

Name:



GCSE Religious Studies Exam questions

Revise by going through each page of questions and highlighting ones you would struggle to answer and evidence.

Practice these first with revision notes/guides and then in timed conditions with no notes!

Example Exam Questions: Exam 1 Origins & Meaning

| A = 2 marks = 2 minutes Try to define as accurately as possible. If relevant, give an example. | B = 5 marks = 5 minutes Try to give 3 clear ideas in your response or 2 detailed points. | C = 8 marks Try to give 4 clear ideas, evidenced & explained. | D = 15 marks (See instructions below) |
|---|--|--|---|
| <p>What do Catholics mean by the term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation ex nihilo • Evolution • Imago Dei • Inspiration • Omnipotence • Revelation • Stewardship • Transcendence <p>1 mark for brief definition 2 marks for explained definition</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Describe St. Augustine's teaching on creation ex nihilo. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe Catholic teachings on the creation accounts. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe St. Catherine of Siena's teaching on Imago Dei. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe Catholic beliefs about Imago Dei. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe Catholic attitudes to abortion. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the symbolism in the tree of life mosaic <input type="checkbox"/> Describe what Michelangelo's creation of Adam expresses about creation. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe what the creation accounts teach about the nature of God. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe what the creation accounts say about humans relationship with creation. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe Catholic teaching about the Bible. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe what interfaith dialogue is. <p><u>"Describe" questions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Define key term - 2 x Paragraphs, evidenced and explained | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Explain from either two Christian traditions or Christianity and Judaism, beliefs about creation. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain from either two Christian traditions or Christianity and Judaism, beliefs about the origins of the universe. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain from either two Christian traditions or Christianity and Judaism, beliefs about the sanctity of life. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain from either two Christian traditions or Christianity and Judaism, beliefs about abortion <input type="checkbox"/> Explain from either two Christian traditions or Christianity and Judaism, beliefs about caring for the environment <input type="checkbox"/> Explain from either two Christian traditions or Christianity and Judaism, beliefs about the Bible. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the symbolism in the tree of life mosaic <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the symbolism in Michelangelo's creation of Adam. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain what the Genesis accounts teach about the nature of God. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain what the Genesis accounts teach about the nature of humanities relationship with creation. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the importance of Catholic social teaching. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the importance of interfaith dialogue. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain how Catholic charities reflect teachings on Imago Dei <input type="checkbox"/> Explain how the work of CAFOD reflects Catholic Social teaching. <p><u>"Explain" questions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Define key term - 3 Paragraphs, evidenced and explained <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Read carefully if one or two views are needed - If two views WHICH two are allowed? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 'Only God is the cause of the universe.' <input type="checkbox"/> 'Abortion is wrong.' <input type="checkbox"/> 'All life is holy because it belongs to God.' <input type="checkbox"/> 'The creation narratives teach the same thing about God.' <input type="checkbox"/> 'Caring for the environment is a Christian responsibly.' <input type="checkbox"/> 'The Bible is out of date.' <input type="checkbox"/> 'Michelangelo's creation of Adam expresses Catholic beliefs about creation.' <p><u>Evaluate the statement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Define key term <p>Remember to LINK back to the statement</p> <p>Remember to give EVIDENCE</p> <p>Remember to EVALUATE by commenting on which argument is strongest/most convincing</p> |

Example Exam Questions: Exam 1 Good & Evil

| <p>A = 2 marks = 2 minutes Try to define as accurately as possible. If relevant, give an example.</p> | <p>B = 5 marks = 5 minutes Try to give 3 clear ideas in your response or 2 detailed points.</p> | <p>C = 8 marks Try to give 4 clear ideas, evidenced & explained.</p> | <p>D = 15 marks (See instructions below)</p> |
|--|--|--|---|
| <p>What do Catholics mean by the term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conscience • Evil • Free will • Goodness • Incarnation • Natural law • Privation • Suffering <p>1 mark for brief definition 2 marks for explained definition</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Describe St. Augustine's teaching about privation. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the difference between natural and moral evil. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe how a Catholic would respond to suffering. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe Catholic beliefs about the origins of evil. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the challenges of believing in God whilst evil exists. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe Catholic beliefs about God's goodness. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the significance of the suffering servant. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe Catholic beliefs about the Trinity <input type="checkbox"/> Describe Catholic beliefs about the incarnation <input type="checkbox"/> Describe Pope John Paul II's teaching about suffering. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe St. Augustine's teachings on the Trinity. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the teachings of Jesus as a source of moral authority. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe Catholic beliefs about natural law. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe Catholic beliefs about 'conscience.' <input type="checkbox"/> Describe how suffering may develop virtues. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe two features of Michelangelo's pieta. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the significance of the sorrowful mysteries of the rosary. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe what religious activities pilgrims might take part in at Lourdes. <p><u>"Describe" questions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Define key term - 2 x Paragraphs, evidenced and explained | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Explain from either two Christian traditions or Christianity and Judaism, beliefs about the goodness of God. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain from either two Christian traditions or Christianity and Judaism, beliefs about the origins of evil. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain from either two Christian traditions or Christianity and Judaism, beliefs about suffering. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain from either two Christian traditions or Christianity and Judaism, beliefs about the Trinity. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain from either two Christian traditions or Christianity and Judaism, beliefs about the incarnation. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain from either two Christian traditions or Christianity and Judaism, beliefs about the use of statues in worship. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain how Catholics might use Jesus' teaching to help them make an ethical decision. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain why Catholics may use their conscience as a source of moral authority. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain why Catholics may use natural law as a source of moral authority. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the symbolism of Michelangelo's pieta. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the importance of pilgrimage for Catholics. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain how the sorrowful mysteries might help Catholics respond to the problem of evil. <p><u>"Explain" questions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Define key term - 3 Paragraphs, evidenced and explained - Read carefully if one or two views are needed - If two views WHICH two are allowed? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 'Suffering has no purpose.' <input type="checkbox"/> 'The Bible does not help Catholics make decisions.' <input type="checkbox"/> 'Conscience is the best moral guide.' <input type="checkbox"/> 'Going on pilgrimage is no longer important.' <input type="checkbox"/> 'All Catholics should go on pilgrimage.' <input type="checkbox"/> 'God the Father should make sure that no one suffers.' <input type="checkbox"/> 'Jesus' moral teachings are not relevant today.' <input type="checkbox"/> 'Statues should not be used in worship.' <p><u>Evaluate the statement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Define key term <p>Remember to LINK back to the statement</p> <p>Remember to give EVIDENCE</p> <p>Remember to EVALUATE by commenting on which argument is strongest/most convincing</p> |

Example Exam Questions: Exam 2 Life & Death

| <p>A = 2 marks = 2 minutes Try to define as accurately as possible. If relevant, give an example.</p> | <p>B = 5 marks = 5 minutes Try to give 3 clear ideas in your response or 2 detailed points.</p> | <p>C = 8 marks Try to give 4 clear ideas, evidenced & explained.</p> | <p>D = 15 marks (See instructions below)</p> |
|--|--|---|---|
| <p>What do Catholics mean by the term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Death • Eternal life • Heaven • Hell • Judgement • Magisterium • Resurrection • Soul <p>1 mark for brief definition 2 marks for explained definition</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Describe Catholic teaching about euthanasia. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe Catholic beliefs about resurrection of the body. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe Catholic beliefs about judgement. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe Catholic teaching on the soul. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe Catholic beliefs about purgatory. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the parable of the rich man and Lazarus. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the parable of the unforgiving servant. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe what is meant by 'Magisterium.' <input type="checkbox"/> Describe how the Catholic church changed as a result of the Second Vatican Council. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the scenes depicted on the sarcophagus at the Pio Cristiano Museum. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the features of a Paschal candle. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the uses of a Paschal candle. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe how music is used in the Mass. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe what Faure's Requiem conveys about life after death. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe what happens in a Catholic funeral service. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the features of the Lord's prayer. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe how a Catholic may pray for the dead. <p>"Describe" questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Define key term - 2 x Paragraphs, evidenced and explained | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Explain what happens in a Catholic funeral service. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain Catholic beliefs about life after death. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain why Catholics believe prayer is important. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain what Catholics believe about judgement by God. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain why the Catholic Church teaches that euthanasia is wrong. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain Catholic teaching on the resurrection of the body. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain Catholic teaching on life after death. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain Catholic teaching on purgatory. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain Catholic teaching on judgement. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain what the rich man and Lazarus and the Unforgiving servant reveal about the nature of the afterlife. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the role of the Magisterium <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the key documents of the Second Vatican Council. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the key changes in the Catholic Church after Second Vatican council. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the symbols depicted on the sarcophagus at the Pio Cristiano Museum. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the symbolism of the Paschal candle. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain how Faure's requiem expresses Christian belief about life after death. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain why Catholics use music in Liturgy. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the main features of a Catholic funeral. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the symbolism of a Catholic funeral. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the features of the Lord's prayer. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the importance of prayer for Catholics. <p>"Explain" questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Define key term - 3 Paragraphs, evidenced and explained <p>- Read carefully if one or two views are needed - If two views WHICH two are allowed?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Catholics must always obey the teaching of the Catholic Church.' <input type="checkbox"/> 'The resurrection of Jesus proves there is life after death.' <input type="checkbox"/> 'Funerals are a celebration.' <input type="checkbox"/> 'Catholics should pray every day.' <input type="checkbox"/> 'Euthanasia as a way of ending suffering is always wrong.' <input type="checkbox"/> 'Only God should end life.' <input type="checkbox"/> 'Everyone has a right to die.' <input type="checkbox"/> 'The two judgements are the same.' <input type="checkbox"/> 'sanctity of life is more important than quality of life.' <input type="checkbox"/> 'Death is the end of life.' <input type="checkbox"/> 'All Christians believe the same thing about life after death.' <input type="checkbox"/> 'The second Vatican council changed the Catholic Church.' <input type="checkbox"/> 'Nobody should listen to the Pope.' <input type="checkbox"/> 'Saying the Lord's prayer is the best way to pray.' <input type="checkbox"/> "Catholic beliefs in life after death are just wishful thinking" <p>Evaluate the statement - Define key term</p> <p>Remember to LINK back to the statement</p> <p>Remember to give EVIDENCE</p> <p>Remember to EVALUATE by commenting on which argument is strongest/most convincing</p> |

Example Exam Questions: Exam 2 Sin & Forgiveness

| A = 2 marks = 2 minutes Try to define as accurately as possible. If relevant, give an example. | B = 5 marks = 5 minutes Try to give 3 clear ideas in your response or 2 detailed points. | C = 8 marks Try to give 4 clear ideas, evidenced & explained. | D = 15 marks (See instructions below) |
|---|---|--|--|
| <p>What do Catholics mean by the term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absolutism • Eucharist • Evangelisation • Forgiveness • Punishment • Relativism • Salvation • sin <p>1 mark for brief definition 2 marks for explained definition</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the difference between a crime and sin. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the difference between absolute and relative morality. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the different aims of punishing criminals. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe Catholic teachings on forgiveness. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe Jesus' teachings on forgiveness. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe Pope John Paul II teaching on capital punishment. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe St. Augustine's teachings on capital punishment. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the teachings of the Catholic Church on salvation. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe how Christianity has impacted laws <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the significance of the last support. <input type="checkbox"/> Describe why the Church is known as the 'body of Christ' <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the significance of Evangelii Gaudium <p>“Describe” questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Define key term - 2 x Paragraphs, evidenced and explained | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the different aims of punishing criminals. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain Catholic attitudes to Capital punishment. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain Catholic teachings on forgiveness. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain Catholic beliefs on why Mary is the model of the Church. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain why it is important for Catholics to evangelise to others. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain Catholic beliefs about the Eucharist. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the different features of a Catholic Church. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the architecture of the Church. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the significance of the sacraments. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the nature of the Holy Catholic Church. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain two different religious beliefs about redemption. <input type="checkbox"/> Explain two different perspectives on the benefits of a multi-faith society <p>“Explain” questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Define key term - 3 Paragraphs, evidenced and explained - Read carefully if one or two views are needed - If two views WHICH two are allowed? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> ‘You should always forgive.’ <input type="checkbox"/> ‘Some things are wrong no matter what.’ <input type="checkbox"/> ‘Criminals should pay for what they have done wrong.’ <input type="checkbox"/> ‘Criminals should be punished to put others off.’ <input type="checkbox"/> ‘All Christians must evangelise by preaching the gospel’ <input type="checkbox"/> ‘Outside the Church there is no salvation’ <input type="checkbox"/> “Capital punishment is just legal murder” <input type="checkbox"/> “Religious diversity is essential to the functioning of a country” <p>Evaluate the statement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Define key term <p>Remember to LINK back to the statement</p> <p>Remember to give EVIDENCE</p> <p>Remember to EVALUATE by commenting on which argument is strongest/most convincing</p> |

Example Exam Questions: Exam 3 Judaism

| A = 2 marks = 2 minutes Try to define as accurately as possible. If relevant, give an example. | B = 5 marks = 5 minutes Try to give 3 clear ideas in your response or 2 detailed points. | C = 8 marks Try to give 4 clear ideas, evidenced & explained. | D = 15 marks (See instructions below) |
|--|--|--|--|
| <p>What do Jew's mean by the term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Synagogue • Shekinah • Shabbat • Kosher • Torah • Mitzvot • Messiah • covenant <p>These key terms will not come up as A questions but may be used in the exam so make sure you know what they are...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brit milah • Bar mitzvah • Bat mitzvah • Rosh Hashana • Yom Kippur • Pesach • Sukkot • Shabbat • Synagogue <p>1 mark for brief definition 2 marks for explained definition</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Describe Jewish beliefs on the nature of God <input type="checkbox"/> Describe Jewish beliefs in shekinah <input type="checkbox"/> Describe Jewish beliefs of the Messiah (Mashiach) <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the importance of covenants in Judaism <input type="checkbox"/> Describe two views on life after death in Judaism <input type="checkbox"/> Describe different Jewish beliefs about resurrection <input type="checkbox"/> Describe Jewish beliefs about the significance of God's covenant with Moses <input type="checkbox"/> Describe Jewish views on the importance of pikuach nefesh <input type="checkbox"/> Describe Jewish beliefs in the relationship between freewill and the mitzvot <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the main features of a synagogue <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the main features of a Jewish wedding service <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the Jewish ritual of Bar mitzvah <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the main features of the sidur meal <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the Jewish celebration of Rosh Hashanah <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the significance of Sukkot <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the features of Jewish items worn for worship <input type="checkbox"/> Describe how Jews worship in their homes <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the features of Shabbat <input type="checkbox"/> Describe the significance of prayer for Jews <input type="checkbox"/> Describe how men and women worship differently in Judaism <p>“Describe” questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Define key term - 2 x Paragraphs, evidenced and explained | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Explain Jewish teachings about the resurrection <input type="checkbox"/> Explain Jewish beliefs about the nature of God <input type="checkbox"/> Explain why Moses is important in Judaism <input type="checkbox"/> Explain Jewish beliefs regarding the nature and importance of the Mitzvot <input type="checkbox"/> Explain why the covenants are important in Judaism <input type="checkbox"/> Explain Jewish teachings on the nature and significance of shekhinah <input type="checkbox"/> Explain Jewish practice of pikuach nefesh <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the difference between Orthodox and Reform Jews <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the nature and importance of the sedur meal for Jews <input type="checkbox"/> Explain different beliefs in the importance of keeping kosher <input type="checkbox"/> Explain how Jews celebrate Pesach <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the nature of the Jewish celebration of Yom Kippur <input type="checkbox"/> Explain Jewish mourning rituals and their significance <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the role and importance of brit milah <input type="checkbox"/> Explain the different functions of the synagogue <p>“Explain” questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Define key term - 3 Paragraphs, evidenced and explained - Read carefully if one or two views are needed - If two views WHICH two are allowed? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> ‘Keeping the Ten Commandments are the most important part of Judaism’. <input type="checkbox"/> ‘God created the world in seven days’ <input type="checkbox"/> ‘After death, everyone will be resurrected’ <input type="checkbox"/> ‘You cannot be Jewish and break the mitzvot’ <input type="checkbox"/> ‘You have to go to a synagogue to be a Jew’ <input type="checkbox"/> ‘Sabbath is the most important festival for Jews’ <input type="checkbox"/> ‘You must follow strict dietary laws if you want to be truly Jewish’ <input type="checkbox"/> ‘Weddings are an important celebration for Jews’ <p>Evaluate the statement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Define key term <p>Remember to LINK back to the statement</p> <p>Remember to give EVIDENCE</p> <p>Remember to EVALUATE by commenting on which argument is strongest/most convincing</p> |