Exam Skills

In the exam you must only answer questions on Christianity and Buddhism.

**Question 1 - Multiple choice question**
*Worth 1 mark*
This is a multiple choice question and you must chose the correct answer from 4 options.

**Remember:**
Read through the question carefully as you may recognise all of the possible answers.

**Question 2 - Short-answer**
*Worth 2 marks*
You need to give a short-answer to the question which will ask for two facts. One mark will be given for each two correct points.

**Question 3 - Explaining question**
*Worth 4 marks*
These questions will ask for two ways in which beliefs influence a religious believer OR two contrasting ways in which religion is practices OR two contrasting beliefs about contemporary British society.
For each two ways / contrasts:
• Two marks for a detailed explanation of a relevant and accurate way / contrast

**Remember:**
You need to include two separate ways / contrasts and explain them both fully with relevant examples.

**Question 4 - Explanation question**
*Worth 5 marks*
These questions will ask for two religious beliefs OR two religious practices OR two religious beliefs about a philosophical or ethical issue PLUS reference to a scripture or sacred writing.
For each of the two beliefs / practices:
• Two marks for a detailed explanation of a relevant and accurate belief / practice. PLUS one mark for a relevant, accurate reference to scripture of sacred writing.

**Remember:**
Clearly separate the two parts of your answer
Give reasons to support your opinion
Explain where your reference has come from e.g. The Bible

**Question 5 - Evaluation question**
*Worth 12 marks*
There will be a statement given for you to evaluate. To gain 12 marks you need to give a well-argued response, reasoned consideration of different points of view. Logical chains or reason leading to a judgement(s) supported by knowledge and understanding or relevant evidence and information.

**Remember:**
You need to show you understand the key word used in the statement so give a definition at the start of your answer.
Clearly separate the arguments in your answer.
Give examples to support your points.
GCSE RE Exam Information

The GCSE is split into two exams which will both be taken at the end of year 11.

Component 1: The study of religious beliefs, teachings and practices

What is assessed?
Beliefs, teachings & practices from Christianity & Buddhism.

How is it assessed?
Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
96 marks (plus 5 marks for SPaG)
50% of GCSE

What type of question?
Each religion has a common structure of two five-part questions of 1, 2, 4, 5, 12 marks.
Each religion is marked out of 48.

AND

Component 2: Thematic studies

What is assessed?
Four religious, philosophical and ethical studies:
• Theme A - Relationships and families
• Theme B - Religion and life
• Theme F - Religion, human rights & social justice.
• Theme E - Religion, crime and punishment.

How is it assessed?
Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
96 marks (plus 5 for SPaG)
50% of GCSE

What type of question?
Each theme has a common structure of one five-part question of 1, 2, 4, 5, 12 marks.
Each theme is marked out of 24.

AO

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| AO1 | You need to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religion and beliefs including:
  • Beliefs, practices and sources of authority
  • Influence on individuals an, communities and societies
  • Similarities and differences within and/or between religions and beliefs. |
| AO2 | You need to analyse and evaluate aspects of religion and belief, including their significance and influence. |

SPaG

Up to 5 marks are given for correct spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG) in your 12 mark answers.

4–5 marks are given for the following:
• You spell and punctuate with consistent accuracy
• You use rules of grammar with effective control of meaning overall
• You use a wide range of specialist terms as appropriate
**GCSE RE Command Words**

Command words are the words and phrases used in exams and other assessment tasks that tell you how you should answer the question.

**Evaluate**
You need to consider different viewpoints and arrive at a judgment.

**Explain**
You need to show your understanding and knowledge of teachings or practices. You need to identify at least two relevant points and demonstrate your understanding by giving examples or teachings to support your point.

**Explain different attitudes to...**
You need to show your knowledge and understanding of different attitudes about an ethical or philosophical issue or belief.

**Explain how X may influence Y**
You need to show your knowledge and understanding of how a religious belief or practice influences individuals or groups.

**Give**
You need to show your knowledge of two examples or two beliefs.

**Why**
You need to show a reasoned consideration of a single point of view through a logical chain of reasoning.