



Rewarding Learning

**General Certificate of Secondary Education
2024**

Religious Studies

Paper 2b

**The Christian Church with a Focus
on the Protestant Church**

[GRE22]

FRIDAY 31 MAY, MORNING

**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

Answer **all** questions.

**AVAILABLE
MARKS**

1 Church worship

(a) (i) Name *two* types of prayers used in church worship.

Confession, Thanksgiving, Adoration, Supplication, Petition,
Intercession, Blessing

Accept valid alternatives

(AO1)

[2]

(ii) Name *two* ways the Bible is used during a church service

Readings from both the Old Testament and New Testament

A passage of scripture from the Bible is explained during the sermon

Children are taught a memory verse

One of the psalms is read or sung during the service

Accept valid alternatives

(AO1)

[2]

(iii) Why do Christians worship on a Sunday?

It is the day Jesus rose from the dead.

Accept valid alternatives

(AO1)

[1]

(b) Explain why the Apostles' Creed is said in some Protestant churches.

**AVAILABLE
MARKS**

Target: Knowledge and understanding of the importance of the Apostles' Creed for some Protestant churches.

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">• One relevant and accurate point.	1
Level 2	A clear knowledge and understanding with some development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two relevant and accurate points.• Two or more relevant and accurate points with one developed.• A single point that is exceptionally well-developed may reach this level.	2–3
Level 3	A detailed answer showing very good development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two or three relevant and accurate points with development.• Level 3 answers will be well-structured with good development.	4–5

Answers may include:

- The Apostles' Creed provides a summary of the key Christian beliefs.
- It gives clarity to the Christian faith in order to stop heresy.
- It gives a summary of the key events in the life of Jesus.
- It emphasises the teaching about the Trinity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- Saying the Apostles' Creed together creates a sense of fellowship and unity.
- By memorising and reciting it teaches new members the key doctrines of the church.

Accept valid alternatives
(AO1)

[5]

- (c) “Non-liturgical worship is better than liturgical worship.”
Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer.

AVAILABLE
MARKS

Target: Evaluation of the advantages and disadvantages of non-liturgical and liturgical worship.

Levels	Criteria	Comments	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.		0
Level 1	Opinion which may be supported by one simple reason.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The candidate presents some relevant information. 	1
Level 2	Opinion supported by two simple reasons or one developed reason.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reasoned arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses. 	2–3
Level 3	A well-argued response with evidence of informed insights.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well-formed and reasoned arguments are given to analyse personal responses and informed insights. 	4–5

Answers may include:

- Non-liturgical worship is less structured and can be more spontaneous and sometimes appeals to the younger members in the church.
- It can allow for more variety and freedom and encourage people to contribute to the worship through the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
- There are less set prayers used in non-liturgical worship. Set prayers can lose their meaning and impact because the congregation rhyme them off without thought.
- There are no set Bible readings for each Sunday and this gives the worship leaders more scope.
- It keeps the congregation more interested because they are never sure what might happen next.

On the other hand:

- Liturgical worship follows a set pattern/structure contained in specially written books. Prayers and readings are set for each Sunday.
- Set liturgical worship has been carefully constructed by church leaders and is Bible based.
- There will be few surprises in the weekly worship and people feel more comfortable with a set routine and familiar order of service. People may not like continual change each week.
- A set liturgy makes it easier to plan ahead.
- It allows all the key festivals to be covered each year and a wider range of Bible passage to be used.
- A set form of service helps new members to join in the worship each Sunday. It reinforces key Christian teachings.
- It is more orderly and respectful.

Accept valid alternatives
(AO2)

[5]

15

2 Church buildings

AVAILABLE
MARKS

(a) (i) Name *two* styles of church architecture.

Barn style, cruciform, circular, hall and tower, Gothic
Accept valid alternatives
(AO1)

[2]

(ii) What is the font used for in a church?

The baptism of infants
(AO1)

[1]

(iii) What is the pulpit used for in a church?

The preaching of the sermon, in some churches the whole service is
led from here.
Accept valid alternatives
(AO1)

[1]

(iv) Where is the bread and wine placed during a communion service?

Communion table, altar
(AO1)

[1]

**(b) Do you think churches should have expensive furnishings?
Give reasons for your answer.**

**AVAILABLE
MARKS**

Target: Analysis of the value and purpose of expensive church furnishings.

Levels	Criteria	Comments	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.		0
Level 1	Opinion which may be supported by one simple reason.	The candidate presents some relevant information.	1
Level 2	Opinion supported by one or 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 and informed insights.	4–5

Answers may include:

- Beautiful buildings with expensive furnishings reflect the glory of God and only the best should be used.
- Paintings and stained glass windows may be expensive but can be used to reinforce aspects of the Christian message.
- People may have donated expensive items to the church in memory of loved ones and the church may feel duty bound to use these items.

On the other hand:

- Elaborate and expensive furnishings may distract people from worship. Quality of worship in a church is more important than the cost of furnishings.
- The money spent on paintings and stained glass windows could be put to better use.
- God can be worshipped anywhere and plain buildings are just as practical as elaborate ones. Plain buildings are also easier to maintain.

Accept valid alternatives

(AO2)

[5]

- (c) **“It is easier to worship God in a church building.”**
Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer.

**AVAILABLE
MARKS**

Target: Evaluation of where it is best to worship God.

Levels	Criteria	Comments	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.		0
Level 1	Opinion which may be supported by one simple reason.	The candidate presents some relevant information.	1
Level 2	Opinion supported by one or 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 and informed insights	4–5

Answers may include:

- The church is God’s house and is a consecrated building. People feel they are in God’s presence and it is easier to worship there.
- The church is where Christians come together as a community and it is easier to worship with others.
- Singing hymns in a church is more inspirational. There is a special atmosphere when worshipping in a church.

On the other hand:

- Christians can worship God anywhere because God is everywhere/ omnipotent.
- Some Christians prefer to worship alone as they can concentrate better.
- Worshipping outside in beautiful scenery reminds them of the Creator God and it is easier to focus.
- There is a danger that they are worshipping the church building rather than worshipping God.
- Church worship is too formal and they find it easier to be worshipping in a fellowship group in a person’s home.

Accept valid alternatives

(AO2)

[5]

15

3 Sacraments and ordinances

(a) Describe how the bread and wine are distributed in *two* Protestant denominations.

Target: Knowledge of how the elements are given out in different Protestant denominations.

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"> One relevant and accurate point. 	1
Level 2	A clear knowledge and understanding with some development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two relevant and accurate points. Two or more relevant and accurate points with one developed. A single point that is exceptionally well-developed may reach this level. 	2–3
Level 3	A detailed answer showing very good development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two or three relevant and accurate points with development. Level 3 answers will be well-structured with good development. 	4–5

Answers may include:

- Church of Ireland. The celebrant of the communion takes the bread and wine first; he/she gives the elements to those who will assist with the distribution of the bread and wine. The members of the congregation kneel at the communion rail, and receive a piece of bread and then take a sip from a common chalice. They return to their seats to reflect on the significance of the event.
- Presbyterian. The congregation remain in their seats. The elders bring plates with pieces of bread. They are passed along the rows and each person takes a piece of bread. The minister may say “this is the body of Christ” and everyone eats the bread at the same time. The wine is distributed in small individual glasses in the same way and everyone drinks it at the same time. The minister then gives the bread and wine to the elders. One of the elders then gives the elements to the minister.

Accept valid alternatives

(AO1)

[5]

AVAILABLE
MARKS

(b) Explain the importance of baptism in Protestant traditions.

**AVAILABLE
MARKS**

Target: Knowledge and understanding of the importance of baptism in Protestant traditions.

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">• One relevant and accurate point.	1
Level 2	A clear knowledge and understanding with some development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two relevant and accurate points.• Two or more relevant and accurate points with one developed.• A single point that is exceptionally well-developed may reach this level.	2–3
Level 3	A detailed answer showing very good development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two or three relevant and accurate points with development.• Level 3 answers will be well-structured with good development.	4–5

Answers may include:

- Baptism is a sacrament or an ordinance that was instituted by Jesus and it is important for Christians today to follow Jesus' example.
- Baptism is a sacrament of initiation and it makes a person become a member of the Christian Church. Baptism is important because it allows someone to receive other sacraments within the church.
- Baptism gives a person the opportunity to make a fresh start. Sin is washed away and God is invited into their lives. Through baptism Christians receive the grace and fullness of God's Holy Spirit.
- Baptism is a public declaration of a personal commitment to the Christian faith.

Accept valid alternatives
(AO1)

[5]

(c) “Communion should be celebrated every Sunday in Protestant churches.”

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

Target: Evaluation of how often communion should be celebrated in the Protestant churches.

Levels	Criteria	Comments	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.		0
Level 1	Opinion which may be supported by one simple reason.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The candidate presents some relevant information. 	1
Level 2	Opinion supported by one or two simple reasons or one developed reason.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reasoned arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses. 	2–3
Level 3	A well-argued response with evidence of informed insights.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well-formed and reasoned arguments are given to analyse and evaluate personal responses and informed insights. 	4–5

Answers may include:

- It is important to have communion on a regular basis because it is a continual reminder of the death and resurrection of Jesus which is the most important aspect of the Christian faith.
- It is obeying the command Jesus gave to his disciples at the Last Supper.
- Regular communion helps to build up the faith and the fellowship of the church and to thank God for the death of his son.

On the other hand:

- If communion is celebrated every Sunday it will lose its meaning because people will no longer think about the significance of the service.
- The actual service content and the distribution of the elements can reduce the time available to preach the Word of God which some people see as the most important part of the service. Preaching is used to expound the scriptures and to give guidance on living the Christian faith.
- Some people are reluctant to attend communion services because they feel they are not good enough to share the bread and wine with others.
- Only celebrating communion from time to time highlights the importance of Jesus’ death and resurrection even more.

Accept valid alternatives
(AO2)

[5]

15

AVAILABLE
MARKS

4 The Early Church

AVAILABLE
MARKS

(a) Describe Paul's teaching when he compared the church to the human body.

Target: Knowledge of Paul's teaching on how the church could be compared to a human body.

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"> One relevant and accurate point. 	1
Level 2	A clear knowledge and understanding with some development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two relevant and accurate points. Two or more relevant and accurate points with one developed. A single point that is exceptionally well-developed may reach this level. 	2–3
Level 3	A detailed answer showing very good development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two or three relevant and accurate points with development. Level 3 answers will be well-structured with good development. 	4–5

Answers may include:

- The Church is made up of the people of God and he described the Church using the image of the human body. 1 Cor 12: 1–11, 14–22
- The Church is made up of different types of people just as the human body had different parts.
- Each part of the human body has a specific function and purpose just as the individuals in a church have a specific role to play and a specific contribution to make.
- The different parts of the body need to work together for the body to function properly. No part can be regarded as unnecessary or less important than the other.
- The Church is made up of people with a variety of gifts and abilities. Every member of the Church is needed and no one should feel inferior.
- People have a variety of spiritual gifts or roles to play in a church fellowship.

Accept valid alternatives
(AO1)

[5]

(b) Do you think Protestant churches should encourage speaking in tongues more often? Give reasons for your answer.

**AVAILABLE
MARKS**

Target: Analysis of the value of and the place of speaking in tongues in today's society.

Levels	Criteria	Comments	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.		0
Level 1	Opinion which may be supported by one simple reason.	The candidate presents some relevant information.	1
Level 2	Opinion supported by one or 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 illustrates that the Holy Spirit is alive and at work.
- It carries on the tradition of the early church and the events of Pentecost.
- It was one of the spiritual gifts highlighted by St Paul and he encouraged that all of them be used including speaking in tongues.
- It is a means by which God communicates with individuals.
- Speaking in tongues helps people to express their feelings and thoughts to God.

On the other hand:

- It can prove divisive in a church. Those who are not speaking in tongues may feel they are inferior.
- For some Christians only a limited number may understand what the other person is praying or saying and so they do not feel part of the worship.
- It is important that the message given in tongues is accompanied with an interpretation so that others may understand as well. There may be an inability to interpret the message.
- It would be better to confine speaking in tongues to private prayer as it is more meaningful for the individual.

Accept valid alternatives

(AO2)

[5]

(c) “Churches today should be more involved in the local community.”
Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer.

AVAILABLE
MARKS

Target: Evaluation of a sense of community in churches today.

Levels	Criteria	Comments	Marks
0	Nothing relevant or worthy of credit.		0
Level 1	Opinion which may be supported by one simple reason.	The candidate presents some relevant information.	1
Level 2	Opinion supported by one or 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 and informed insights	4–5

Answers may include:

- Fewer people today are involved in the church because they have little or no interest in Christianity.
- Too many people associate church with just attending worship on a Sunday and do not want to commit themselves to a greater involvement because of other commitments.
- Few churches organise events which create a real sense of community. Fulfilling health and safety guidelines can be difficult.
- People in need today rely on assistance from government agencies rather than turning to the church.

On the other hand:

- Some churches organise home study groups which help to build up a sense of community and togetherness.
- Some run activities that encourages members of the church to work together to offer support to their local community, e.g. after school clubs, parent and toddlers groups, youth clubs.
- Members of the church are involved in leading public worship thus allowing them to use their talents for the good of others.
- Members work in teams to organise outreach to the local community through the use of food banks or visiting senior citizens in the community.

Accept valid alternatives
(AO2)

[5]

15

Section B

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

**AVAILABLE
MARKS**

5 Saint Patrick

(a) Describe the key events in the life of Saint Patrick.

Target: Knowledge of the key events in Patrick’s life.

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"> • One relevant and accurate point. 	1
Level 2	A clear knowledge and understanding with some development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two relevant and accurate points. • Two or more relevant and accurate points with one developed. • A single point that is exceptionally well-developed may reach this level. 	2–3
Level 3	A detailed answer showing very good development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two or three relevant and accurate points with development. • Level 3 answers will be well-structured with good development. 	4–5

Answers may include:

- Patrick was first brought to Ireland as a slave boy at the age of 16.
- He came to know God through his captivity. He prayed frequently.
- After 6 years he escaped.
- When he returned home he experienced many dreams and visions.
- In a dream he received a call from the Irish, begging him to return to the land of his captivity.
- Patrick responded to the call and returned to Ireland.
- Patrick encountered many difficulties and hardships during his ministry.
- His life was often in danger. Coroticus killed and captured many of his newly baptised converts.
- He baptised many thousands and he also wrote important letters.
- Patrick stayed in Ireland despite feeling homesick until his death.

Accept valid alternatives

(AO1)

[5]

(b) Explain Christian qualities shown by Patrick throughout his time in Ireland.

**AVAILABLE
MARKS**

Target: Knowledge and understanding of how Patrick’s Christian qualities helped him when he was in Ireland.

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"> • One relevant and accurate point. 	1
Level 2	A clear knowledge and understanding with some development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two relevant and accurate points. • Two or more relevant and accurate points with one developed. • A single point that is exceptionally well-developed may reach this level. 	2–3
Level 3	A detailed answer showing very good development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two or three relevant and accurate points with development. • Level 3 answers will be well-structured with good development. 	4–5

Answers may include:

- He was a forgiving person. Despite what had happened when he was brought to Ireland as a slave he was prepared to come to Ireland a second time.
- He was very courageous in that he remained in Ireland despite the many dangers and difficulties he faced. He was not afraid to speak out against the actions of Coroticus when he knew it would make him unpopular with some very important people.
- Patrick prayed to God up to 100 times a day. This would have helped him in his ministry.
- He was a humble and honest person. He believed that what he had achieved had come from God. He was prepared to admit that he was far from perfect.
- He was a good communicator in that he had the ability to explain the Christian message clearly. This helped people to commit their lives to Jesus.
- He was an excellent pastor and dedicated his life to caring for people. He put them first and this meant never seeing his friends or family again. People knew he would help them.

Accept valid alternatives

(AO1)

[5]

- (c) **“Being a Christian today is more challenging than it was in the past.”**
Do you agree or disagree? Give reasons for your answer showing that you have considered different points of view.

Target: Analysis and evaluation of level of challenge Christians today face compared with those encountered in the past.

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:

- Christians today live in what is an increasing secular and anti-religious society. Christian standards are being undermined at both a social and political level.
- It is harder due to the many distractions people face today. These include the media, money, power and status, falling moral standards, and many controversial issues.
- There are a large variety of religions to choose from in the 21st century.
- People are critical about the Christian faith and believe that science has all the answers. They question whether Jesus' miracles are real or just illusions.
- The teaching and lifestyle which is contained in the Bible is seen as old fashioned and out of date for today's society. Christians are sometimes ridiculed and made fun off when they try to put Biblical teaching into practice.

On the other hand:

- Being a Christian today isn't more challenging. Earlier Christians had to contend with greater obstacles than most Christians today. This included violence and persecution.
- Early Christians had to teach a largely uneducated society and they did not have the resources people have today to spread the Christian faith.

- Churches today through fellowship can support others in practising their faith.
 - Christians in every generation face many difficulties.
- Accept valid alternatives
(AO2)

[10]

**AVAILABLE
MARKS**

20

6 Church government

- (a) Choose *one* Protestant denomination and outline the way in which it is governed.

Target: Knowledge of how a Protestant denomination is governed.

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"> One relevant and accurate point. 	1
Level 2	A clear knowledge and understanding with some development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two relevant and accurate points. Two or more relevant and accurate points with one developed. A single point that is exceptionally well-developed may reach this level. 	2–3
Level 3	A detailed answer showing very good development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two or three relevant and accurate points with development. Level 3 answers will be well-structured with good development. 	4–5

Answers may include:

- Church of Ireland has an episcopal structure. Archbishop, bishop in charge of a diocese, a minister in charge at parish. Structure of deacons, priests and deacons. At parish level there is a select vestry which includes 2 church wardens and 2 glebe wardens. There is a General Synod covering the whole church which meets once a year to review the work of the denomination. Each diocese has an annual diocesan synod with all churches in the diocese sending clergy and lay people who have been chosen at an Easter vestry.
- Presbyterian Church has a democratic structure. The Moderator is appointed on a yearly basis. There is an annual General Assembly, five regional synods, 21 presbyteries with about 24 churches in each. Each congregation has a kirk session. Elders assist the minister by supporting a number of families in the church.
- Baptist Church regards each individual church as being independent. There is an Association of Baptist Churches in Ireland which is overseen by a Church Council. Leadership in each church is provided by a pastor, deacons and elders.
- Methodist Church is described as being “connexional”. The main decision making body is the Methodist Council which is chaired by the President on an annual basis. There are 8 District Synods responsible for the management of church property and the development of worship in the district. Each individual church is called a society with a Church Council which makes decisions.

Accept valid alternatives
(AO1)

[5]

AVAILABLE
MARKS

(b) Explain why ordination is an important event in the lives of some people.

AVAILABLE
MARKS

Target: Knowledge and understanding of the significance of ordination.

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"> One relevant and accurate point. 	1
Level 2	A clear knowledge and understanding with some development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two relevant and accurate points. Two or more relevant and accurate points with one developed. A single point that is exceptionally well-developed may reach this level. 	2–3
Level 3	A detailed answer showing very good development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two or three relevant and accurate points with development. Level 3 answers will be well-structured with good development. 	4–5

Answers may include:

- Some people feel that they are responding to the call of God to dedicate their lives to him by being ordained as a church minister.
- It is a sense of vocation being fulfilled. It gives them an opportunity to make a positive impact on the lives of others.
- They are following in the footsteps of Jesus and his disciples by caring for others and preaching the word of God.
- They have an opportunity to be involved in full time evangelism.
- They are committing their lives to the church on a full time basis.

Accept valid alternatives
(AO1)

[5]

(c) “The minister/pastor should encourage others to take leadership roles in their churches.”

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

Target: Analysis and evaluation of involving others in leadership roles in a 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:

- The minister/pastor has been appointed by the congregation to run the church.
- The minister/pastor is there as a guide to faith and to give help and advice to those who need it.
- By involving others in leadership roles he will lose his authority and influence.
- There are certain tasks that only ordained persons can do regarding sacraments and ordinances.
- They have been trained for the responsibility they have been entrusted with.
- The congregation who pay his salary may expect the minister/pastor to take the lead in everything.

On the other hand:

- St Paul compared the church to the human body. Individuals have specific gifts and talents that can enhance the life and witness of the church. They may be trained teachers who could be excellent leaders in Sunday school and youth work or those who are gifted musicians who can contribute to the praise element of weekly worship.
- Delegating some of the tasks reduces the workload on the minister/pastor who is still in a coordinating role.

- It makes people feel valued in that they are a player rather than just a spectator. It gives them an opportunity to live out their faith in a practical way.
- Some traditions emphasise the priesthood of all believers.
- No minister/pastor can effectively run every aspect of a church on their own.

Accept valid alternatives
(AO2)

[10]

AVAILABLE
MARKS

20

7 Festivals

AVAILABLE
MARKS

(a) Describe what happened on the Day of Pentecost.

Target: Knowledge of the key events on the first Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:1–8).

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"> One relevant and accurate point. 	1
Level 2	A clear knowledge and understanding with some development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two relevant and accurate points. Two or more relevant and accurate points with one developed. A single point that is exceptionally well-developed may reach this level. 	2–3
Level 3	A detailed answer showing very good development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two or three relevant and accurate points with development. Level 3 answers will be well-structured with good development. 	4–5

Answers may include:

- The early believers were all gathered in the one place.
- There was a noise from the sky which sounded like a mighty wind and it filled the house where they were seated.
- What appeared to be tongues of fire spread out and touched each of them.
- They were now filled with the Holy Spirit as Jesus had promised them at his ascension.
- They began to speak in other languages and those who were visiting Jerusalem for a religious festival from all over the world could understand what the disciples were saying. They were amazed at what was happening.
- Peter preached to the crowd and 3000 people became followers that day.

Accept valid alternatives
(AO1)

[5]

(b) Explain why Advent is an important time for Christians.

**AVAILABLE
MARKS**

Target: Knowledge and understanding of the importance of the season 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">• One relevant and accurate point.	1
Level 2	A clear knowledge and understanding with some development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two relevant and accurate points.• Two or more relevant and accurate points with one developed.• A single point that is exceptionally well-developed may reach this level.	2–3
Level 3	A detailed answer showing very good development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two or three relevant and accurate points with development.• Level 3 answers will be well-structured with good development.	4–5

Answers may include:

- The season of Advent is all about the coming of Jesus as Messiah and Saviour and it is a period of preparation for Christmas.
- It begins four Sundays before Christmas Day and at church services on these four Sundays candles on an advent wreath are lit. This reminds Christians of the role of the patriarchs, the prophets, John the Baptist and Mary in the life of Jesus.
- Advent is also a time of preparation for the Second Coming of Jesus and it allows Christians to reflect on their own lives and living the Christian faith.
- It is a time to focus on their own hopes, dreams and expectations.
- It is the beginning of the Church Year and many Christians decide on changes they want to make in their own lives and ask God to help them.

Accept valid alternatives

(AO1)

[5]

- (c) **“Easter is the most important festival for Christians.”**
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 the significance of the main Christian festivals with a particular focus on Easter.

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:

- Without Easter and the resurrection of Jesus there would be no Christian faith.
- The resurrection confirmed who Jesus was and that the promises and predictions that had been made about Jesus had now been fulfilled.
- Christians have the confidence that other statements Jesus made will also come true, for example his Second Coming.
- Christians have the assurance of eternal life.
- The events leading up to Easter reminds Christians of Christ's sacrifice on the cross.

On the other hand:

- Without Christ's birth which is celebrated at Christmas there would have been no death and resurrection.
- Christmas is a reminder of the incarnation and that God had taken human form.
- The Christmas message is one of hope for the world today.
- The Christmas story reminds Christians of the purpose of Jesus' birth and that he was to be a Saviour.
- Pentecost is very important as it celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit which equips, empowers and encourages Christians to witness and live for Jesus.
- All festivals are important because they can be linked to Jesus and cover the key beliefs in the Christian faith.

Accept valid alternatives
(AO2)

[10]