><sup>33</sup> and to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength, and to love one’s neighbour as oneself, is much more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.”</p> <p><sup>34</sup> And when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” And after that no one dared to ask him any question.</p>
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AVAILABLE MARKS

Mark in levels  
(AO1)

[5]

**(b) Explain why Jesus used parables in his teaching.**

**AVAILABLE  
MARKS**

**Target: Knowledge and understanding of the use of parables in the ministry of Jesus.**

Levels	Criteria	Comments	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.		0
Level 1	Something relevant or worthy of credit; elementary knowledge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• One relevant and accurate point.</li></ul>	1
Level 2	A clear knowledge and understanding with some development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Two relevant and accurate points.</li><li>• Two or more relevant and accurate points with one developed.</li><li>• A single point that is exceptionally well-developed may reach this level.</li></ul>	2–3
Level 3	A detailed answer showing very good development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Two or three relevant and accurate points with development.</li><li>• Level 3 answers will be well-structured with good development.</li></ul>	4–5

Answers may include:

- Parables are simple and relatable stories drawn from everyday life. They were easy to understand and easy to remember and were used by many teachers or rabbis at that time.
- The parables were captivating and thought provoking. When Jesus began to teach using parables, large crowds drew near him. It allowed people to reflect on their own lives and actions.
- Parables were inclusive in nature, for example the Parable of the Mustard Seed. They could be understood by people of various backgrounds, by using parables Jesus was ensuring that his message was accessible to all.
- The parables often left the listeners with a decision to make. They forced people to respond to the teachings either with belief and obedience or with resistance and rejection, e.g. the Parable of the Sower.
- Jesus used parables to teach about the nature of the Kingdom of God.
- Jesus used everyday situations in his parables which made them easy for people to relate to.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO1)

[5]

(c) “Jesus’ parables contain many important lessons for Christians today.”  
Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer.

AVAILABLE  
MARKS

**Target: Evaluation of the importance of Jesus’ parables for Christians today.**

Levels	Criteria	Comments	Marks
0	Unsupported opinion or no relevant evaluation.		0
Level 1	Opinion supported by one simple reason.	The candidate presents some relevant information.	1
Level 2	Opinion supported by two simple reasons or one developed reason.	Reasoned arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses.	2–3
Level 3	A well-argued response with evidence of informed insights.	Well-formed and reasoned arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses.	4–5

Answers may include:

- The message from many of the parables can be related to situations today. For example, the Parable of the Lamp can encourage everyone to stand out from the crowd, to be an example and not to hide their faith away.
- The message from the Parable of the Mustard Seed is that the Kingdom of God will include all nations. This parable continues to give hope and comfort to people from all walks of life.
- The Parable of the Sower explains how there are different responses to the Good News and the importance of having a strong faith despite the challenges that people face.

On the other hand:

- Jesus based the parables on the lives of people 2000 years ago. Many of Jesus’ parables are based on farming which only a minority of today’s population can identify with.
- The Jews of Jesus’ day were familiar with that style of teaching. Today’s society is not. Even the disciples didn’t always understand Jesus’ parables, so it is unlikely that people would understand their lessons today.
- The lessons of the parables are no longer relevant today. We live in an increasingly secular society and religious teaching in general has less relevance in society.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[5]

15

#### 4 The death and resurrection of Jesus

AVAILABLE  
MARKS

(a) Describe what happened at the burial of Jesus.

**Target: Knowledge of the burial of Jesus. (Mark 15:42–47)**

Levels	Criteria	Comments	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.		0
Level 1	Something relevant or worthy of credit; elementary knowledge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One relevant and accurate point.</li> </ul>	1
Level 2	A clear knowledge and understanding with some development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two relevant and accurate points.</li> <li>Two or more relevant and accurate points with one developed.</li> <li>A single point that is exceptionally well-developed may reach this level.</li> </ul>	2–3
Level 3	A detailed answer showing very good development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two or three relevant and accurate points with development.</li> <li>Level 3 answers will be well-structured with good development.</li> </ul>	4–5

#### Mark 15:42–47

GNB	NIV	RSV
<p><sup>42–43</sup> It was toward evening when Joseph of Arimathea arrived. He was a respected member of the Council, who was waiting for the coming of the Kingdom of God. It was Preparation Day (that is, the day before the Sabbath), so Joseph went boldly into the presence of Pilate and asked him for the body of Jesus.</p> <p><sup>44</sup> Pilate was surprised to hear that Jesus was already dead. He called the army officer and asked him if Jesus had been dead a long time.</p> <p><sup>45</sup> After hearing the officer's report, Pilate told Joseph he could have the body.</p>	<p><sup>42</sup> It was Preparation Day (that is, the day before the Sabbath). So as evening approached, <sup>43</sup> Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent member of the Council, who was himself waiting for the Kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body.</p> <p><sup>44</sup> Pilate was surprised to hear that he was already dead. Summoning the centurion, he asked him if Jesus had already died.</p> <p><sup>45</sup> When he learned from the centurion that it was so, he gave the body to Joseph.</p>	<p><sup>42</sup> And when evening had come, since it was the Day of Preparation, that is, the day before the Sabbath, <sup>43</sup> Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the Kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus.</p> <p><sup>44</sup> And Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. <sup>45</sup> And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph.</p>

<p><sup>46</sup> Joseph bought a linen sheet, took the body down, wrapped it in the sheet, and placed it in a tomb which had been dug out of solid rock. Then he rolled a large stone across the entrance to the tomb. <sup>47</sup> Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph were watching and saw where the body of Jesus was placed.</p>	<p><sup>46</sup> So Joseph bought some linen cloth, took down the body, wrapped it in the linen, and placed it in a tomb cut out of rock. Then he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. <sup>47</sup> Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph saw where he was laid.</p>	<p><sup>46</sup> And he bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. <sup>47</sup> Mary Mag'dalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where he was laid.</p>
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Mark in levels  
(AO1)

[5]

AVAILABLE MARKS

**(b) Do you think it is difficult for people to believe in Jesus' resurrection? Give reasons for your answer.**

**Target: Analysis of whether it is difficult for people today to believe in Jesus' resurrection.**

**AVAILABLE  
MARKS**

Levels	Criteria	Comments	Marks
0	Unsupported opinion or no relevant evaluation.		0
Level 1	Opinion supported by one simple reason.	The candidate presents some relevant information.	1
Level 2	Opinion supported by two simple reasons or one developed reason.	Reasoned arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses.	2–3
Level 3	A well-argued response with evidence of informed insights.	Well-formed and reasoned arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses.	4–5

Answers may include:

- In a modern society with advances in science, some may consider the resurrection of Jesus to be a supernatural event which is not supported by scientific evidence.
- People question the accounts of the resurrection in the Bible and argue that the body was stolen by the disciples who then made up the story of the resurrection.
- Some may question the historical accuracy of Mark's account as it was recorded 30 years after the event.
- Many people today cannot accept that God can do the impossible. Some people make the point that Jesus did die but the disciples hallucinated because they wanted to believe that Jesus had risen.
- In a secular society where, religious beliefs have declined, there is scepticism over the resurrection of Jesus. For example, some would suggest that Jesus did not die but was only unconscious, or that the women went to the wrong tomb.

On the other hand:

- Many people have a strong faith in the Word of God. Therefore, it is not difficult to believe in the resurrection.
- Belief in the resurrection is central to Christianity and is based on eyewitness accounts.
- The account of the empty tomb in Mark's gospel provides eye witness evidence of Jesus' resurrection. Jesus' body was not stolen or misplaced.
- The disciples had been transformed by the resurrection of Jesus. They were sent out to proclaim about the risen Jesus. Many of them died a martyr's death and would not have done this if the resurrection was not real.
- Jesus' resurrection was a fulfilment of the Old Testament prophecies, e.g. Hosea 6:1–2.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[5]

- (c) “Jesus’ suffering and death helps Christians today.”  
Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer.

AVAILABLE  
MARKS

**Target: Evaluation of the impact Jesus’ suffering and death has on Christians today.**

Levels	Criteria	Comments	Marks
0	Unsupported opinion or no relevant evaluation.		0
Level 1	Opinion supported by one simple reason.	The candidate presents some relevant information.	1
Level 2	Opinion supported by two simple reasons or one developed reason.	Reasoned arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses.	2–3
Level 3	A well-argued response with evidence of informed insights.	Well-formed and reasoned arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses.	4–5

Answers may include:

- Jesus’ suffering and death reassures Christians that God has gone to great lengths to save them from sin. Jesus’ suffering and death shows the depth of God’s love for humanity.
- Jesus suffered on the cross and many modern Christians feel that they can endure suffering because they are following Jesus’ example, e.g. Maximilian Kolbe volunteered to die for someone else in the concentration camp of Auschwitz.
- Jesus prayed at the time of his suffering and was able to accept what lay ahead. Many Christians today benefit from the strength prayer brings them during their illness.

On the other hand:

- Jesus was suffering for the sins of humanity. His suffering had a purpose – he had to endure pain and suffering to atone for sins. Many Christians today don’t understand why an all-powerful God would allow them to suffer.
- Jesus was the Son of God. His suffering was part of God’s plan and was necessary to fulfil the Old Testament. Christians today shouldn’t feel that suffering is part of God’s plan for them.
- Jesus’ period of suffering was brief compared to the suffering many people today must endure. Prolonged suffering can cause people today to lose faith and question God’s existence.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO2)

[5]

15

**Section B**

**AVAILABLE  
MARKS**

Candidates must answer **two** questions from this section.

**5 The identity of Jesus**

**(a) Retell the story of the healing of blind Bartimaeus.**

**Target: Knowledge of when Jesus healed blind Bartimaeus.  
(Mark 10:46–52)**

Levels	Criteria	Comments	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.		0
Level 1	Something relevant or worthy of credit; elementary knowledge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One relevant and accurate point.</li> </ul>	1
Level 2	A clear knowledge and understanding with some development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two relevant and accurate points.</li> <li>Two or more relevant and accurate points with one developed.</li> <li>A single point that is exceptionally well-developed may reach this level.</li> </ul>	2–3
Level 3	A detailed answer showing very good development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two or three relevant and accurate points with development.</li> <li>Level 3 answers will be well-structured with good development.</li> </ul>	4–5

<b>Mark 10:46–52</b>		
<b>GNB</b>	<b>NIV</b>	<b>RSV</b>
<p><sup>46</sup> They came to Jericho, and as Jesus was leaving with his disciples and a large crowd, a blind beggar named Bartimaeus son of Timaeus was sitting by the road. <sup>47</sup> When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, “Jesus! Son of David! Have mercy on me!”</p> <p><sup>48</sup> Many of the people scolded him and told him to be quiet. But he shouted even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!”</p>	<p><sup>46</sup> Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, a blind man, Bartimaeus (which means “son of Timaeus”), was sitting by the roadside begging. <sup>47</sup> When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”</p> <p><sup>48</sup> Many rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!”</p>	<p><sup>46</sup> And they came to Jericho; and as he was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a great multitude, Bartimae’us, a blind beggar, the son of Timae’us, was sitting by the roadside. <sup>47</sup> And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” <sup>48</sup> And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!”</p>

<p><sup>49</sup> Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." So they called the blind man. "Cheer up!" they said. "Get up, he is calling you." <sup>50</sup> So he threw off his cloak, jumped up, and came to Jesus. <sup>51</sup> "What do you want me to do for you?" Jesus asked him. "Teacher," the blind man answered, "I want to see again." <sup>52</sup> "Go," Jesus told him, "your faith has made you well." At once he was able to see and followed Jesus on the road.</p>	<p><sup>49</sup> Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." So they called to the blind man, "Cheer up! On your feet! He's calling you." <sup>50</sup> Throwing his cloak aside, he jumped to his feet and came to Jesus. <sup>51</sup> "What do you want me to do for you?" Jesus asked him. The blind man said, "Rabbi, I want to see." <sup>52</sup> "Go," said Jesus, "your faith has healed you." Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road.</p>	<p><sup>49</sup> And Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; rise, he is calling you." <sup>50</sup> And throwing off his mantle he sprang up and came to Jesus. <sup>51</sup> And Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" And the blind man said to him, "Master, let me receive my sight." <sup>52</sup> And Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way.</p>
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AVAILABLE MARKS

Mark in levels (AO1)

[5]

**(b) Explain why Peter’s declaration about Jesus was important.**

**AVAILABLE  
MARKS**

**Target: Knowledge and understanding of the significance of Peter’s declaration about Jesus.**

<b>Levels</b>	<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Marks</b>
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.		0
Level 1	Something relevant or worthy of credit; elementary knowledge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• One relevant and accurate point.</li></ul>	1
Level 2	A clear knowledge and understanding with some development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Two relevant and accurate points.</li><li>• Two or more relevant and accurate points with one developed.</li><li>• A single point that is exceptionally well-developed may reach this level.</li></ul>	2–3
Level 3	A detailed answer showing very good development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Two or three relevant and accurate points with development.</li><li>• Level 3 answers will be well-structured with good development.</li></ul>	4–5

Answers may include:

- Peter’s declaration marked an important moment of clarity as he affirmed that Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah.
- Up to this point the disciples had witnessed Jesus’ teachings and miracles, with some of them still trying to figure out his identity.
- This was a moment of profound faith and commitment. To declare Jesus as the Messiah was a sign of their loyalty and devotion to continue with their ministry.
- Jesus also made it clear to them about his suffering and death, preparing them for the sacrifices and challenges that they too would have to face.
- Jesus instructed them to keep this a secret. Jesus was trying to control the spread of his identity and ministry until the appropriate moment. This is known as the “Messianic Secret”.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO1)

[5]

(c) “Son of Man is the best title to help Christians understand Jesus’ true identity.”

Do you agree or disagree? Give reasons for your answer showing that you have considered different points of view. You should refer to Mark’s Gospel in your answer.

**Target: Analysis and evaluation of the Son of Man being the best title to understand the identity of Jesus.**

AVAILABLE  
MARKS

Levels	Criteria	Comments	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit		0
Level 1	Opinion supported which may be by one or two simple reasons.	The candidate presents some information in a simple form. Basic arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses and informed insights. Inaccurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar; inappropriate style of writing with no coherent structure. Basic use of specialist vocabulary.	1–2
Level 2	Opinion supported by two simple reasons with one developed.	The candidate presents one or two relevant points. Limited arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses and informed insights. Some accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar; style of writing just appropriate with limited coherent structure. Limited use of specialist vocabulary.	3–4
Level 3	Opinion supported by two developed reasons with reference to religion.	A Level 3 response could be one-sided. One developed reason and one with slight development would reach this level. There must be relevance to religion, but this could be slight/general. Good reasoned arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses and informed insights. Mainly accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar; a reasonably mature style of writing with some coherent structure evident. Good use of specialist vocabulary.	5–6

Level 4	Evidence of reasoned consideration of different points of view, showing informed insights and knowledge and understanding of religion.	Different points of view must be considered, but the consideration does not need to be balanced, i.e. one view could be much briefer than the other. Well-formed and reasoned arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses and informed insights. Accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar; a mature style of writing with a mainly coherent structure. Very good use of specialist vocabulary.	7–8
Level 5	A well-argued response, with evidence of reasoned consideration of different points of view, showing informed insights and ability to apply knowledge and understanding of religion effectively.	The difference between Level 4 and Level 5 is the quality of the argument and the coherence of the response. There needs to be more than a passing reference to religion. However, the points of view may not be completely balanced, and a non-religious counter-argument is still acceptable. Very well-formed and reasoned arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses and informed insights. Highly accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar; a sophisticated style of writing set within a coherent structure. Excellent use of specialist vocabulary.	9–10

AVAILABLE MARKS

Answers may include:

- Son of Man is a valid description of Jesus, and it is the title Jesus often used for himself, e.g. in Mark 10:45 Jesus said the Son of Man came to serve others.
- People can relate to this title as it portrays Jesus' humanity.
- Son of Man was used as a prophecy in Daniel to describe a figure with authority from God. Jesus used the title in this context, e.g. Mark 14:62.
- Jesus used this title when he talked about his ministry on earth, when he was talking about his death and his resurrection, e.g. Mark 8:31.

On the other hand:

- There are other titles used to describe Jesus in the Gospel of Mark: Son of David shows his link to the Old Testament as the one who has fulfilled the prophecies as the promised "Messiah".
- Son of God is the best title for Jesus because God's power and authority is revealed through Jesus, e.g. Mark 1:11.
- Saviour describes Jesus' whole mission in being sent to earth by God – to die on the cross for the forgiveness of sins. The name Jesus means God is salvation.
- Many people today know Jesus as their personal saviour and the means of their salvation.
- Peter called Jesus the Christ/Messiah, this means 'anointed one' and is used at a key point in Mark's Gospel (Mark 8:29).
- Some people today would see Jesus simply as a religious teacher or prophet.

Accept valid alternatives  
Mark in levels  
(AO2)

[10]

**AVAILABLE  
MARKS**

20

**6 The role and nature of Christian discipleship**

**AVAILABLE  
MARKS**

**(a) Describe the occasion when Jesus was questioned about paying taxes.**

**Target: Knowledge of when Jesus was questioned about paying taxes.  
(Mark 12:13–17)**

Levels	Criteria	Comments	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.		0
Level 1	Something relevant or worthy of credit; elementary knowledge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One relevant and accurate point.</li> </ul>	1
Level 2	A clear knowledge and understanding with some development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two relevant and accurate points.</li> <li>• Two or more relevant and accurate points with one developed.</li> <li>• A single point that is exceptionally well-developed may reach this level.</li> </ul>	2–3
Level 3	A detailed answer showing very good development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two or three relevant and accurate points with development.</li> <li>• Level 3 answers will be well-structured with good development.</li> </ul>	4–5

**Mark 12:13–17**

GNB	NIV	RSV
<p><sup>13</sup> Some Pharisees and some members of Herod’s party were sent to Jesus to trap him with questions. <sup>14</sup> They came to him and said, “Teacher, we know that you tell the truth, without worrying about what people think. You pay no attention to anyone’s status, but teach the truth about God’s will for people. Tell us, is it against our Law to pay taxes to the Roman Emperor? Should we pay them or not?” <sup>15</sup> But Jesus saw through their trick and answered, “Why are you trying to trap me? Bring a silver coin, and let me see it.”</p>	<p><sup>13</sup> Later they sent some of the Pharisees and Herodians to Jesus to catch him in his words. <sup>14</sup> They came to him and said, “Teacher, we know that you are a man of integrity. You aren’t swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are; but you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. Is it right to pay the imperial tax to Caesar or not? <sup>15</sup> Should we pay or shouldn’t we?” But Jesus knew their hypocrisy. “Why are you trying to trap me?” he asked. “Bring me a denarius and let me look at it.”</p>	<p><sup>13</sup> And they sent to him some of the Pharisees and some of the Hero’di-ans, to entrap him in his talk. <sup>14</sup> And they came and said to him, “Teacher, we know that you are true, and care for no man; for you do not regard the position of men, but truly teach the way of God. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not? <sup>15</sup> Should we pay them, or should we not?” But knowing their hypocrisy, he said to them, “Why put me to the test? Bring me a coin, and let me look at it.”</p>

<p><sup>16</sup> They brought him one, and he asked, "Whose face and name are these?"</p> <p>"The Emperor's," they answered.</p> <p><sup>17</sup> So Jesus said, "Well, then, pay the Emperor what belongs to the Emperor, and pay God what belongs to God." And they were amazed at Jesus.</p>	<p><sup>16</sup> They brought the coin, and he asked them, "Whose image is this? And whose inscription?"</p> <p>"Caesar's," they replied.</p> <p><sup>17</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "Give back to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's."</p> <p>And they were amazed at him.</p>	<p><sup>16</sup> And they brought one. And he said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" They said to him, "Caesar's."</p> <p><sup>17</sup> Jesus said to them, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." And they were amazed at him.</p>
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Mark in levels  
(AO1)

[5]

AVAILABLE  
MARKS

**(b) Explain what Christians can learn from the stories about Jesus calling his disciples.**

**AVAILABLE  
MARKS**

**Target: Knowledge and understanding of the significance of the calling of the disciples.**

Levels	Criteria	Comments	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.		0
Level 1	Something relevant or worthy of credit; elementary knowledge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One relevant and accurate point.</li> </ul>	1
Level 2	A clear knowledge and understanding with some development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two relevant and accurate points.</li> <li>Two or more relevant and accurate points with one developed.</li> <li>A single point that is exceptionally well-developed may reach this level.</li> </ul>	2–3
Level 3	A detailed answer showing very good development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two or three relevant and accurate points with development.</li> <li>Level 3 answers will be well-structured with good development.</li> </ul>	4–5

Answers may include:

- When Jesus called four fishermen, they sacrificed everything to follow him. They left their jobs and families to follow Jesus. Disciples today must trust Jesus in the same way that the first four disciples did.
- Jesus told Simon and Andrew to follow him and that they would become ‘fishers of men.’ This is significant because it shows that the mission of modern disciples will be to bring people into the Christian faith.
- The universal nature of discipleship is evident from the accounts. Anyone can be a disciple if they are willing to follow Jesus. Fishermen were uneducated. Tax collectors were outcasts in Jewish society.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO1)

[5]

- (c) “Jesus set an example that is impossible for Christians to live up to.” Do you agree or disagree? Give reasons for your answer showing that you have considered different points of view. You should refer to Mark’s Gospel in your answer.

**Target: Analysis and evaluation of the demands of following Jesus’ teaching on discipleship.**

AVAILABLE  
MARKS

Levels	Criteria	Comments	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit		0
Level 1	Opinion supported which may be by one or two simple reasons.	The candidate presents some information in a simple form. Basic arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses and informed insights. Inaccurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar; inappropriate style of writing with no coherent structure. Basic use of specialist vocabulary.	1–2
Level 2	Opinion supported by two simple reasons with one developed.	The candidate presents one or two relevant points. Limited arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses and informed insights. Some accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar; style of writing just appropriate with limited coherent structure. Limited use of specialist vocabulary.	3–4
Level 3	Opinion supported by two developed reasons with reference to religion.	A Level 3 response could be one-sided. One developed reason and one with slight development would reach this level. There must be relevance to religion, but this could be slight/general. Good reasoned arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses and informed insights. Mainly accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar; a reasonably mature style of writing with some coherent structure evident. Good use of specialist vocabulary.	5–6

Level 4	Evidence of reasoned consideration of different points of view, showing informed insights and knowledge and understanding of religion.	Different points of view must be considered, but the consideration does not need to be balanced, i.e. one view could be much briefer than the other. Well-formed and reasoned arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses and informed insights. Accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar; a mature style of writing with a mainly coherent structure. Very good use of specialist vocabulary.	7–8
Level 5	A well-argued response, with evidence of reasoned consideration of different points of view, showing informed insights and ability to apply knowledge and understanding of religion effectively.	The difference between Level 4 and Level 5 is the quality of the argument and the coherence of the response. There needs to be more than a passing reference to religion. However, the points of view may not be completely balanced, and a non-religious counter-argument is still acceptable. Very well-formed and reasoned arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses and informed insights. Highly accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar; a sophisticated style of writing set within a coherent structure. Excellent use of specialist vocabulary.	9–10

AVAILABLE MARKS

Answers may include:

- Jesus sacrificed his life for the sins of humanity. He also asked his disciples to take up their cross and follow him (Mark 8:34). It is impossible to expect this level of commitment from believers today.
- Jesus expected his followers to serve others in the same way that he served people. He told the apostles “Whoever wants to be first must be slave of all” (Mark 10:44).
- Jesus expected a very high standard of behaviour from his followers. It is impossible to totally depend on God or to “receive the kingdom of God like a child” (Mark 10:15).
- Jesus told the rich man to sell his possessions and give the money to the poor (Mark 10:21). It is impossible to and impractical for believers today to follow this teaching.

On the other hand:

- Modern Christians have been able to ‘take up the cross’ and suffer for their faith. For example, Dietrich Bonhoeffer was executed because he opposed Hitler’s treatment of the Jews.
- Many people have been able to follow the standards set by Jesus and have shown love towards God and their neighbour and have sacrificed their wealth to help the less fortunate.
- It is possible to live up to the standards set by Jesus and Christians will always aspire to emulate Jesus and his teachings. Jesus’ teaching will help and give strength to those who feel tempted (Mark 9:42–50).

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels  
(AO2)

[10]

20

## 7 The teaching of Jesus

AVAILABLE  
MARKS

(a) Retell the story of when Jesus walked through cornfields on the Sabbath.

Target: Knowledge of Jesus' attitude to the Sabbath (Mark 2:23–28).

Levels	Criteria	Comments	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.		0
Level 1	Something relevant or worthy of credit; elementary knowledge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One relevant and accurate point.</li> </ul>	1
Level 2	A clear knowledge and understanding with some development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two relevant and accurate points.</li> <li>Two or more relevant and accurate points with one developed.</li> <li>A single point that is exceptionally well-developed may reach this level.</li> </ul>	2–3
Level 3	A detailed answer showing very good development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two or three relevant and accurate points with development.</li> <li>Level 3 answers will be well-structured with good development.</li> </ul>	4–5

Mark 2:23–28		
GNB	NIV	RSV
<p><sup>23</sup> Jesus was walking through some cornfields on the Sabbath. As his disciples walked along with him, they began to pick the ears of corn. <sup>24</sup> So the Pharisees said to Jesus, “Look, it is against our Law for your disciples to do that on the Sabbath!”</p> <p><sup>25</sup> Jesus answered, “Have you never read what David did that time when he needed something to eat? He and his men were hungry, <sup>26</sup> so he went into the house of God and ate the bread offered to God. This happened when Abiathar was the High Priest. According to our Law only the priests may eat this bread — but David ate it and even gave it to his men.”</p>	<p><sup>23</sup> One Sabbath Jesus was going through the grainfields, and as his disciples walked along, they began to pick some heads of grain. <sup>24</sup> The Pharisees said to him, “Look, why are they doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?”</p> <p><sup>25</sup> He answered, “Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need? <sup>26</sup> In the days of Abiathar the high priest, he entered the house of God and ate the consecrated bread, which is lawful only for priests to eat. And he also gave some to his companions.”</p>	<p><sup>23</sup> One Sabbath he was going through the grainfields; and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. <sup>24</sup> And the Pharisees said to him, “Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?” <sup>25</sup> And he said to them, “Have you never read what David did, when he was in need and was hungry, he and those who were with him: <sup>26</sup> how he entered the house of God, when Abi’athar was high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and also gave it to those who were with him?”</p>

<p><sup>27</sup> And Jesus concluded, “The Sabbath was made for the good of human beings; they were not made for the Sabbath. <sup>28</sup> So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.”</p>	<p><sup>27</sup> Then he said to them, “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. <sup>28</sup> So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.”</p>	<p><sup>27</sup> And he said to them, “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath; <sup>28</sup> so the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.”</p>
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Mark in levels  
(AO1)

[5]

AVAILABLE MARKS

**(b) Explain why Jesus came into conflict with the Pharisees.**

**AVAILABLE  
MARKS**

**Target: Knowledge and understanding of why Jesus came into conflict with the Pharisees.**

Levels	Criteria	Comments	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.		0
Level 1	Something relevant or worthy of credit; elementary knowledge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• One relevant and accurate point.</li></ul>	1
Level 2	A clear knowledge and understanding with some development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Two relevant and accurate points.</li><li>• Two or more relevant and accurate points with one developed.</li><li>• A single point that is exceptionally well-developed may reach this level.</li></ul>	2–3
Level 3	A detailed answer showing very good development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Two or three relevant and accurate points with development.</li><li>• Level 3 answers will be well-structured with good development.</li></ul>	4–5

Answers may include:

- Pharisees were known for their strict enforcement of Sabbath laws.
- Jesus took a more flexible and compassionate approach to Sabbath laws. He believed that the Sabbath was made for the good of man, it should not become a burden.
- Jesus often healed people on the Sabbath. According to the Pharisees, healing was work and therefore forbidden. The Pharisees criticised Jesus for breaking the Sabbath laws.
- Jesus tried to emphasise the compassionate aspect of the Sabbath. It was a day to do good, show mercy and help others, even if it involved activities that the Pharisees deemed as work.
- Jesus challenged the Pharisees interpretation of the Sabbath. He asserts his authority over the Sabbath when he said, “The Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath”.
- Jesus wasn’t the type of Messiah the Pharisees were expecting.
- Jesus forgave the sins of the paralysed man. The Pharisees considered this to be blasphemy.

Accept valid alternatives

Mark in levels

(AO1)

[5]

(c) “Christians have a duty to always obey the law.”

Do you agree or disagree? Give reasons for your answer showing that you have considered different points of view. You should refer to Mark’s Gospel in your answer.

Target: Analysis and evaluation of Christian attitudes towards the law.

AVAILABLE  
MARKS

Levels	Criteria	Comments	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit		0
Level 1	Opinion supported which may be by one or two simple reasons.	The candidate presents some information in a simple form. Basic arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses and informed insights. Inaccurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar; inappropriate style of writing with no coherent structure. Basic use of specialist vocabulary.	1–2
Level 2	Opinion supported by two simple reasons with one developed.	The candidate presents one or two relevant points. Limited arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses and informed insights. Some accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar; style of writing just appropriate with limited coherent structure. Limited use of specialist vocabulary.	3–4
Level 3	Opinion supported by two developed reasons with reference to religion.	A Level 3 response could be one-sided. One developed reason and one with slight development would reach this level. There must be relevance to religion, but this could be slight/general. Good reasoned arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses and informed insights. Mainly accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar; a reasonably mature style of writing with some coherent structure evident. Good use of specialist vocabulary.	5–6

Level 4	Evidence of reasoned consideration of different points of view, showing informed insights and knowledge and understanding of religion.	Different points of view must be considered, but the consideration does not need to be balanced, i.e. one view could be much briefer than the other. Well-formed and reasoned arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses and informed insights. Accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar; a mature style of writing with a mainly coherent structure. Very good use of specialist vocabulary.	7–8
Level 5	A well-argued response, with evidence of reasoned consideration of different points of view, showing informed insights and ability to apply knowledge and understanding of religion effectively.	The difference between Level 4 and Level 5 is the quality of the argument and the coherence of the response. There needs to be more than a passing reference to religion. However, the points of view may not be completely balanced, and a non-religious counter-argument is still acceptable. Very well-formed and reasoned arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses and informed insights. Highly accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar; a sophisticated style of writing set within a coherent structure. Excellent use of specialist vocabulary.	9–10

AVAILABLE MARKS

Answers may include:

- On the occasion when the Jewish authorities asked Jesus whether Jews should pay taxes to the Romans Jesus said “Give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s and to God what is God’s.” (Mark 12:15–17) Jesus encouraged loyalty to God and also to obey the rules of the state.
- Christians are expected to be good citizens and uphold laws that respect life and the property of others. In the story about the rich man, Jesus told him to obey the commandments, e.g. You shall not murder, you shall not steal. (Mark 10:19)
- Jesus obeyed many of the religious laws people had to follow at that time, e.g. when he healed the leper (Mark 1:40–45) he told the man to “show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded.” Christians today should follow Jesus’ example.

On the other hand:

- Jesus broke laws and was more concerned about the needs of individuals. He disregarded Sabbath laws by healing people and declared that “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath.” (Mark 2:27)
- Jesus ignored religious laws when he associated with outcasts. He freely associated with tax collectors (Mark 2:13–17) and Gentiles (Mark 7:24–30).
- Jesus’ example implies that his followers have a duty to stand up for what is right and to protest against injustice. For example, when Jesus went to the temple (Mark 11:15–19) he drove out the traders who were

overcharging. Likewise, Christians today should oppose unjust laws and practices, e.g. Martin Luther King.  
Accept valid alternatives  
Mark in levels  
(AO2) [10]

AVAILABLE MARKS
20