

Candidate Style Answers

GCSE Religious Studies A

OCR GCSE in Religious Studies: J620

Unit: B578 (Islam 2)

These candidate style answers are designed to accompany the OCR GCSE Religious Studies A specification for teaching from September 2009.

GCSE Religious Studies A

B578 Islam 2 (Worship, Community and Family, Sacred Writings)

OCR has produced these candidate style answers to support teachers in interpreting the assessment criteria for the new GCSE specifications and to bridge the gap between new specification release and availability of exemplar candidate work.

This content has been produced by senior OCR examiners, with the support of the Qualification Manager, to illustrate how the sample assessment questions might be answered and provide some commentary on what factors contribute to an overall grading. The candidate style answers are not written in a way that is intended to replicate student work but to demonstrate what a “good” or “excellent” response might include, supported by examiner commentary and conclusions.

As these responses have not been through full moderation and do not replicate student work, they have not been graded and are instead, banded “medium” or “high” to give an indication of the level of each response.

Please note that this resource is provided for advice and guidance only and does not in any way constitute an indication of grade boundaries or endorsed answers.

2e) ‘Du’a is not as important as Salah.’	
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Islam in your answer. (12)	
<i>Candidate style answer</i>	<i>Examiner’s commentary</i>
<p><i>Some Muslims might argue that Salah, which is compulsory prayer and is said 5 times a day is more important than Du’ah, which is private prayer and said any time. The reason for this is that Salah is one of the 5 Pillars and therefore must be done if you are a true Muslim. Du’ah is said if you feel like it and therefore not as important or special. You have to wash before you pray Salah but not for Du’ah and Salah must be said with other Muslims in Arabic. Du’ah can be said anywhere and is said by yourself. Salah is praising Allah and Du’ah is asking Him for things. You perform special movements when you do Salah but you don’t have</i></p>	<p>High Level Response</p> <p>This is a good response addressing the question clearly and linking it to Islam from the outset.</p> <p>A first view is given with arguments in support of it showing a deeper understanding of the significance of the issue.</p> <p>An accurate and thorough understanding of the 2 types of prayer is shown and there is an evaluation of the relative merits each.</p> <p>A personal view is offered followed by argument/reasoning and the use of evidence/examples to justify viewpoint. And there is good evaluation displayed.</p>

<p><i>to when you do Du'ah prayer. All of this makes Salah more special and so more important than Du'ah.</i></p> <p><i>I'm not sure I would totally agree though, because I think all prayer is important. It is all communication with God. Du'ah is always said after Salah and the fact that it is asking Allah for things is more personal to you. You can say it anywhere at any time so there is no danger that you will miss it and it is more like a conversation with God, which makes it very special. It is a cry from the heart not just repeating the same words over and over again. So from that point of view it might even be more important than Salah.</i></p> <p><i>Of course Muslims would say that Salah brings the community together because they all pray together and are all focused on Allah at the same time. I agree this makes Salah important and by doing Salah you are completing one of the Pillars and therefore pleasing Allah.</i></p> <p><i>In conclusion I think both are important. They are both different ways of showing your submission to Allah.</i></p>	<p>The reference to the importance of Salah in bringing the community together is a further argument showing continued engagement with the topic. Appropriate justification of this leads to a final conclusion.</p> <p>Use of Muslim terminology is accurate and appropriate and the written communication is good.</p>
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<p>2e) 'Du'a is not as important as Salah.' Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Islam in your answer. (12)</p>	
<p><i>Candidate style answer</i></p>	<p><i>Examiner's commentary</i></p>
<p><i>I disagree because these are both types of pray that muslims use and so they are both as important as each other. Muhamed prayed to Allah and so muslims are following his example by</i></p>	<p>Medium Level Response This is a medium level response because it offers a one sided view. The candidate knows that Du'a and Salah are types of prayer but does not demonstrate an understanding of the</p>

praying 5 times a day. They must wash before they pray and stand on a pray mat and take of there shoes. Muslims will agree with me because they must follow the of Muhamed and they are taught to pray to god so it doesnt matter what type of pray they use so long as they pray to god and this is why thy are both as important as each other and it doesn't matter if they pray in the mosk or at home so long as they pray.

differences and how that might be significant. There is a personal view offered but the reasons for the view are not clearly explained and remain implicit rather than explicit.

The Muslim view would count as a different view if the reasoning was different. Candidates can draw the same conclusion as Muslims but should show different ways of justifying that conclusion.

Written communication is hampered by some poor spelling and punctuation.