

New  
Specification



General Certificate of Secondary Education  
2018

---

## Religious Studies

Paper 1

The Christian Church through a Study of  
the Catholic Church and the Protestant Church

[GRE11]

MONDAY 14 MAY, AFTERNOON

---

**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

Answer **all** questions.

### 1 The Early Church

(a) (i) **The Apostles' Creed gives us facts about the life of Jesus. Name three of these facts.**

- Jesus is Son of God, he is our Lord
- Conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
- Born of the Virgin Mary
- Suffered under Pontius Pilate
- Was crucified, died and was buried
- He descended into hell
- He rose from the dead on the third day
- He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God
- He will come to judge the living and the dead.

(AO1)

[3]

(ii) **Name two characteristics of the Early Church.**

- Serving others
- Prayer
- Miracles
- Breaking Bread together
- Preaching and teaching
- Praising and singing hymns
- Christian behaviour – kind, compassionate, forgiveness and patience.
- Communal living

(AO1)

[2]

**(b) Explain why the events of Pentecost were so important for the Early Church.**

**AVAILABLE  
MARKS**

**Target: Knowledge and understanding of the importance of Pentecost for the Early Church.**

<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:

- This day marks the beginning of the Christian Church.
- Jesus fulfils his promise of the Holy Spirit.
- The Apostles received the gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- It confirms their belief in Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
- It is a fulfilment of scripture prophecy.
- 3000 people were baptised on this day.

Accept valid alternatives

(AO1)

[5]

- (c) “The Apostles’ Creed should be recited at all Church services.”  
Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer.

**Target: Evaluation of the purpose for reciting the Apostles’ Creed during church worship.**

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 Apostles’ Creed is a summary of the key beliefs of the Christian faith.
- It emphasises the teaching of the Trinity and the importance of God the Creator, Jesus the Saviour and the Holy Spirit.
- The Apostles’ Creed helps to unify all believers.
- The Apostles’ Creed gives factual clarity against heresy.
- By memorising and reciting the creed in church services the congregation are reaffirming their faith.
- Regular recitation of the creed also allows for a better understanding of one’s beliefs.

On the other hand:

- The Apostles’ Creed is often said during worship however some people may not focus on the words or meaning of the creed.
- The creed is a statement of the teachings of the Apostles, however people are not certain if it was put together or written by them.
- Reciting the Apostles’ Creed at every church service can become monotonous and potentially could lose its meaning.
- The creed should only be recited at important church services for example Easter, Pentecost or Christmas.

Accept valid alternatives

(AO2)

[5]

15

AVAILABLE  
MARKS

**2 Leadership in the Church and the role of the Church in contemporary society**

**AVAILABLE  
MARKS**

**(a) (i) Who is the Head of the Catholic Church worldwide?**

The Pope, Bishop of Rome, e.g. Pope Francis  
(AO1)

[1]

**(ii) What does the word “infallible” mean?**

To be without fault or error when speaking in a formal way about matters of faith.  
(AO1)

[1]

**(iii) Name two duties of a minister/pastor/priest.**

- Preaching and teaching the Word of God
  - Preparing sermons
  - Celebrate sacraments or ordinances
  - Funerals
  - Pastoral duties – care for the needs of their parishioners
  - Visit sick people at home or in hospital
  - School visits
  - Prison visits
  - Chairing of meetings
  - Youth or missionary work
  - Lead bible study groups
  - Administration work
- Accept valid alternatives  
(AO1)

[2]

**(iv) Name a style of church government in one Church tradition of your choice.**

- Episcopal model/hierarchical (Roman Catholic Church/Church of Ireland)
  - Congregational model (Baptist Church)
  - Representative model (Presbyterian Church)
- Accept valid alternatives  
(AO1)

[1]

**(b) Do you think it is important to promote Christian unity in the Church today?**

**Give reasons for your answer.**

**Target: Analysis of Christian unity.**

**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:

- All Catholic, Protestant and Orthodox Christians have faith in God, follow the teachings of Jesus and believe the Bible is the Word of God.
- Christians should always display Christ like behaviour. Jesus stated to “Love your neighbour.” It is our Christian duty to respect others.
- If Christians are united and work together then the Christian Church will become stronger.
- If Christians remain divided it may weaken the Church further.
- Sectarianism and division has led to fear, hatred and conflict. It is important to promote Christian unity to build bridges and create a more peaceful future.
- Religious tolerance is having respect for one’s own beliefs and the beliefs of others. Tolerance can lead to peaceful communities.
- The Ecumenical Movement in the 20th century and the World Council of Churches has encouraged the different Churches to work together. Christians now communicate with one another and respect each other’s differences.
- The Early Church is an example of Christian unity, Christians should strive to be more like the Early Church.

On the other hand:

- The Christian Church is a divided church which experienced conflict. It is therefore very difficult to try and bring everyone together and to undo the past.
- Promoting Christian unity may create more conflict and further division.

Accept valid alternatives

(AO2)

[5]

(c) “The Church should do more to support the needs of young people.”  
Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer.

AVAILABLE  
MARKS

**Target: Evaluation of the amount of support which the Church could give to young people.**

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:

- Christ cared for the most vulnerable members of society. The church should do all that it can to support young people as they may feel alienated from the church.
- The church must try to engage and embrace young people so they feel valued and loved by Christ.
- The church should try to make youth ministry fun and exciting so young people can relate to both the church and society.
- The church should become more active in the lives of young people, to show understanding rather than being judgemental.

On the other hand:

- The church is doing all that it can to support young people, however they cannot force young people to accept the support.
- Churches hold various events for young people, yet many young people do not engage. For example, Bible Study Groups, Sunday Schools and Summer Camps.
- Many churches have an open-door policy and are always willing to help the needs of people, especially those in distress or in any kind of trouble.
- Some churches have members on the streets at night helping young people who are under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- The Catholic Church hosts a World Youth Day every three years and millions of young people attend, this shows that many young people feel supported by the Church.

Accept valid alternatives  
(AO2)

[5]

15

### 3 Sacraments and Ordinances

AVAILABLE  
MARKS

- (a) Describe how the Eucharist is celebrated in a church service of your choice.

**Target: Knowledge of the way the Eucharist/Communion is celebrated in a church service.**

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:

**Roman Catholic ceremony of the Eucharist:**

- People recall their sins and express sorrow in the Penitential Rite.
- The priest or a member of the congregation reads from the Bible in the Liturgy of the Word. The priest will give a homily/sermon.
- The Creed is said followed by the Prayers of the Faithful.
- If it is a Sunday a collection of money will be taken, and offered up with bread and wine in the offertory procession.
- The priest will read the Preface and the Eucharistic Prayer. The central part of this is the Consecration of the bread and wine to become the Body and Blood of Christ.
- The Our Father is said followed by the Lamb of God prayer which emphasises Christ's sacrifice for the forgiveness of sin.
- The congregation process to the altar to receive the body and blood of Christ under the appearance of bread and wine. Usually only the bread is distributed to the congregation.
- The priest ends the Mass with a blessing and a command to go out "to love and serve the Lord".

**The Church of Ireland ceremony of Holy Communion/ Eucharist:**

- After the greeting the rector says a preparation prayer, which is followed by a hymn of praise.
- A member of the congregation will read from the Bible and the rector will give the sermon.
- The congregation recites the Apostles' Creed. Followed by prayers of

intercession, a reading of the commandments, prayers of confession and absolution.

- The prayer of humble access prepares people's hearts and minds to receive the sacrament.
- The congregation will share/exchange the sign of peace.
- An offering of money is taken to the altar where bread and wine for communion are also placed.
- The rector takes the bread and wine in his hands and blesses them. He says a Prayer of Thanksgiving and the congregation respond by saying the Lord's Prayer.
- The rector breaks the bread and says "The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ".
- The people come forward to the altar rails to receive the bread and wine.
- The rector says to each person "The body of Christ keep you in eternal life" and "The blood of Christ keeps you in eternal life".
- There is a prayer of thanksgiving and commitment to serve Christ.
- The rector ends the service with a blessing: "Go in peace to love and serve the Lord". The congregation answers, "In the name of Christ, Amen".

#### **The Baptist Church: The Lord's Supper**

- After the morning worship service ends there is a time of quietness for people to reflect and think about the communion service they are about to participate in.
- The pastor will invite all present to share in an informal time of worship. Those present may choose a hymn for everyone to sing together.
- A member of the congregation may choose a Bible reading or pray to focus in the death and resurrection of Jesus.
- Someone will say a prayer of thanks for the bread.
- Then bread is passed around by the deacons so that everyone present can take a piece. Once everyone has been served, they all eat their bread at the same time.
- The same procedure is carried out for the wine.
- A period of quietness follows for people to reflect.
- Finally, the pastor prays and gives a word of blessing.

#### **The Methodist Church: A ceremony of Holy Communion**

- Holy Communion takes place following the Ministry of the Word (Bible readings and Sermon).
- The congregation will recite the Nicene Creed together. This shows they are united with other churches.
- The congregation will share the peace by hand shaking.
- Cloths are removed from the bread and wine which are already on the communion table.
- The congregation says a Prayer of Thanksgiving for what Christ has done and to look forward to his return.
- The minister takes the bread, breaks it and invites the congregation to come forward, out of their seats, to receive the bread and wine.
- The people kneel at the communion rail and receive the elements of bread and wine from the minister and his stewards.
- After everyone has received the bread and wine are covered up again by the cloths.
- The minister prays and after a hymn, announces the Benediction – a word of blessing.

### **The Presbyterian Church – A Ceremony of Communion**

- Communion takes place in a normal Sunday service, morning or evening after the sermon.
- The minister opens in prayer.
- The minister reads an appropriate passage from the New Testament.
- The minister stands in front of the communion table and prays a blessing on the bread and wine.
- Bread and wine are given out to the congregation by elders.
- The bread is usually in small pieces served on plates that is passed around the pews.
- The wine is non-alcoholic, served in small individual glasses to each person.
- In some churches everyone waits until all people have been served and then take communion together.
- The minister says a Prayer of Thanksgiving.
- Everyone stands to sing a hymn.
- The service ends with the Benediction – a word of blessing.

Accept valid alternatives

(AO1)

[5]

AVAILABLE  
MARKS

**(b) Explain why the Eucharist/Communion is important for Christians.**

**AVAILABLE  
MARKS**

**Target: Knowledge and understanding of the importance of the Eucharist/Communion.**

<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:

- A remembrance of Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross and a thanksgiving for this.
- The Eucharist creates a sense of community and fellowship because all receive the bread and wine.
- It is a celebration of Jesus’ resurrection and ascension into heaven.
- An act of anticipation for the coming of God’s Kingdom.
- Christians are following an instruction of Jesus to remember his work till his coming again.
- The Eucharist is also an act of obedience as Jesus said, “Do this in memory of me”.
- The Eucharist is a public declaration of following Christ.
- It allows Christians to renew their commitment to Christ.

Accept valid alternatives

(AO1)

[5]

(c) “Everyone should receive Eucharist/Communion regardless of their age.”

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

**Target: Evaluation of when a Christian should receive Eucharist/Communion.**

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:

- It creates the feeling that they are now accepted as full members of the church.
- Jesus said, “Do this in memory of me” therefore everyone should follow this command regardless of age.
- Every baptised member of the Church should partake in remembering the sacrifice of Christ and give thanks.
- Every baptised member of the Church should partake in receiving the presence of Christ as we are all God’s children regardless of age.

On the other hand:

- The person should only receive communion when they fully understand the significance and meaning of the celebration.
- Communion should only be received when the person is a regular attendee at church and they have shown commitment.
- It should be when a child is eight years of age as in the Catholic tradition. Children at this age are more accepting and they do show understanding. They are prepared fully both in school and in the parish before receiving the sacrament.
- It should only happen when the person has been confirmed as in the Church of Ireland.
- You can only receive communion if you are in communion with one another and with Christ. Those who have committed grave sin should not receive communion regardless of their age.

Accept valid alternatives

(AO2)

[5]

15

## 4 Church Furnishings

- (a) Describe three main items of furniture and their location in a church building.

**Target: Knowledge of the main features found inside of a Church building.**

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:

Candidates may describe three main items of furniture and their location in a church building.

### Roman Catholic Church

- The altar is the main furnishing which is central in all Catholic Churches. Usually on a raised platform so all can see. The altar is a sacrificial table which is either wooden or marble. Cloths are draped over the altar usually reflecting the events of the liturgical calendar. It is the most prominent feature of the Catholic Church. The Eucharist is celebrated at the altar which is both a memorial and re-enactment of the last events in Jesus' life.
- Behind the altar is a special box called a tabernacle. This is where the consecrated hosts (Blessed Sacrament) are kept after Holy Communion. By preserving the consecrated bread in a tabernacle means that Christ is always present in a special way within the Church.
- The Sanctuary Lamp, a red light is always located beside the tabernacle to show the presence of Christ.
- The Ambo also known as the lectern is always to the left of the altar. This is a reading desk for the sacred scriptures. The Bible is read from here during each service.
- The baptismal font is either located at the main door of the church or near the sanctuary. The Catholic Church carries out infant baptism at the baptismal font.
- The Catholic Church has many statues of Jesus, Mary and the Saints, the statues are placed within the church to help people to focus when in

AVAILABLE  
MARKS

prayer. Catholics do not pray to the statues.

- The Stations of the Cross are paintings usually carved out of wood representing the last stages of Jesus' life. They are used as a focus and reminder to pray especially during Holy Week.
- The Crucifix usually hangs in the sanctuary area and it is an artistic representation of Christ on the Cross. It symbolises the suffering of Jesus and reminds Catholics of the significance of his death.
- The Stained-glass windows add beautiful colour and life to the church. The windows are visual imagery of the scriptures and they retell events of the lives of Jesus and Mary.

### **The Baptist Church**

- The most prominent feature of the Baptist Church is the pulpit. It is found on a raised platform in the centre of the church. The prominence of the pulpit shows the importance Baptists place on the Word of God. Preaching is one of the main ways God speaks to his people.
- The Baptist Church also has a reading desk called a lectern, which is to the left or right of the pulpit. The lectern is often used as it brings the pastor closer to the people.
- The Communion table is found in front of the pulpit and is close to the congregation. This emphasises the importance of meeting and sharing.
- The baptistery is a baptismal pool used for believer's baptism. Full immersion is the only acceptable method of baptism. The baptismal pool/tank is placed to the left of the pulpit.

### **The Presbyterian Church**

- Many Presbyterian Churches were originally designed as barn style-plain rectangular building with little decoration.
- The pulpit is the most important piece of furniture. It is a large wooden structure which is positioned at the front and is slightly raised. Presbyterians meet to worship under the authority of the Word of God. Hanging from the pulpit is a piece of material called the pulpit fall.
- The communion table is usually positioned at the front of the church in the centre close to the congregation. This emphasises communion as a sacrament of fellowship. The communion is placed below the pulpit because God's word is of utmost importance as the sacrament of communion comes from the Word of God. The table is usually made from wood and the words of Jesus "Do this in memory of me" is carved on the front.
- The baptismal font is positioned at the front of the church to the right-hand side. It is used to baptise infants and sometimes adults.
- The lectern is a small reading desk which is level with the congregation and on the opposite side of the baptismal font. It is mainly used for morning services to give the reading or children's address.
- Stained glass windows are another common feature usually of the Holy Spirit or an eagle. Or they may tell something of the history of the church.
- Banners are used as visual displays to remind the congregation of liturgical events throughout the year.

Accept valid alternatives  
(AO1)

[5]

**(b) Do you think the inside of all churches should be plain and not have expensive furnishings? Give reasons for your answer.**

**AVAILABLE  
MARKS**

**Target: Analysis of church buildings.**

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:

- Elaborate and decorative furnishings can be a distraction to worship.
- The money spent on furnishings could be put to better use.
- Plain and simple interiors are easier to maintain and more cost-effective.
- God can be worshipped anywhere and plain buildings are just as practical as elaborate ones.
- Quality of worship is more important than the decor.
- People are the Church and not the building.

On the other hand:

- Beautiful buildings reflect the glory of God and only the best should be used.
- They can create a sense of awe and wonder which improves the quality of worship.
- Paintings and stained glass windows can be used to reinforce aspects of the Christian message.
- Beautiful buildings may attract people to join the church. It may also attract tourists.
- People may have donated expensive items to the church in memory of loved ones.

Accept valid alternatives  
(AO2)

[5]

(c) “Churches should do more to encourage people to attend Sunday services.”

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

Target: Evaluation of the attendance of Sunday services.

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:

- Recent surveys show that people living in the island of Ireland believe in God, yet many do not attend religious services.
- There has been a gradual drop in the numbers attending church and therefore the church needs to act.
- Churches could offer a variety of church services to meet the needs of different age groups.
- Churches could also arrange informal services for prayer so people do not feel alienated.
- Churches must be accountable for their actions and to try and undo past mistakes and rebuild trust.

On the other hand:

- People’s faith and their belief in God is a personal experience.
- Religion provides a way to express the beliefs people have in their hearts.
- Religious belief and religious practice are connected but they are not the same.
- The Church cannot force people to attend their services, they can only encourage.
- Society today is secular and people no longer feel the need to practise their faith. The Church will not be able to change this.
- Lots of people continue to attend church on a weekly basis and this is an example to others.

Accept valid alternatives

(AO2)

[5]

15

Section A

60

AVAILABLE MARKS

**Section B**

**AVAILABLE  
MARKS**

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

**5 Festivals**

**(a) Describe some ways in which Christians use the four weeks of Advent to prepare for the celebration of Christmas.**

**Target: Knowledge of the different activities that Christians carry out during the four weeks of Advent.**

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:

- Christians prepare themselves during Advent for the second coming through Sunday worship: There is a different focus each week on the coming of the Messiah.
- Christians prepare by reflecting on their lives through prayer.
- Some Christians seek forgiveness during the month of Advent.
- The liturgical colour for advent is purple, a symbol of reflection and royalty.
- Christians prepare by singing carols and giving to those in need.
- The advent wreath symbolises the 4 weeks of Advent. The wreath is displayed in churches and in schools.
- The Jesse tree allows Christians to remember the ancestry of Jesus during Advent.
- Some people spend time practising for Nativity Plays.
- Some people display Advent calendars in their homes, this helps them to count down the days to Christmas.

Accept valid alternatives

(AO1)

[5]

**(b) Explain why Easter is an important festival for Christians.**

**AVAILABLE  
MARKS**

**Target: Knowledge and understanding of the importance of Easter.**

<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:

- Easter forms the basis of the Christian faith.
- Jesus overcame the power of death and sin which gives Christians hope of a future resurrection and eternal life.
- Jesus performed the greatest miracle by rising from the dead.
- He proved that he was the Son of God.
- Jesus fulfilled the prophecies he had made and Christians have the confidence that he will fulfil the other prophecies he has made.

Accept valid alternatives  
(AO1)

[5]

(c) “Christians should do more to highlight the real meaning of Christmas.”

Do you agree or disagree? Give reasons for your answer showing that you have considered different points of view.

**Target: Analysis and evaluation of emphasising the real meaning of Christmas.**

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:

- Christians should do more by encouraging people especially non-practising Christians to take part in the Advent services in the lead-up to Christmas. This would help people to focus on the real meaning of Christmas.
- Regular Bible study should try to focus Christians on the coming of the Messiah rather than the buying of gifts.
- Christians could encourage family members and friends to purchase Christmas cards that present the real meaning of Christmas.
- They could buy Trocaire or Oxfam gifts for friends and family and to contribute to Christian charities, for example, Saint Vincent de Paul.
- Christians should actively promote and take part in carol singing and charity work during Advent and Christmas.
- Christians should try to be more self-disciplined and not allow themselves to get caught up with commercialism.

On the other hand:

- There are many Christians who are already focused on the real meaning of Christmas and are doing all that they can to promote this whereas it is the rest of society who is overcome by the commercialism.
- Churches provide Sunday worship during Advent which focuses on the significance of Christmas. Advent wreaths, Advent calendars and Jesse Trees are constant reminders. Christians already understand the real meaning of Christmas.

Accept valid alternatives  
(AO2)

[10]

20

## 6 Prayer and Worship

(a) Describe three main types of prayer used in Church worship.

**Target: Knowledge of three main types of prayer.**

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:

- Prayers of Praise and Adoration acknowledging the greatness of God.
- Prayer of Confession acknowledging the need to seek God's forgiveness.
- Prayer of Thanksgiving acknowledging all that God has done for individuals.
- Prayers of Supplication which can take the form of petition (asking God to meet our needs) and intercession (praying for the needs of other people).
- Reference could be made to specific prayers like the Prayers of the People, the Lord's Prayer, the Sanctus, and the Blessing.

Accept valid alternatives  
(AO1)

[5]

AVAILABLE  
MARKS

**(b) Explain why the homily/sermon is an important part of the church service.**

**AVAILABLE  
MARKS**

**Target: Knowledge and understanding of the importance of a homily/sermon in a church service.**

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:

- Preaching is a central part of a worship service.
- Most Christians believe that God communicates his Word through preaching.
- The Bible is the Word of God and so the minister/priest is inspired by the Holy Spirit to interpret and proclaim.
- The sermon is a teaching based on the Bible. Biblical teaching must be at the heart of true worship.
- Christians learn how to apply biblical teachings to their daily lives through the sermon.
- Sermons help to strengthen and deepen faith.

Accept valid alternatives  
(AO1)

[5]

(c) “Christians should read the Bible every day.”

Do you agree or disagree? Give reasons for your answer showing that you have considered different points of view.

AVAILABLE  
MARKS

Target: Analysis and evaluation of studying the Bible.

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
20

Answers may include:

- The Bible is the sacred text for Christianity.
- By reading the Bible daily you will develop a closer relationship with God.
- It will also give people a better understanding of the life of Jesus. It may inspire people to become more Christ like and live according to God's Word.
- The Bible is an inspirational book which can bring comfort and hope.

On the other hand:

- The Bible is out of date in a modern world. People no longer relate to the Bible's teachings as society has changed.
- Society has become more secular and so people may not have the time or feel the need to read the Bible daily.
- Christians should read the Bible however it may not be feasible to read it daily. Some may decide to read the Bible once a week.
- As long as a Christian is actively living like Christ, it should not matter how often they read the Bible.
- Some Christians may be illiterate and are unable to read or understand the Bible.

Accept valid alternatives  
(AO2)

[10]

## 7 The Reformation

- (a) Outline the main reasons which led to the Reformation in the 16th century.

**Target: Knowledge of the main reasons which led to the Reformation in the 16th century.**

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:

- People were unhappy with the Church's attitude to the issue of indulgences.
- Worship was conducted in Latin and many people did not understand what was happening.
- Luther argued that people only became right with God through faith in Christ and not by the good things they tried to do or by paying money to the church.
- Luther nailed a document called 'Luther's 95 Theses' to the door of his church in Wittenberg.
- The Bible needed to be translated into contemporary languages rather than just in Latin.
- The use of the printing press meant that copies of the Bible were widely accessible.

Accept valid alternatives  
(AO1)

[5]

AVAILABLE  
MARKS

**(b) Explain some of the challenges facing the Church today.**

**AVAILABLE  
MARKS**

**Target: Knowledge and understanding of issues that are controversial within the Church today.**

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:

- The relevance of the Church in a secular society has caused debate among people especially when moral issues become a political concern.
- The increase of atheism and advances in the world of science and technology has raised concerns as many young people are showing a greater interest in this rather than their religious faith.
- Moral issues such as abortion, euthanasia, IVF, issues of equality, gender issues and homosexuality are challenges for the church as many people believe they have the freedom to choose.
- Many countries are changing their laws to suit a secularised society that is no longer influenced by Christian teachings.
- Church Doctrine is a challenge, as many people believe that some doctrines are outdated in a modern world. Some choose to ignore certain teachings to suit modern living. Issues such as clerical celibacy and female ordination may also cause division within the church as many conservative Christians may reject the changes.
- Abuses within the church – loss of credibility. The publication of recent scandals within the church has led people to fall away from their faith. In recent times church attendance has dropped significantly.
- Threat of extremism, some people may be afraid to practise their faith in fear of persecution.

Accept valid alternatives  
(AO1)

[5]

- (c) **“The Church today should not be afraid of change.”**  
**Do you agree or disagree? Give reasons for your answer showing that you have considered different points of view.**

**Target: Analysis and evaluation of the conservative nature of the Church.**

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

**AVAILABLE  
MARKS**

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:

- Some churches still use only the Authorised or King James Version of the Bible; they have all music played on the organ and the singing is led by robed choirs and all the responses in a communion service and other worship is chanted. For many people this is old-fashioned and has little meaning and significance and it is difficult to participate.
- Worship styles are not always attractive to people today.
- The church should be more relevant to the modern world, e.g. through technology.
- The style and layout of older churches does not lend themselves to change and they appear dull, austere and uninviting.
- Many of the teachings are out of date, e.g. women priests/bishops, contraception and married priests.
- Numbers attending church services are falling so the church needs to meet the needs of those who have “fallen away”.
- There have been major changes to the church in the past, e.g. Reformation, Second Vatican Council.
- Today’s society has less interest in tradition and the way things were done in the past. That same attitude applies to the church today and as a result it is losing ground.
- Today’s society is more liberal and secular, therefore the traditions of the Church and their teachings on moral issues seem outdated to many.

On the other hand:

- The Gospel message cannot be changed and the Church should stand firm despite pressures from a secularised world.
- It is the people who must change and not the church.
- Some church members find traditional worship comfortable and meaningful as it helps them to grow in faith and to worship God “properly”. If changes were made they would possibly leave the church.
- Having a set tradition helps people to focus as they know exactly what is going to happen. This can have a positive influence on people.
- A more liberal church may also cause believers to leave.
- The church needs to find the balance of meeting the needs of different age groups.
- Many churches use modern Bible translations and make greater use of technology thus breaking with traditional aspects.
- Despite society becoming more liberal and secular people tend to stand firm on moral issues which are supported in the Bible.

Accept valid alternatives  
(AO2)

[10]

**Section B**

**Total**

**AVAILABLE  
MARKS**

20

**40**

**100**