

GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES B

(8063)

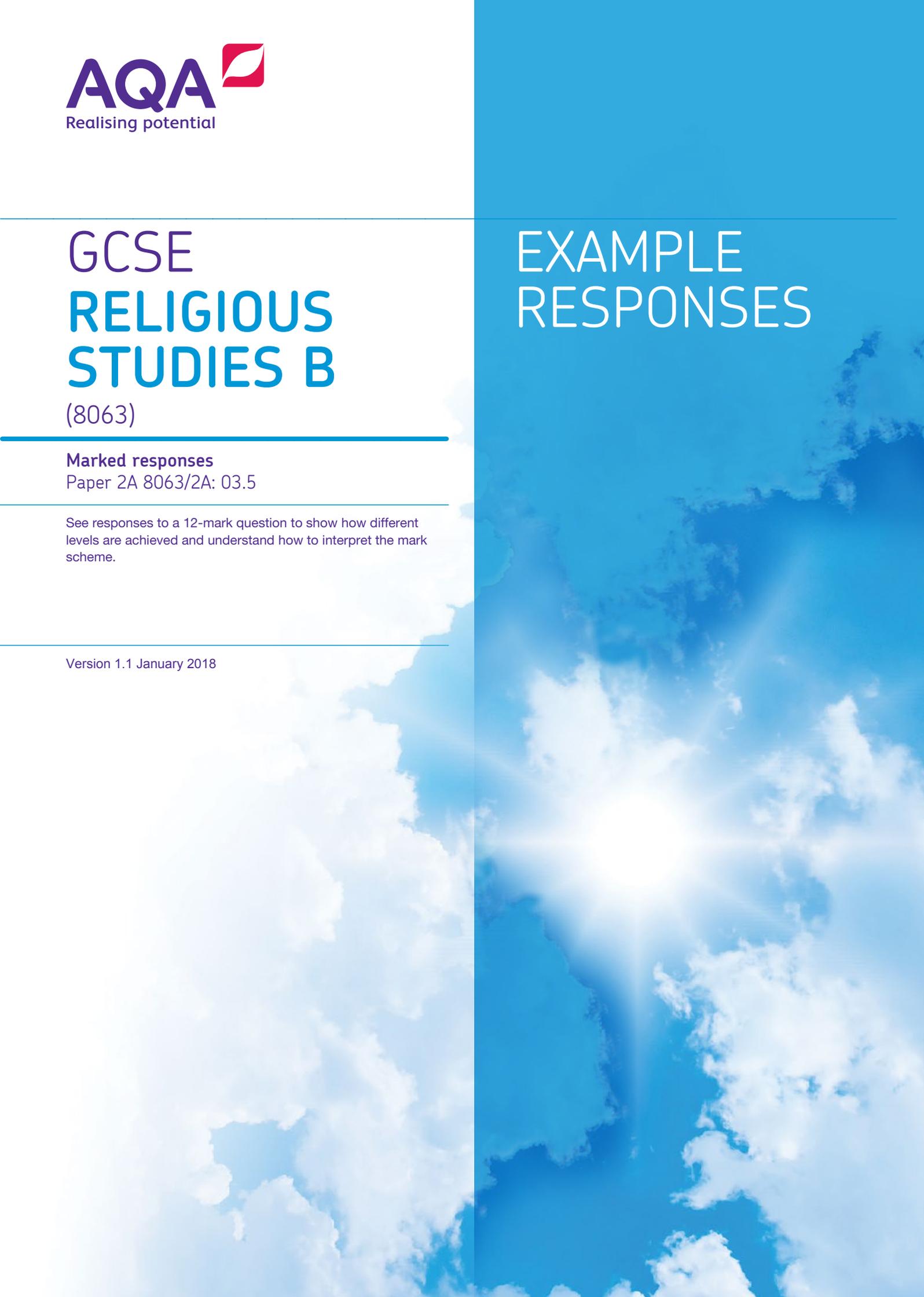
Marked responses

Paper 2A 8063/2A: 03.5

See responses to a 12-mark question to show how different levels are achieved and understand how to interpret the mark scheme.

Version 1.1 January 2018

EXAMPLE RESPONSES



Please note that these responses have been reproduced exactly as they were written and have not been subject to the usual standardisation process.

Question 03.5

Question

‘For Jews, the most important belief about God is that God is the Law-giver.’

Evaluate this statement. In your answer you should:

- refer to Jewish teaching.
- give reasoned arguments to support this statement
- give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
- reach a justified conclusion.

[12 marks]

Mark scheme

Target: AO2: Analyse and evaluate aspects of religion and belief, including significance and influence.

Level	Marks	Description
4	10–12	A well-argued response, reasoned consideration of different points of view. Logical chains of reasoning leading to judgement(s) supported by knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence and information. References to religion applied to the issue.
3	7–9	Reasoned consideration of different points of view. Logical chains of reasoning that draw on knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence and information. Clear reference to religion.
2	4–6	Reasoned consideration of a point of view. A logical chain of reasoning drawing on knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence and information. OR Recognition of different points of view, each supported by relevant reasons/evidence. Maximum of Level 2 if there is no reference to religion.
1	1–3	Point of view with reason(s) stated in support.
0	0	Nothing written worthy of credit.

Answers may include some of the following evidence and arguments, but all relevant evidence and arguments must be credited:

Arguments in support

- The Jews are the people of the Law/chosen by God to receive the Torah (Exodus 20).
- They are accountable to God throughout their lives for their obedience or disobedience to the Law, to keep the Law is to keep the covenant.
- The belief that God is the Law-giver is the basis of their way of life eg moral laws, Sabbath laws, food laws, if they set that belief aside their whole way of life would be invalid.

Arguments in support of other views

There are other beliefs which are as important:

- The belief in God as Law-giver is completed by belief in God as Judge – one without the other is not complete
- The belief in God as creator determines the relationship between the Jews, all other people and the world
- The belief in God as ONE makes God worthy of worship, because his is the only controlling power.

Student responses**Student response 1**

Firstly: supporting the statement – many Jews believe God as lawgiver is the most important belief of God as this changes how they live it allows them to follow mitzvot and be sent to Gan Eden as a result of following God as lawgiver. God as law-giver also is the belief that sustains Jewish life the most as Pikuach Nefesh is enforced by him. God as lawgiver is also the most likely element of God that could lead to world peace as people follow his necessary and good laws. You would also go against God as creator and other beliefs of God if you didn't place God as lawgiver at the centre of your beliefs as one law is to have 1 God – the element of monotheism – God as Creator and God as one.

On the other hand, his statement could be rejected as many Jews believe God as Creator is most important as without him there's nothing, he is the source of everything and he keeps Jews going on Earth as he doesn't abandon his creation he will stay with it and preserve looking at our omnibenevolence. Also many would argue God as Judge is the most important as his omnipotence and omniscience decides your fate – whether you go to Gan Eden or Sheol and at Rosh Hashanah when people are judged Jews lead a good life so they are judged well by God as Judge also made earth better.

To conclude – I disagree with the statement as I believe the omnipotence and omnibenevolence of God as Creator is what keeps Jews going as they know if God doesn't abandon them why should they abandon him. Also, as he's the source of everything without him they'd be nothing at all.

This is a level 4 response.

290 words. Sophisticated arguments used on both sides, good understanding of key beliefs about God and commandments shown. A little more development of evaluation and judgements made would have pushed this answer to the top mark.

Student response 2

The most important Jewish belief about God is that God is the law giver because if we didn't have laws to follow we wouldn't know what to do.

God as lawgiver isn't the most important because God as Creator is because without God being the Creator he wouldn't have anything to give laws to.

All in all, I think that God as lawgiver isn't the most important belief because God as creator is because the laws he would give would be pointless without people or things to abide by them.

God as One is also more important than God as lawgiver because it is Jewish belief that God is one and not multiple Gods.

This is a level 4 response.

Two points of view identified with simple reasons in support of each. Lacks development needed to gain higher mark within this band.

Student response 3

Some Jews think that the most important belief about god is he is law giver they would say this because the 613 Mitzvot are contained in the torrah and they guide Jews and tell them how to live their lives.

Others would disagree because they believe that god as creator is the most important belief about God as in the creation story in genesis it tells us about how god created the whole world in 6 days. Also it shows that God is omnipotent and omnibenevolent as he made all we have and provides all we need.

Also others would disagree as they believe that Gods best quality is God as Judge because he will judge us all, Jews and gentile and show us what we did right and wrong.

In conclusion I believe that God as the creator is the most important quality as he provides to us and creates all we have.

This is a level 2 response.

Different points of view identified, with reasons in support. Lacks the development of chains of reasoning needed to reach the next band. Technical terms used.

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