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# GCSE

# RELIGIOUS STUDIES A

Paper 2B Thematic Studies (including textual studies)

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Wednesday 21 May 2025 Afternoon Time allowed: 1 hour 45 minutes

## Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

## Instructions

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

## Information

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

## Advice

You are advised to spend 25 minutes on each theme.

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**Section A**

You should answer **all** questions from **two** themes in Section A.

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0	1
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**Theme A: Relationships and families**

0	1	.	1
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Which **one** of the following is a term for treating women differently to men?

[1 mark]

- A Age discrimination
- B Gender discrimination
- C Race discrimination
- D Religious discrimination

0	1	.	2
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Give **two** reasons why some religious believers do **not** support polygamy.

[2 marks]

0	1	.	3
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Explain **two** contrasting religious beliefs in contemporary British society about same-sex relationships.

In your answer you must refer to the main religious tradition of Great Britain and one or more other religious traditions.

[4 marks]

0	1	.	4
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Explain **two** religious beliefs about the nature of the family.

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

[5 marks]

0	1	.	5
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'Religious believers should wait until they are married before they start a sexual relationship.'

Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you:

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

[12 marks]  
[plus SPaG 3 marks]

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

0	2	.	1
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Which **one** of the following terms describes the religious belief that humans have a responsibility to care for the world?

**[1 mark]**

- A** Creation
- B** Environment
- C** Evolution
- D** Stewardship

0	2	.	2
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Give **two** ways religious believers can help to prevent pollution.

**[2 marks]**

0	2	.	3
---	---	---	---

Explain **two** contrasting religious beliefs in contemporary British society about abortion.

In your answer you must refer to the main religious tradition of Great Britain and one or more other religious traditions.

**[4 marks]**

0	2	.	4
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Explain **two** religious beliefs that suggest experimenting on animals is wrong.

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

**[5 marks]**

0	2	.	5
---	---	---	---

'People should care for the environment in order to be rewarded in an afterlife.'

Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you:

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

**[12 marks]**  
**[plus SPaG 3 marks]**

0 3

**Theme C: The existence of God and revelation**

0 3 . 1

Which **one** of the following is **not** used as an argument for the existence of God?**[1 mark]**

- A** Design
- B** Evil and suffering
- C** Miracles
- D** Worship and prayer

0 3 . 2

Give **two** reasons why many religious people believe that God is immanent.**[2 marks]**

0 3 . 3

Explain **two** contrasting beliefs in contemporary British society about miracles.

In your answer you must refer to the main religious tradition of Great Britain and non-religious beliefs.

**[4 marks]**

0 3 . 4

Explain **two** views about the First Cause Argument as a proof of the existence of God.

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

**[5 marks]**

0 3 . 5

'Reading scripture (holy books) is the best way to learn about God.'

Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you:

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

**[12 marks]**  
**[plus SPaG 3 marks]**

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

0	4	.	1
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Which **one** of the following best expresses the idea of restoring harmony after relationships have broken down?

**[1 mark]**

- A Justice
- B Pacifism
- C Reconciliation
- D Retaliation

0	4	.	2
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Give **two** religious beliefs which show that terrorism is wrong.

**[2 marks]**

0	4	.	3
---	---	---	---

Explain **two** contrasting religious beliefs in contemporary British society about having weapons of mass destruction.

In your answer you must refer to the main religious tradition of Great Britain and one or more other religious traditions.

**[4 marks]**

0	4	.	4
---	---	---	---

Explain **two** religious beliefs about the importance of peace-making in the world.

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

**[5 marks]**

0	4	.	5
---	---	---	---

'War should never be described as holy.'

Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you:

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

**[12 marks]**  
**[plus SPaG 3 marks]**

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

0	5	.	1
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Which **one** of the following is **not** an aim of punishment?**[1 mark]**

- A** Addiction
- B** Deterrence
- C** Reformation
- D** Retribution

0	5	.	2
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Give **two** religious views about why murder is wrong.**[2 marks]**

0	5	.	3
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Explain **two** contrasting religious beliefs in contemporary British society about corporal punishment.

In your answer you must refer to the main religious tradition of Great Britain and one or more other religious traditions.

**[4 marks]**

0	5	.	4
---	---	---	---

Explain **two** religious views about forgiveness for people who break the law.

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

**[5 marks]**

0	5	.	5
---	---	---	---

'For religious believers, greed is the worst reason for a person to commit a crime.'

Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you:

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

**[12 marks]**  
**[plus SPaG 3 marks]**

0	6
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**Theme F: Religion, human rights and social justice**

0	6	.	1
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Which **one** of the following actions should a religious believer take to help those in poverty?

[1 mark]

- A Charge excessive interest on loans
- B Exploit those who are poor
- C Give to charity
- D Support low pay

0	6	.	2
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Give **two** religious teachings which show that people-trafficking is wrong.

[2 marks]

0	6	.	3
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Explain **two** contrasting religious beliefs in contemporary British society about the uses of wealth.

In your answer you must refer to the main religious tradition of Great Britain and one or more other religious traditions.

[4 marks]

0	6	.	4
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Explain **two** religious teachings about the treatment of women in religion.

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

[5 marks]

0	6	.	5
---	---	---	---

'Religious believers can never stop discrimination.'

Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you:

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

[12 marks]  
[plus SPaG 3 marks]

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**Section B**

You should answer **all** questions from **both** themes in Section B.

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**0 7****Theme G: St Mark's Gospel – the life of Jesus****0 7 . 1**

Which **one** of the following was the place where Jesus was baptised?

**[1 mark]**

- A** River Jordan
- B** Mount of Olives
- C** Sea of Galilee
- D** The Temple

**0 7 . 2**

Give **two** things that the High Priest said to Jesus in the trial before the Jewish authorities.

**[2 marks]****0 7 . 3**

Explain **two** contrasting views about Jesus' conversation with the disciples at Caesarea Philippi.

**[4 marks]****0 7 . 4**

Explain **two** things that Christians might learn from the healing of Jairus' daughter.

You must refer to St Mark's Gospel in your answer.

**[5 marks]****0 7 . 5**

'Mark's story of the women's visit to Jesus' tomb is clear evidence of the resurrection.'

Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you:

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

**[12 marks]  
[plus SPaG 3 marks]**

0 8

**Theme H: St Mark's Gospel as a source of religious, moral and spiritual truths**

0 8 . 1

Which **one** of the following is **not** mentioned in the Parable of the Sower?**[1 mark]**

- A** Clay soil
- B** Good soil
- C** Rocky ground
- D** Thorn bushes

0 8 . 2

Give **two** things that Jesus said when he healed the epileptic ('demon-possessed') boy.**[2 marks]**

0 8 . 3

Explain **two** contrasting views about Jesus and the children who were brought to him.**[4 marks]**

0 8 . 4

Explain **two** Christian beliefs about the Mission of the Twelve.

You must refer to St Mark's Gospel in your answer.

**[5 marks]**

0 8 . 5

'Jesus concentrated his work on those ignored by the society of his day.'

Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you:

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

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

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