

GCSE



# WJEC GCSE in RELIGIOUS STUDIES

## ONLINE EXAMINATION REVIEW



**UNIT 1 & 2 CHRISTIANITY  
PART A Q1 C & D**

## Contents

<b>Unit 1 Q1c Question and Mark Scheme</b>	<b>4</b>
Q1c Unmarked Answers	5
Q1c Marked and Annotated Answers	8
<b>Unit 1 Q1d Question and Mark Scheme</b>	<b>11</b>
Q1d Unmarked Answers	14
Q1d Marked and Annotated Answers	19
<b>Unit 2 Q1c Question and Mark Scheme</b>	<b>25</b>
Q1c Unmarked Answers	26
Q1c Marked and Annotated Answers	29
<b>Unit 2 Q1d Question and Mark Scheme</b>	<b>32</b>
Q1d Unmarked Answers	35
Q1d Marked and Annotated Answers	39

# **UNIT 1 CHRISTIANITY**

## QUESTION 1c AND MARK SCHEME

**(c) Explain Christian beliefs about God.**

**[AO1 8]**

**Indicative content here:**

- Creator.
- Uncaused Cause.
- Maker of Heaven and Earth.
- Sustainer.
- Daily provider (Matthew 6:11).
- Guide.
- Omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent, omnibenevolent.
- One (monotheism).
- Trinity, i.e. Father, loving; Son, redeemer, saviour; Holy Spirit, comforter.
- Eternal.
- Wanting a relationship with humankind.
- Compassionate, forgiving.
- Lawgiver.
- Judge.
- Sent Jesus (John 3:16).
- He answers prayer.
- He forgives repentant sinners.

**Where appropriate, relevant references are likely to include:**

*God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.* *John 3:16*

*From the Lord's Prayer: Give us this day our daily bread.* *Matthew 6:11*

### AO1 Marking Bands

Band	Band Descriptor	Mark Total
<b>4</b>	An excellent, highly detailed explanation showing awareness and insight into the religious idea, belief, practice, teaching or concept. Uses a range of religious/specialist language, terms and sources of wisdom and authority extensively, accurately and appropriately.	<b>7–8</b>
<b>3</b>	A very good, explanation showing awareness of the religious idea, belief, practice, teaching or concept. Uses a range of religious/specialist language, terms and sources of wisdom and authority accurately and appropriately.	<b>5–6</b>
<b>2</b>	A satisfactory explanation showing some awareness of the religious idea, belief, practice, teaching or concept. Uses religious/specialist language, terms and/or sources of wisdom and authority with some accuracy.	<b>3–4</b>
<b>1</b>	A limited explanation showing little awareness of the religious idea, belief, practice, teaching or concept. Uses religious/specialist language, terms and/or sources of wisdom and authority in a limited way and with little accuracy.	<b>1–2</b>
<b>0</b>	No relevant information provided.	<b>0</b>

## Example 1

(c) Explain Christian beliefs about God.

[8]

Christians ~~bel~~ believe that God is omnipotent. This means that he is ~~all~~ ~~knows~~ everywhere and knows everything. Christians also believe in God as the sustainer; he looks after ~~earth~~ and the people ~~on~~ in it. Christians believe that God is the creator. This means that he created the Earth and Heavens. Christians believe that he did this over a period of 6 days and rested on the 7<sup>th</sup>. However, old-earth creationist Christians would say that the 6 days should not be seen as 24 hour periods, rather longer periods of time. Christians believe in the 3 persons of God. This is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Christians believe that God is omnibenevolent which means that God is all-loving and shows unconditional love. They think this because God gave humans his only son, Jesus, to ~~be~~ be the Messiah and save humanity from sin. ~~From~~ Christians believe that God is also omniscient which means that he is all-knowing. He knows everything that happens on Earth and in Heaven.



## Example 2

(c) Explain Christian beliefs about God.

[8]

only

Many Christians believe that God is our father and that he created our world in 6 days, and made animals and humans. Another reason thing Christians believe about God is that he has the power to stop suffering, as he is "all mighty" and powerful, and will have the power to bring suffering to people who sin and disobey him.

Moreover, some Christians believe that God is all knowing and loving - like he says "love your neighbour" - this is a love which God preaches to his disciples and followers to have unconditional selfless love for people, which Christians believe about God that he is all-loving. As well as forgiving, God says forgive 70 x 7, so Christians believe that if we sin God will forgive us.

(c) Explain Christian beliefs about God.

[8]

Christian Beliefs about God  
to say

Some Christians Believe that God is the Protector of the world but other Christians would disagree with this statement. Some Christians Believe that God is ~~only~~ only to help people who have passed away to ~~over~~ chose where they wether they go into hell or heven. In my opinion I don't Believe in God ~~is~~ because ~~they~~ there is no physical proof of God existing. ~~And~~ ~~Wether~~ ~~this~~ ~~than~~ ~~for~~

## Example 1

1c 8

(c) Explain Christian beliefs about God.

[8]

Christians ~~bel~~ believe that God is omnipotent. This means that he is ~~all~~ ~~knows~~ everywhere and knows everything. Christians also believe in God as the sustainer; he looks after ~~earth~~ and the people ~~on~~ in it. Christians believe that God is the creator. This means that he created the Earth and Heavens.

Christians believe that he did this over a period of 6 days and rested on the 7<sup>th</sup>. However, old-earth creationist Christians would say that the 6 days should not be seen as 24 hour periods, rather longer periods of time. Christians believe in the 3 persons of God. This is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Christians believe that God is omnibenevolent which means that God is all-loving and shows unconditional love. They think this because God gave humans his only son, Jesus, to ~~be~~ be the Messiah and save humanity from sin. ~~From~~ Christians believe that God is also omniscient which means that he is all-knowing. He knows everything that happens on earth and in Heaven.

An excellent and highly detailed response. Religious language is used extensively, accurately and appropriately. The candidate has written and explained/developed beliefs very clearly. Band 4, 8 marks.



(c) Explain Christian beliefs about God.

[8]

only

Many Christians believe that God is our father and that he created our world in 6 days, and made animals and humans. Another reason thing Christians believe about God is that he has the power to stop suffering, as he is "all mighty" and powerful, and will have the power to bring suffering to people who sin and disobey him.

Moreover, some Christians believe that God is all knowing and loving - like he says "love your neighbour" - this is agape which God teaches to his disciples and followers to have unconditional selfless love for people, which Christians believe about God that he is all-loving. As well as forgiving, God says forgive 70 x 7, so Christians believe that if we sin God will forgive us.

A very good response with some religious and specialist language. The candidate has written some clear reasons and there is some development of the points made. However, there is some repetition, particularly in the second paragraph. The candidate would benefit from explaining the beliefs and using sources of wisdom and authority to support these. Band 3, 5 marks.

(c) Explain Christian beliefs about God.

[8]

Christian Beliefs about God  
to say

Some Christians Believe that God is the Protector of this world but other Christians would disagree with this statement. Some Christians Believe that God is only to help people who have passed away to choose where they will go into hell or heaven. In my opinion I don't Believe in God because there is no physical proof of God existing. Also, I don't think there is a God.

A limited explanation with limited religious language. The candidate has responded with a 'd' style response. However, they have referred to God being a protector and helping people who have passed away. Band 1, 2 marks.

## QUESTION 1d AND MARK SCHEME

- (d) 'Forgiveness is the most important teaching in Christianity.'

Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view. (You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.) [AO2 15+6]

Marks for spelling, punctuation and the accurate use of grammar are allocated to this question.

Indicative content here:

- God's forgiveness of humankind.
- People forgiving each other.
- Forgiveness reveals God's character to be merciful (Luke 15:11-32).
- Humankind is fallen/sinful, so without forgiveness who could be saved.
- Jesus' whole mission was concerned with God's forgiveness.
- Forgiveness is central to the mission of Jesus, to the Atonement and to Salvation.
- Forgiveness is the means to reconciliation with God.
- Forgiveness is the Good News of the Gospel.
- Jesus included it in the Lord's Prayer, there is the petition to forgive as we are forgiven.
- Only then can we expect God's forgiveness.
- Jesus demonstrated forgiveness as one of his last acts from the cross.
- Christianity teaches that Christians must forgive 70 times 7 (Matthew 18:21-22).
- Jesus taught about a forgiving Father God, e.g. Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32).
- Jesus taught the supreme importance of love for others, especially enemies; this is only possible if one can forgive.
- Forgiving others enables people to deal with life/suffering, e.g. Gee Walker.
- Love was Jesus' most important teaching (Luke 10:25-37 and John 13:34-35).
- 'Love your neighbour' and 'Do unto others' are the core of Jesus' teaching.
- 'Love God' is always first.
- Worship is the most important thing for Christians.
- Jesus said that these are greatest commandments.
- It could be argued that everyone should be loved, but not everyone can be forgiven because it is conditional on repentance.
- Some would say forgiveness can't be the most important, because it is not always possible to forgive.
- Forgiveness is an act of unconditional love.
- Focusing on good deeds in the present is more important than focusing on sins of the past.
- Stewardship/care for the planet is the most important teaching for today.

Where appropriate, relevant references are likely to include:

*The Lord's Prayer: And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.*  
Matthew 6:12

*Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, 'Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?' Jesus answered, 'I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.'*  
Matthew 18:21-22

*You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbour and hate your enemy.' But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.*

*Matthew 5:43-44*

*The Parable of the Prodigal Son: God shown to be a loving, forgiving Father.*

*Luke 15:11-32*

*He answered, 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'*

*Luke 10:25-37*

*A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.*

*John 13:34*



## AO2 MARKING BANDS

Band	Band Descriptor	Mark Total
<b>4</b>	An excellent, highly detailed analysis and evaluation of the issue based on comprehensive and accurate knowledge of religion, religious teaching and moral reasoning. Clear and well supported judgements are formulated and a comprehensive range of different and/or alternative viewpoints are considered. Uses and interprets religious/specialist language, terms and sources of wisdom and authority extensively, accurately, appropriately and in detail.	<b>12-15</b>
<b>3</b>	A very good, detailed analysis and evaluation of the issue based on thorough and accurate knowledge of religion, religious teaching and moral reasoning. Judgements are formulated with support and a balanced range of different and/or alternative viewpoints are considered. Uses and interprets religious/specialist language, terms and sources of wisdom and authority accurately, appropriately and in detail.	<b>8-11</b>
<b>2</b>	A satisfactory analysis and evaluation of the issue based on some accurate knowledge of religion, religious teaching and moral reasoning. Some judgements are formulated and some different and/or alternative viewpoints are considered. Uses and interprets some religious/specialist language, terms and/or sources of wisdom and authority with some accuracy.	<b>4-7</b>
<b>1</b>	A weak analysis and evaluation of the issue based on limited and/or inaccurate knowledge of religion, religious teaching and/or moral reasoning. A limited and/or poor attempt or no attempt to formulate judgements or offer different and/or alternative viewpoints. Poor use or no use of religious/specialist language, terms and/or sources of wisdom and authority.	<b>1-3</b>
<b>0</b>	No relevant point of view stated.	<b>0</b>

### Assessment of spelling, punctuation and the accurate use of grammar Applies to Part A, Question 1, part (d) only

Band	Performance descriptions
<i>High performance</i> 5-6 marks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Candidates spell and punctuate with consistent accuracy</li> <li>Candidates use rules of grammar with effective control of meaning overall</li> </ul>
<i>Intermediate performance</i> 3-4 marks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Candidates spell and punctuate with considerable accuracy</li> <li>Candidates use rules of grammar with general control of meaning overall</li> </ul>
<i>Threshold performance</i> 1-2 marks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Candidates spell and punctuate with reasonable accuracy</li> <li>Candidates use rules of grammar with some control of meaning and any errors do not significantly hinder meaning overall</li> </ul>
<b>0</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The candidate writes nothing</li> <li>The candidate's response does not relate to the question</li> <li>The candidate's achievement in SPaG does not reach the threshold performance Band, for example errors in spelling, punctuation and grammar severely hinder meaning</li> </ul>



## Example 1

(d) 'Forgiveness is the most important teaching in Christianity.'

Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view.  
(You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.) [15]

Marks for spelling, punctuation and the accurate use of grammar are allocated to this question. [6]

On one hand, forgiveness is the most important teaching for Christians because Jesus forgave those who had made him suffer. When Jesus <sup>was</sup> on the cross, he <sup>said</sup> ~~says~~, "forgive them father, for they don't know what they are doing". This teaches Christians to forgive people who have wronged us no matter what. The Lord's Prayer teaches Christians how important forgiveness in Christianity is. The parable of the ~~Prodigal~~ <sup>not forgiven</sup> Prodigal Son teaches Christians this is an important teaching because the father forgives the son, even when he spent all his money. Forgiveness is the most important teaching for Christians because forgiveness is one of Jesus' most repeated teaching. For example, he teaches, "turn the other cheek" and "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times".

On the other hand, some Christians may believe that love is the most important teaching. Christians are taught to love one another, even their enemies. The quote "love thy neighbour" shows that loving each other is an important teaching in Christianity. Another thing Christians are taught is agape, which is showing unconditional love.

to everyone. Agape is one of the most important teaching as it represents God's omnibenevolence to humanity. God loved ~~for~~ humanity so much that he gave his only son to the world, Jesus the messiah. In the parable, ~~the~~ the Good Samaritan, it teaches that love is the most important teaching because you must love those who are your enemies also.

To conclude this, I believe the stronger ~~argue~~ argument is the forgiveness one because Jesus teaches Christians a lot ~~of~~ about forgiveness and gives Christians many examples. "Love thy neighbour" also links with forgiveness as ~~you~~ it shows you are willing to forgive anyone.

Example 2

- (d) 'Forgiveness is the most important teaching in Christianity.'

Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view.  
(You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.) [15]

Marks for spelling, punctuation and the accurate use of grammar are allocated to this question. [6]

For some Christians forgiveness can only be given if the person forgiving truly <sup>wants to forgive</sup> ~~forgets~~. These Christians also believe that they should follow the commands of God which is 'Thou shalt not kill, those that do so shall be put to death' (Exodus 20:15/16). I think that this is a strong argument because it shows that the crime should have an equal punishment and that sometimes the punishment is <sup>that they should</sup> ~~not~~ be forgiven. Christians also argue that they <sup>need to</sup> ~~must~~ understand why ~~they~~ the offender has done <sup>these</sup> ~~those~~ bad actions towards them in order to truly ~~understand~~ believe and know that they can forgive. I think that this is also a strong argument because it demonstrates that ~~the~~ Christians must also show a relativist side to their ~~beliefs~~ beliefs like Jesus and act as Jesus did in his life on ~~earth~~ Earth.

Other Christians believe that forgiveness is the most important teaching in Christianity ~~because~~, they believe that they should follow Jesus' command to God which was 'Father forgive them! They will also follow the Lord's prayer where it states 'forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us' So that they can remain virtuous and true to God. Christians are also taught by the Bible to 'turn the other cheek' which means that they should forgive by not becoming angry and understanding the truth behind the bad actions of the person they are forgiving. I think this is a strong argument because it shows that Christians always try to remain fair and just in order to forgive and understand.

Overall I think that forgiveness is the most important teaching because it allows Christians to stay <sup>true</sup> to God and to stay in line with his laws.

### Example 3

- (d) 'Forgiveness is the most important teaching in Christianity.'

Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view.  
(You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.) [15]

Marks for spelling, punctuation and the accurate use of grammar are allocated to this question. [6]

Christians believe that forgiveness is an important teaching, Jesus said 'forgive them they don't know what they are doing' this made Christians believe that forgiveness is an important thing and to be able to move on they must forgive.



## Example 1

1d: 15  
SPAG: 6

(d) 'Forgiveness is the most important teaching in Christianity.'

Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view.  
(You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.) [15]

Marks for spelling, punctuation and the accurate use of grammar are allocated to this question. [6]

On one hand, forgiveness is the most important teaching for Christians because Jesus forgave those who had made him suffer. When Jesus <sup>was</sup> on the cross, he ~~said~~ <sup>said</sup>, "forgive them father, for they don't know what they are doing". This teaches Christians to forgive people who have wronged us no matter what. The Lord's Prayer teaches Christians on how important forgiveness in Christianity is. The parable of the ~~Prodigal Son~~ <sup>not forgiveness</sup> teaches Christians this is an important teaching because the father forgives the son, even when he spent all his money. Forgiveness is the most important teaching for Christians because forgiveness is one of Jesus' most repeated teaching. For example, he teaches, "turn the other cheek" and "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times".

On the other hand, some Christians may believe that love is the most important teaching. Christians are taught to love one another, even their enemies. The quote "love thy neighbour" shows that loving each other is an important teaching in Christianity. Another thing Christians are taught is agape, which is showing unconditional love.

to everyone. Agape is one of the most important teaching as it represents God's omnibenevolence to humanity. God loved ~~by~~ humanity so much that he gave his only son to the world, Jesus the messiah. In the parable, ~~the~~ the Good Samaritan, it teaches that love is the most important teaching because you must love those who are your enemies also.

To conclude this, I believe the stronger ~~argue~~ argument is the forgiveness one because Jesus teaches Christians a lot ~~of~~ about forgiveness and gives Christians many examples. "Love thy neighbour" also links with forgiveness as ~~you~~ it shows you are willing to forgive anyone.

An excellent and highly detailed response. The candidate has focused on the demands of the question ('most important') and, as a result, has provided a balanced response with well supported judgements. There are alternative viewpoints that are relevant to the statement. The candidate has used and interpreted religious and specialist language and sources of authority extensively, accurately, appropriately and in detail. Band 4, 15 marks.

- (d) 'Forgiveness is the most important teaching in Christianity.'

Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view.  
(You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.) [15]

Marks for spelling, punctuation and the accurate use of grammar are allocated to this question. [6]

For some Christians forgiveness can only be given if the person forgiving truly <sup>wants to forgive</sup> ~~forgets~~. These Christians also believe that they should follow the commands of God which is 'Thou shalt not kill, those that do so shall be put to death' (Exodus 20:15/16). I think that this is a strong argument because it shows that the crime should have an equal punishment and that sometimes the punishment is <sup>that they should</sup> ~~not~~ be forgiven. Christians also argue that they <sup>need to</sup> ~~must~~ understand why ~~they~~ the offender has done <sup>these</sup> ~~those~~ bad actions towards them in order to truly ~~understand~~ believe and know that they can forgive. I think that this is also a strong argument because it demonstrates that ~~the~~ Christians must also show a relativist side to their ~~beliefs~~ beliefs like Jesus and act as Jesus did in his life on ~~earth~~ Earth.



Other Christians believe that forgiveness is the most important teaching in Christianity ~~because~~, they believe that they should follow Jesus' command to God which was 'Father forgive them! They will also follow the Lord's prayer where it states 'forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us' so that they can remain virtuous and true to God. Christians are also taught by the Bible to 'turn the other cheek' which means that they should forgive by not becoming angry and understanding the truth behind the bad actions of the person they are forgiving. I think this is a strong argument because it shows that Christians always try to remain fair and just in order to forgive and understand.

Overall I think that forgiveness is the most important teaching because it allows Christians to stay <sup>true</sup> to God and to stay in line with his laws.

A very good and detailed analysis. The candidate has included a balanced range of viewpoints and there is evidence of religious language and sources of wisdom and authority. The candidate would have benefited from clearly linking the first paragraph to the trigger in the question 'most important teaching'. Where the candidate has not clearly referred to forgiveness being the most important teaching, their response is not clearly explained and is therefore not credit worthy of a band 4. Band 4, 9 marks.

Example 3

1d: 2  
SPAG: 1

(d) 'Forgiveness is the most important teaching in Christianity.'

Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view.  
(You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.) [15]

Marks for spelling, punctuation and the accurate use of grammar are allocated to this question. [6]

Christians believe that forgiveness is an important teaching, Jesus said 'Forgive them they don't know what they are doing' this made Christians believe that forgiveness is an important thing and to be able to move on they must forgive.

A weak analysis with limited religious knowledge. Whilst the candidate has made an attempt to formulate a judgement, this response is limited. The candidate would benefit from providing an alternative viewpoint and focus on the demands of the statement that forgiveness is the 'most important' Christian belief. Band 1, 2 marks.



# **UNIT 2 CHRISTIANITY**

## QUESTION 1c AND MARK SCHEME

(c) Explain ways in which Christians use the Bible.

[AO1 8]

Indicative content here:

- As God's authoritative word ('God-breathed', 2 Timothy 3:16), e.g. for setting doctrine, moral rules.
- Readings in the service / OT and NT.
- Sermon: preaching/teaching based on Bible passages.
- In church or chapel, passages displayed on walls, banners to inspire worshippers.
- Psalms recited in the liturgy.
- Worship songs and hymns use scripture.
- Particular readings in special services, e.g. communion, wedding.
- Ring placed on Bible in wedding service – their vows of commitment are before God.
- For inspiration.
- Read in private devotions.
- Used as a focus for meditation.
- Group Bible study.
- They read it to learn about the Faith.
- Guidance, e.g. seeking advice, example of Christ or other biblical characters.
- Test book, e.g. to weigh advice received, teaching and opinions.
- 2 Timothy 3:16-17 – 'All Scripture is useful...'
  - for teaching,
  - for rebuking,
  - for correcting,
  - for training in righteousness,
  - for equipping believers for every good work.

Where appropriate, relevant references are likely to include:

*All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*  
2 Timothy 3:16-17.

### AO1 Marking Bands

Band	Band Descriptor	Mark Total
4	An excellent, highly detailed explanation showing awareness and insight into the religious idea, belief, practice, teaching or concept. Uses a range of religious/specialist language, terms and sources of wisdom and authority extensively, accurately and appropriately.	7–8
3	A very good, explanation showing awareness of the religious idea, belief, practice, teaching or concept. Uses a range of religious/specialist language, terms and sources of wisdom and authority accurately and appropriately.	5–6
2	A satisfactory explanation showing some awareness of the religious idea, belief, practice, teaching or concept. Uses religious/specialist language, terms and/or sources of wisdom and authority with some accuracy.	3–4
1	A limited explanation showing little awareness of the religious idea, belief, practice, teaching or concept. Uses religious/specialist language, terms and/or sources of wisdom and authority in a limited way and with little accuracy.	1–2
0	No relevant information provided.	0

## Example 1

(c) Explain ways in which Christians use the Bible.

[8]

Christians use the bible for guidance on how they should live their life as different stories in the bible can be interpreted in different ways. It provides an example for Christians to follow and they may turn to it in times of uncertainty. It is also used in services as readings and stories are said, hymns and prayers from the bible are said and this reminds Christians of their faith whilst bringing the community together. They also use the bible to deepen their relationship with God as due to revelation Christians can understand God's personality more through him revealing himself in the bible. Christians use the bible to

study to deepen their faith and develop their own understanding of passages which can then be interpreted with others. Lastly, it is used to bless people during ceremonies like baptism and marriage as readings are said to the person.

(c) Explain ways in which Christians use the Bible.

[8]

Christians use the Bible to become closer to God and Christianity. The Bible offers forgiveness and different teachings to live by.

The Bible's stories ~~teach~~ guides the believer to lead a better lifestyle and to make it to heaven. The Bible also ~~teaches~~ tells the ~~read~~ believer the rights and wrongs, such as do not kill and do not commit adultery. These ~~thing~~ commandments lead Christians to a better lifestyle and to lead a life to heaven.

The ~~pr~~ teachings taught to Christians are very important as they are teachings given by God.

Example 3

(c) Explain ways in which Christians use the Bible.

[8]

Christians use the bible daily for prayer, for guidance to live the least sinful life by following the teachings of the bible.

using it in prayer in church, using it to help you make a moral ethic decision.



## Example 1

2c: 8

(c) Explain ways in which Christians use the Bible.

[8]

Christians use the bible for guidance on how they should live their life as different stories in the bible can be interpreted in different ways. It provides an example for Christians to follow and they may turn to it in times of uncertainty. It is also used in services as readings and stories are said, hymns and prayers from the bible are said and this reminds Christians of their faith whilst bringing the community together. They also use the bible to deepen their relationship with God as due to revelation Christians can understand God's personality more through him revealing himself in the bible. Christians use the bible to study to deepen their faith and develop their own understanding of passages which can then be interpreted with others. Lastly, it is used to bless people during ceremonies like baptism and marriage as readings are said to the person.

An excellent and highly detailed response. Religious language is used extensively, accurately, and appropriately. The candidate has written clear reasons and has developed the points made. Band 4, 8 marks.

(c) Explain ways in which Christians use the Bible.

[8]

Christians use the Bible to become closer to God and Christianity. The Bible offers forgiveness and different teachings to live by.

The Bible's stories ~~teaches~~ guides the believer to lead a better lifestyle and to make it to heaven. The Bible also ~~teaches~~ tells the ~~read~~ believer the rights and wrongs, such as do not kill and do not commit adultery. These ~~thing~~ commandments had Christians to a better lifestyle and to lead a life to heaven.

The ~~pr~~ teachings taught to Christians are very important as they are teachings given by God.

A very good response with some religious and specialist language. The candidate has written some clear reasons and there is some development of the points made. For example, they have developed the idea of the Bible stories guiding a believer to lead a better lifestyle and make it to Heaven. There is some repetition towards the end of the response, where the candidate has repeated the points about a better lifestyle and getting into Heaven. The candidate would benefit from including different ways in which the Bible is used and aiming to include a source of authority to support some of these ways. Band 3, 5 marks.

## Example 3

(c) Explain ways in which Christians use the Bible.

[8]

christians use the bible daily for prayer, for guidance to live the least sinful life by following the teachings of the bible.

using it in prayer in church, using it to help you make a moral ethic decision

A limited response. The candidate has included religious language, but they have not developed the points made, making the response read like a list. Therefore, the candidate would benefit from explaining each point made. For example, they could say 'how' the Bible is used for prayer. Band 1, 2 marks.

## QUESTION 1d AND MARK SCHEME

- (d) 'Belief in the afterlife is the most important Christian belief.' [AO2 15+6]

Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view. (You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.)

Marks for spelling, punctuation and the accurate use of grammar are allocated to this question.

Indicative content here:

- It highlights the nature of God:
  - God judges.
  - God is merciful.
  - God is willing to forgive.
- It shows that God's love is eternal, not just for this life.
- It is essential to beliefs to do with reward, punishment and human responsibility.
- It makes sense of evil and suffering in this life.
- It forms the basis for Christian theodicies.
- It gives a reason to live a good life.
- It acts as a warning to those who do not live a good life.
- It makes sense of questions like why evil people seem to prosper and good people suffer in this life, e.g. Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31).
- Jesus' teaching is invariably dependent upon belief in the afterlife, e.g. Parable of the Rich man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31), 'treasures in Heaven' (Matthew 6:19-21), Parable of the Great Judgement (Matthew 25:31-46), Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25).
- It gives life meaning and purpose.
- The most important teaching is Jesus' Resurrection, showing that the atonement gives us redemption and eternal life. Belief in the Resurrection is belief in an afterlife.
- Without belief in the Resurrection Christianity is foolishness, as Pauls states: 'if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith', and 'if only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied' (1 Corinthians 15:14 and 19).
- Core Christian beliefs and teachings from the Bible/Jesus focus on the afterlife, e.g. 'I am the Resurrection and the life' (John 11:25-26), 'God so loved the world...' (John 3:16), 'In my Father's house there are many mansions/rooms', (John 14:2).
- Salvation only means anything in light of an afterlife: we are saved from sin and death.
- It can't be the most important belief because It raises difficult questions that not all Christians agree on, such as would a good God create a Hell, could any sin deserve eternal punishment?
- Belief in God is the most important belief.
- Belief that Jesus is the Christ is the most important belief, because it is what defines a Christian.
- Belief in the way of agape love is the most important.
- Focusing on how we live this life is more important than the next life.
- That God is the Creator and we are called to stewardship of the planet is the most important belief for today.



Where appropriate, relevant references are likely to include:

*God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*  
John 3:16

*"I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die."*  
John 11:25-26

*Parable of the Great Judgement, where the end of a life of kindness and service is entry to God's kingdom:  
Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.*  
Matthew 25:31-46

*Parable of the Good Samaritan:  
On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"*  
Luke 10:25

*My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you?*  
John 14:1-4

*Storing up treasures on earth or in Heaven:  
Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.*  
Matthew 6:19-20

*Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus: warning against those who choose to live a godless life, and the rewards that await the righteous: estrangement from God in the afterlife, or eternity in God's presence.*  
Luke 16:19-31

*Paul's teaching on the Resurrection:  
Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.*  
1 Corinthians 15:20-22

## AO2 Marking Bands

Band	Band Descriptor	Mark Total
<b>4</b>	An excellent, highly detailed analysis and evaluation of the issue based on comprehensive and accurate knowledge of religion, religious teaching and moral reasoning. Clear and well supported judgements are formulated and a comprehensive range of different and/or alternative viewpoints are considered. Uses and interprets religious/specialist language, terms and sources of wisdom and authority extensively, accurately, appropriately and in detail.	<b>12–15</b>
<b>3</b>	A very good, detailed analysis and evaluation of the issue based on thorough and accurate knowledge of religion, religious teaching and moral reasoning. Judgements are formulated with support and a balanced range of different and/or alternative viewpoints are considered. Uses and interprets religious/specialist language, terms and sources of wisdom and authority accurately, appropriately and in detail.	<b>8–11</b>
<b>2</b>	A satisfactory analysis and evaluation based on some accurate knowledge of religion, religious teaching, and moral reasoning. Some judgements are formulated and some different and/or alternative viewpoints considered. Uses and interprets some religious/specialist language, terms and/or sources of wisdom and authority generally accurately.	<b>4–7</b>
<b>1</b>	A weak analysis and evaluation, based on a limited and/or inaccurate knowledge of religion, religious teaching and moral reasoning. A limited and/or poor attempt or no attempt to formulate judgements or offer alternative or different viewpoints. Poor use or no use of religious/specialist language, terms and/or sources of wisdom and authority.	<b>1–3</b>
<b>0</b>	No relevant point of view stated.	<b>0</b>

## Assessment of spelling, punctuation and the accurate use of grammar Applies to Section A, Question 1, part (d) only

Band	Performance descriptions
<i>High performance</i> 5-6 marks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Candidates spell and punctuate with consistent accuracy</li> <li>Candidates use rules of grammar with effective control of meaning overall</li> </ul>
<i>Intermediate performance</i> 3-4 marks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Candidates spell and punctuate with considerable accuracy</li> <li>Candidates use rules of grammar with general control of meaning overall</li> </ul>
<i>Threshold performance</i> 1-2 marks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Candidates spell and punctuate with reasonable accuracy</li> <li>Candidates use rules of grammar with some control of meaning and any errors do not significantly hinder meaning overall</li> </ul>
<b>0</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The candidate writes nothing</li> <li>The candidate's response does not relate to the question</li> <li>The candidate's achievement in SPaG does not reach the threshold performance Band, for example errors in spelling, punctuation and grammar severely hinder meaning</li> </ul>

## Q1d UNMARKED ANSWERS

### Example 1

(d) "Belief in the afterlife is the most important Christian belief."

Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view.  
(You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.) [15]

Marks for spelling, punctuation and the accurate use of grammar are allocated to this question. [8]

A person may agree with the statement because it brings comfort to them. Nobody truly knows if there is an afterlife but it comforts us to think there is instead of nothing. Another reason to agree is that Christians believe in Heaven and Hell which are both places you go to when you die - and are important in their religion. Without it they wouldn't have any religion. The main premise of Christianity is the resurrection of Jesus. This is a reason to agree as it directly implies there is an afterlife as there wouldn't have been a way for him to come back from the dead. Another reason to agree is that most things Christians are taught about morality involve Heaven and Hell in the afterlife. The parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus or the Sheep and the Goats directly involve places in the afterlife and are central teachings. A final reason why they would agree is that Jesus ascended into Heaven - if there is no afterlife there is no heaven - so the <sup>ascending</sup> ~~ascension~~ could not have happened.

A person may disagree with the statement because there are more important Christian

beliefs. They would argue it is more important to believe in the teachings of agape and forgiveness. Some would disagree because they believe in something else - they may not believe in an afterlife and think that there is no point believing in something that doesn't exist. Someone may disagree because they believe that a Christian belief such as "there is only one God" is more important as there are many teachings on it. Someone may argue against as people seem to know very little about the Afterlife and therefore isn't as important. Finally someone may disagree because they believe that following in Jesus' example and believing in God is the most important Christian belief. You don't have to be a Christian to believe in the afterlife.

Catholic believe in the afterlife a Jesus is resurrected and renders their religion void if it isn't true. Protestants accept the belief of the afterlife as important but not the most important - following beliefs like there is one God is more important. Catholics believe in a state called purgatory making this belief even more important (souls wait to go to heaven).

In my opinion I believe the belief of one God is most important.



Example 2

(d) 'Belief in the afterlife is the most important Christian belief.'

Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view.  
(You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.) [15]

Marks for spelling, punctuation and the accurate use of grammar are allocated to this question. [6]

Belief in afterlife is one of the most key beliefs in christianity. In the bible Jesus says 'those who believe in me will be given eternal life'. For many christians the promise of ~~oh~~ the afterlife or eternal life may be indeed the most important aspect. The event on which Christianity was founded was the death and resurrection of Jesus, who was god's son & died on the cross for people's sins so that they can recieve eternal life in heaven. Many christians believe that they will recieve eternal life and it is mentioned throughout the bible and the new testament, the resurrection of Lazarus ~~was~~ included to death not being the end when Jesus resurrected him.

However to some <sup>people</sup> ~~christians~~ death ~~may~~ not the afterlife may not be the key christian belief to them personally even though the ~~same~~ belief

in after life is arguably the most key aspect to christianity, the most important belief to them may be something from the teaching of Jesus such as 'love your neighbour as yourself' ~~or~~

### Example 3

- (d) 'Belief in the afterlife is the most important Christian belief.'

Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view.  
(You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.) [15]

Marks for spelling, punctuation and the accurate use of grammar are allocated to this question. [6]

I know a lot of christians believe in the after life because ~~I know I believe~~ it can be very important to christian belief because ~~if~~ they properly know their loved one will never leave them and they are always near them when they need it the most and they can always call out to them again and they also know they can't ever leaving.

## Example 1

(d) 'Belief in the afterlife is the most important Christian belief.'

Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view.  
(You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.) [15]

Marks for spelling, punctuation and the accurate use of grammar are allocated to this question. [6]

A person may agree with the statement because it brings comfort to them. Nobody truly knows if there is an afterlife but it comforts us to think there is instead of nothing. Another reason to agree is that Christians believe in Heaven and Hell which are both places you go to when you die - and are important in their religion. Without it they wouldn't have any religion. The main premise of Christianity is the resurrection of Jesus. This is a reason to agree as it directly implies there is an afterlife as there wouldn't have been a way for him to come back from the dead. Another reason to agree is that most things Christians are taught about morality involve Heaven and Hell in the afterlife. The parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus or the Sheep and the Goats directly involve places in the afterlife and are central teachings. A final reason why they would agree is that Jesus ascended into Heaven - if there is no afterlife there is no Heaven - so the <sup>ascending</sup> ~~ascending~~ could not have happened.

A person may disagree with the statement because there are more important Christian

beliefs. They would argue it is more important to believe in the teachings of agape and forgiveness. Some would disagree because they believe in something else - they may not believe in an afterlife and think that there is no point believing in something that doesn't exist. Someone may disagree because they believe that a Christian belief such as "there is only one God" is more important as there are many teachings on it. Someone may argue against as people seem to know very little about the Afterlife and therefore isn't as important. Finally someone may disagree because they believe that following in Jesus' example and believing in God is the most important Christian belief. You don't have to be a Christian to believe in the afterlife.

Catholic believe in the after life a Jesus is resurrected and renders their religion void if it isn't true. Protestants accept the belief of the afterlife as important but not the most important - following beliefs like there is one God is more important. Catholics believe in a state called purgatory making this belief even more important (souls wait to go to heaven).

In my opinion I believe the belief of one God is most important.

An excellent and highly detailed response. The candidate has focused on the demands of the question ('most important') and, as a result, has provided a balanced response with well supported judgements. There are alternative viewpoints that are relevant to the statement. The candidate has used and interpreted religious and specialist language and sources of authority extensively, accurately, appropriately and in detail. Band 4, 15 marks. SPAG 6 marks.



(d) 'Belief in the afterlife is the most important Christian belief.'

Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view.  
(You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.) [15]

Marks for spelling, punctuation and the accurate use of grammar are allocated to this question. [6]

Belief in afterlife is one of the most key beliefs in Christianity. In the bible Jesus says 'those who believe in me will be given eternal life'. For many Christians the promise of ~~an~~ the afterlife or eternal life may be indeed the most important aspect. The event on which Christianity was founded was the death and resurrection of Jesus, who was God's son & died on the cross for people's sins so that they can receive eternal life in heaven. Many Christians believe that they will receive eternal life and it is mentioned throughout the bible and the new testament, the resurrection of Lazarus ~~was~~ included to death not being the end when Jesus resurrected him.

However to some <sup>people</sup> ~~Christians~~ death ~~may~~ not be the key Christian belief to them personally even though the ~~same~~ belief

in after life is arguably the most key aspect to christianity, the most important belief to them may be something from the teaching of Jesus such as 'love your neighbour as yourself' ~~or~~

A satisfactory analysis with some religious language that has been used with some accuracy. Some judgements are formulated in the first paragraph. The candidate has also attempted to provide an alternative viewpoint although no judgement is formulated until 'love your neighbour' is mentioned on the last line. Whilst there is some evidence of a 'discussion' in the first paragraph, the candidate would benefit from providing alternative reasons in the second paragraph. They would also benefit from, explaining these reasons, with some evidence, and linking them to the statement. Band 2, 6 marks. SPAG, 4 marks.

2d: 2  
SPAG: 2

### Example 3

(d) 'Belief in the afterlife is the most important Christian belief.'

Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view.  
(You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.) [15]

Marks for spelling, punctuation and the accurate use of grammar are allocated to this question. [6]

I know a lot of christians believe in the after life because ~~I know I believe~~ it can be very important to christian belief because ~~if~~ they properly know their loved one will never leave them and they are always near them when they need it the most and they can always call out to them again and they also know they can't ever leaving.

A weak analysis with limited religious knowledge. Whilst the candidate has made an attempt to formulate a judgement, this response is limited. The candidate would benefit from providing an alternative viewpoint and focus on the demands of the statement that the afterlife is the 'most important' Christian belief. Band 1, 2marks. SPAG:2