



Cambridge O Level

RELIGIOUS STUDIES (BIBLE KNOWLEDGE)

2048/12

Paper 1 The Portrayal of the Life and Teaching of Jesus

October/November 2022

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 80

Published

This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and candidates, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which Examiners were instructed to award marks. It does not indicate the details of the discussions that took place at an Examiners' meeting before marking began, which would have considered the acceptability of alternative answers.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the question paper and the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers.

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This document consists of **16** printed pages.

Generic Marking Principles

These general marking principles must be applied by all examiners when marking candidate answers. They should be applied alongside the specific content of the mark scheme or generic level descriptors for a question. Each question paper and mark scheme will also comply with these marking principles.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 1:

Marks must be awarded in line with:

- the specific content of the mark scheme or the generic level descriptors for the question
- the specific skills defined in the mark scheme or in the generic level descriptors for the question
- the standard of response required by a candidate as exemplified by the standardisation scripts.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 2:

Marks awarded are always **whole marks** (not half marks, or other fractions).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 3:

Marks must be awarded **positively**:

- marks are awarded for correct/valid answers, as defined in the mark scheme. However, credit is given for valid answers which go beyond the scope of the syllabus and mark scheme, referring to your Team Leader as appropriate
- marks are awarded when candidates clearly demonstrate what they know and can do
- marks are not deducted for errors
- marks are not deducted for omissions
- answers should only be judged on the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar when these features are specifically assessed by the question as indicated by the mark scheme. The meaning, however, should be unambiguous.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 4:

Rules must be applied consistently, e.g. in situations where candidates have not followed instructions or in the application of generic level descriptors.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 5:

Marks should be awarded using the full range of marks defined in the mark scheme for the question (however; the use of the full mark range may be limited according to the quality of the candidate responses seen).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 6:

Marks awarded are based solely on the requirements as defined in the mark scheme. Marks should not be awarded with grade thresholds or grade descriptors in mind.

Question	Answer	Marks
Level descriptors for 2048		
AO1 (Knowledge and Understanding)		
Level	Mark	Level Descriptor
4	6	A thorough, well-developed and substantial response. A comprehensive account of the range and depth of relevant material demonstrating an extensive and highly accurate knowledge and understanding of the subject. There is detailed explanation. The answer is well structured.
3	4–5	Demonstrates a clear understanding of the question. The information is quite detailed. Generally accurate knowledge and understanding of the subject matter. Covers the main points accurately. The information is in a structured format.
2	2–3	Demonstrates some understanding of the question. A fair, mainly relevant but generally undeveloped response. The candidate demonstrates some factual knowledge and understanding, which is fairly accurate but may lack specific detail. Some of the main points are covered but lack substance. The information will be presented for the most part in a structured format.
1	1	An attempt to answer the question, but demonstrates little understanding of the question. Very limited knowledge of the subject. Response includes only a small amount of relevant material. Information is reported in basic outline only or as a list, with little or no explanation. Mainly inaccurate, though some credible points may be made.
0	0	No attempt whatsoever to answer the set question, or the candidate provides a wholly irrelevant response.

Question	Answer		Marks
AO2 (Evaluation)			
Level	Mark	Level Descriptor	
4	7–8	Recognises and explains the significance of the issue(s). A personal response is fully supported. A range of points of view supported by justified arguments/discussion. The information is presented in a clear and organised way. Evidence of informed insights.	
3	5–6	Understands the significance of the question. Seeks to move clearly beyond a purely descriptive approach. Justified arguments/different points of view supported by some discussion. Evidence of appropriate personal response. Some evidence of informed insights.	
2	3–4	Understands the question but the response is mainly descriptive. Only one view offered with limited support or discussion. Limited or no evidence of informed insights.	
1	1–2	The candidate's response is descriptive with no attempt to discuss or evaluate the material at all. Viewpoints are unsupported.	
0	0	No response submitted, or clearly lacks any understanding whatsoever of the subject matter.	

Question	Answer	Marks
1(a)	<p>Describe:</p> <p>(i) what John the Baptist wore and ate <u>and</u></p> <p>(ii) what happened when John baptised Jesus.</p> <p>Mark according to the level descriptors for Assessment Objective 1.</p> <p>Responses might include some of the following in quotation or paraphrase:</p> <p>(i) John's clothes were made of camel hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was wild locusts and honey.</p> <p>(ii) Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. John tried to deter him saying 'I need to be baptised by you.' Jesus replied, 'Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this...' and so John consented.</p> <p>As soon as Jesus was baptised and he came up out of the water, the heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting upon him.</p> <p>A voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, whom I love, with him I am well pleased.'</p>	6
1(b)	<p>Explain what Jesus' baptism might reveal about his identity.</p> <p>Mark according to level descriptors for Assessment Objective 1.</p> <p>Responses might explain some of the following:</p> <p>At the time of the baptism, Jesus' preaching ministry had not begun. Candidates might explain how this incident confirmed his true identity as the Messiah and as the Son of God.</p> <p>It is not known how sure, before his baptism, Jesus was that he was the Messiah. In Matthew, what happened at the baptism is described from the point of view of Jesus and would have convinced him of his call and who he really was. Jesus may have been aware that he was called to serve God but at the baptism his identity as 'Son of God' was confirmed.</p> <p>When Jesus came to be baptised, John recognised that he was not worthy to be baptising Jesus and suspected that, as he had predicted, Jesus was the one who would come after him and was more powerful and would baptise with the Holy Spirit and fire. Jesus' reply to John showed his authority over John: 'Let it be now,' and John consented.</p> <p>The image of a dove, representing the coming of the Spirit, symbolises the peaceful type of Messiah Jesus would be. Indicating that Jesus received the Spirit quietly and peacefully. The voice from heaven (the voice of God), heard by Jesus (and also by those who were watching?) clearly identifies him as 'my Son.'</p>	6

Question	Answer	Marks
1(c)	<p>‘Jesus’ understanding of the role of the Messiah was different from that of other Jews of his time.’</p> <p>To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view.</p> <p>Mark according to the level descriptors for Assessment Objective 2.</p> <p>Responses might consider some of the following:</p> <p>In support of the statement: Candidates are likely to support the statement by arguing that Jesus’ understanding of the role of Messiah as one of peacemaker, merciful and forgiving, bringing news of salvation in the form of God’s kingdom was very different from that of the Jews of the time who were looking forward to a warrior-like Messiah to deliver them from the rule of the Romans.</p> <p>To disagree, however another point of view might be that Jews of the time, with an understanding of the teachings of the prophets would recognise the role of peaceful Messiah and suffering servant from Isaiah.</p> <p>Some candidates might explore the idea that there was no particular Messianic expectation in Judaism then (as now).</p>	8

Question	Answer	Marks
2(a)	<p>Give an account of what Jesus taught in the Sermon on the Mount about not worrying (<u>RSV</u> being anxious) about your life.</p> <p>Mark according to the level descriptors for Assessment Objective 1.</p> <p>Responses might include some of the following in quotation or paraphrase:</p> <p>Jesus said, ‘I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or drink; or about your body what you will wear. Is life not more important than food and body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air they do not sow or reap or store away in barns and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who, by worrying, can add a single hour to his life?’</p> <p>‘Do not worry about clothes. See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labour or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field which is here today and tomorrow thrown into the fire will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?’</p> <p>‘So do not worry about what shall we eat. What shall we drink? What shall we wear? For the pagans run after these things and your heavenly Father knows that you need them.’</p> <p>If you seek the kingdom and his righteousness, all these things will be given to you as well. Do not worry about tomorrow (for tomorrow will worry about itself). Each day has enough trouble (to worry about) of its own.</p>	6

Question	Answer	Marks
2(b)	<p>Explain how this teaching might influence Christians today.</p> <p>Mark according to the level descriptors for Assessment Objective 1.</p> <p>Responses might explain some of the following:</p> <p>Jesus is warning about worrying and anxiety becoming an obsession. Being distracted by worrying about material things in life is showing a lack of trust in God. The person who puts God first will find that other things fall into place. Candidates might give examples of things today that could become distractors.</p> <p>When concerns about having enough to eat and drink or what to wear trouble a person they should remember that God provides for and sustains all creation, even down to the grass that grows in the field and that this teaching is timeless.</p> <p>This teaching of Jesus might influence Christians not to become absorbed by material needs and possessions but to concentrate on religious duties and the spiritual life and trust in God. Specific examples from the candidates' own contexts might be used.</p> <p>Those people who spend time worrying or being anxious about what is going to happen in the future (tomorrow) should concentrate on one day at a time as there are enough troubles in the present without worrying about future ones.</p>	6
2(c)	<p>'The Sermon on the Mount is the only teaching that Christians need.'</p> <p>To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view.</p> <p>Mark according to the level descriptors for Assessment Objective 2.</p> <p>Responses might consider some of the following:</p> <p>To support the statement candidates might argue that the straightforward nature of the teaching and the range of topics covered provides a comprehensive, practical summary of Jesus' teaching for Christians to follow.</p> <p>Evidence to support this argument might be taken from the Sermon. It covers both how to perform religious duties and how to live a spiritual and ethical life.</p> <p>To disagree it might be argued that although practical teachings about how to behave are important, Christian belief is also based on the events of the life and ministry of Jesus, Old Testament teaching, beliefs about salvation and eternal life which are not covered in the Sermon.</p> <p>Candidates might use their own examples/experience to illustrate these points; all appropriate responses should be credited.</p>	8

Question	Answer	Marks
3(a)	<p>Describe the healing of the centurion’s servant.</p> <p>Mark according to the level descriptors for Assessment Objective 1.</p> <p>Responses might include some of the following in quotation or paraphrase:</p> <p>When Jesus entered Capernaum a centurion came to him, asking for help. ‘Lord,’ he said, ‘my servant lies at home paralysed and in terrible suffering.’</p> <p>Jesus said to him, ‘I will go and heal him.’</p> <p>The centurion said, ‘Lord I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word and my servant will be healed. For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me...’</p> <p>When Jesus heard this, he was astonished and said to those following him. ‘I tell you the truth I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith. ...many will come...and will take their places at the feast...in the kingdom of heaven.’</p> <p>Then Jesus said to the centurion, ‘Go, it will be done just as you believed it would.’ And his servant was healed at that very hour.</p>	6
3(b)	<p>Explain what this miracle might teach about faith.</p> <p>Mark according to the level descriptors for Assessment Objective 1.</p> <p>Responses might explain some of the following:</p> <p>The main focus of the story is on the amazing faith of the centurion. The Roman was a gentile and Romans were hated and despised generally but this centurion is notable because he valued his servant. He had heard about Jesus and came to him because the servant was in terrible suffering.</p> <p>Responding immediately, out of compassion, Jesus said he would go and heal the man. However, the centurion recognised that Jesus had immense authority and power and he had total faith that Jesus could save his dying servant.</p> <p>The message of the story was an important lesson for the early Christians (as it is for Christians today) when Jesus’ own people, the Jews, doubted him, the centurion, a gentile, showed ‘greater faith than all Israel.’</p> <p>The story is also an important one in the gospel because at the time of Jesus there was a great deal of prejudice and discrimination against gentiles, but Jesus points out that when the time of judgement comes (the messianic banquet), there will be many who will be seen to be more deserving and more faithful than the Jewish nation.</p>	6

Question	Answer	Marks
3(c)	<p>‘Jesus only performed miracles for people who had faith.’</p> <p>To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view.</p> <p>Mark according to the level descriptors for Assessment Objective 2.</p> <p>Responses might consider some of the following:</p> <p>To agree: candidates might give examples and instances where Jesus performed miracles because of the faith of the person involved, or, as in the case of the centurion’s servant and the paralytic, because of the faith of others. Also, that as a part of the healing/teaching Jesus remarked upon the strength of the faith he encountered.</p> <p>To disagree: responses might argue a different view that many of Jesus’ miracles, especially the healings and exorcisms were performed out of compassion for those who were suffering. Jesus, as God of love, responded to people in need.</p> <p>Some candidates might suggest that Jesus performed miracles as signs of who he was and to signal that the kingdom had arrived. Candidates might give examples of this to support this view e.g. the healing miracles, forgiving sins, the nature miracles.</p>	8

Question	Answer	Marks
4(a)	<p>Give an account of the parable of the workers (<u>RSV</u> labourers) in the vineyard.</p> <p>Mark according to the level descriptors for Assessment Objective 1.</p> <p>Responses might include some of the following in quotation or paraphrase:</p> <p>The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire men to work in his vineyard. He agreed to pay them a denarius each for the day.</p> <p>About the third hour he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace and he told them: 'You also go and work in my vineyard and I will pay you whatever is right.'</p> <p>He went out again at the sixth and ninth hour and did the same thing. At the eleventh hour he found still others standing around because no one had hired them. He told them also to go and work in his vineyard.</p> <p>When the evening came, the owner said to his foreman, 'Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.' All the workers received a denarius. Those who had been hired first grumbled that those who had only worked one hour received the same wage as those who had worked all day and done the most work.</p> <p>The landowner said to them he had not been unfair for they had agreed to work for one denarius, and they had been paid what was promised to them. He accused them of being envious because he had been generous to those who had been hired last.</p>	6
4(b)	<p>Explain the meaning of this parable.</p> <p>Mark according to the level descriptors for Assessment Objective 1.</p> <p>Responses might explain some of the following:</p> <p>This parable is intended to show the way God rewards those who follow him/work for him. The way the workers were paid was nothing to do with the amount of work they had done but was as a result of the generosity of the owner. The men who had worked a short time were willing to work but had waited all day for someone to hire them. Once they were given the opportunity they were as conscientious and faithful as the rest, and it was for this that they were rewarded.</p> <p>Some people work all their lives for God and are justly rewarded for this. Others come late to his service. It is a matter of taking the opportunity when it arises. Reward is entirely dependent on God's mercy and generosity and not on personal merit or length of service.</p>	6

Question	Answer	Marks
4(c)	<p>‘Jesus’ parables need too much explanation to be relevant today.’</p> <p>To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view.</p> <p>Mark according to the level descriptors for Assessment Objective 2.</p> <p>Responses might consider some of the following:</p> <p>To support the statement: a modern reader may perhaps have difficulty with some of the first century or Old Testament references and so some of the parables in Matthew contain concepts and religious ideas, which are unfamiliar today and confusing for the reader. Some parables need more study to understand them than others. Also, there is evidence in the gospels that people failed to understand the parables and Jesus had to explain some of them.</p> <p>To disagree: comparisons and metaphors and the use of parables is still common in the modern world in all kinds of communication as well as in religion and can make the teaching easier to relate to and more vivid. It is a more interesting way of teaching than just giving an instruction or command.</p> <p>Another argument might be that parables, however, simple or complicated their construction, are not meant to be easily understood, they require spiritual insight and explanations might help with this.</p> <p>Some candidates may offer examples of parables that have complex imagery and ideas and others that are straightforward to both support and argue against the statement.</p>	8

Question	Answer	Marks
5(a)	<p>Give an account of what happened at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper.</p> <p>Mark according to the level descriptors for Assessment Objective 1.</p> <p>Responses might include some of the following in quotation or paraphrase:</p> <p>While Jesus was in Bethany, at the home of Simon the leper, a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of expensive perfume, which she poured on his head.</p> <p>The disciples were angry/indignant and accused the woman of waste. ‘This perfume could have been sold at a high price and the money given to the poor.’</p> <p>Jesus asked them why they were bothering the woman. ‘She has done a beautiful thing to me. The poor you will always have with you, but you will not always have me. She did it to prepare me for burial. Wherever the gospel is preached, what she has done will be told in memory of her.’</p>	6
5(b)	<p>Explain why this event at Bethany was a warning to the disciples to be prepared for what was to happen in the future.</p> <p>Mark according to the level descriptors for Assessment Objective 1.</p> <p>Responses might explain some of the following:</p> <p>The event of the anointing is a warning to the disciples by Jesus that they should be prepared for his death and the nature of it. He knows that his enemies are working against him.</p> <p>By her actions, it is possible that the woman wanted to show that she believed Jesus to be the Messiah, the anointed one. In defending the woman’s actions and rebuking the disciples, Jesus is predicting his own coming death and burial. Jesus refers to ‘prepare me for burial’ – it was the custom to anoint bodies with perfumes and oils before burial. This indicated that Jesus was aware of the manner of his death (the crucifixion) and also that conventional preparations would not take place.</p> <p>The woman would be remembered because, in the future, her actions would be seen as a warning/sign of what was to follow – Jesus’ death and sacrifice.</p>	6

Question	Answer	Marks
5(c)	<p>'The reaction of the disciples to what happened at Bethany was an understandable one.'</p> <p>To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view.</p> <p>Mark according to the level descriptors for Assessment Objective 2.</p> <p>Responses might consider some of the following:</p> <p>To agree with the statement: throughout Jesus' ministry it appeared that the disciples showed little understanding of Jesus' true identity despite all they had seen. Their reaction and outrage on this occasion confirms this. They saw the use of expensive oil as a waste rather than an expression of belief in Jesus as the Messiah.</p> <p>If the disciples were unable to comprehend the true identity/divinity of Jesus, this was an understandable human trait and their reaction to the woman's action on this occasion was a natural and caring one.</p> <p>To disagree: the disciples, by the time of this incident should have had an understanding of Jesus' identity as Saviour and Lord. They had seen healing and exorcisms and listened to Jesus teaching as well as witnessing the transfiguration. They also knew the growing opposition and enmity towards Jesus.</p> <p>However, it might have been that they were still unaware of the imminence or nature of his death.</p>	8

Question	Answer	Marks
6(a)	<p>Outline the events that happened at the crucifixion of Jesus beginning at noon (<u>RSV</u> the sixth hour).</p> <p>Mark according to the level descriptors for Assessment Objective 1.</p> <p>Responses might include some of the following in quotation or paraphrase:</p> <p>From noon until three in the afternoon darkness came over all the land. About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice ‘Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani’. ‘My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?’ When some of those standing by heard this, they said, ‘He is calling for Elijah.’</p> <p>Immediately, one of them ran and got a sponge filled with wine vinegar, put it on a stick and offered it to him. The rest said, ‘Leave him alone. Let’s see if Elijah comes to save him.’</p> <p>And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit.</p> <p>At that moment, the curtain of the Temple split in two from top to bottom. The earth shook and the rocks split. The tombs broke open and the bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life.</p> <p>When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that happened, they were terrified and exclaimed: ‘Surely, he was the Son of God.’</p>	6

Question	Answer	Marks
6(b)	<p>Explain the significance of these events.</p> <p>Mark according to the level descriptors for Assessment Objective 1.</p> <p>Responses might explain some of the following:</p> <p>Darkness: the darkness lasted three hours. It may have been caused by a storm or an eclipse of the sun, but Matthew regards it as a sign of coming disaster.</p> <p>The cry of despair is the same as stated in the first line of Psalm 22. In his extreme agony Jesus' cry of despair, written in Hebrew in Matthew, is mistaken by some bystanders to be a call for Elijah. His suffering was human, and he may have thought, momentarily, that God had forsaken him.</p> <p>When Jesus cried out a second time, he gave up his spirit willingly.</p> <p>The curtain in the Temple: formed a barrier between the Holy of Holies (which only priests could enter) and the Holy Place. The curtain being torn in two from top to bottom symbolised that direct access to God for everyone was made possible by Jesus' death.</p> <p>The earth shook: earth tremors were not uncommon in that part of the world and tombs might break open; however this might be seen as a prediction of the resurrection.</p> <p>Finally, it is the Roman centurion and guards, who are gentiles, who bear witness (recognise) that Jesus is the Son of God, showing him to be a universal Saviour.</p>	6
6(c)	<p>'The crucifixion is the most important event in Matthew's Gospel.'</p> <p>To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view.</p> <p>Mark according to the level descriptors for Assessment Objective 2.</p> <p>Responses might consider some of the following:</p> <p>In support of the statement: candidates are likely to give reasons concerning the fulfilment of prophecy/Jesus' death on the cross as a sacrifice to redeem sin and offer salvation for all. They might observe that as a divine decree, Jesus' death in this manner is extremely important.</p> <p>To disagree: it might be argued that death was defeated at the resurrection when Jesus was seen alive after his death. The death of Jesus was necessary for salvation from sin but in the resurrection, there is the promise of eternal life.</p> <p>Candidates might argue that all the elements of the life and ministry of Jesus, as told in the gospel, are of equal importance in Christian belief.</p>	8