



A-LEVEL

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

7062/2E Study of religion: Judaism
Report on the Examination

7062
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Paper overall

Most papers were of a very high standard with answers focused on the questions. This was particularly the case with the dialogue questions which demonstrated the ability of students to use both Philosophy and Ethics from the perspective of Judaism. Most papers showed that students had used the pre-notification of topics.

Question 1.1

There were some excellent answers to this question. Most answers gave some explanation of the reasons for different views about celibacy and marriage, so avoiding the level 2 cap. However, some answers merely gave simple differences between different denominations of Judaism rather than examining the reasons behind the different views of the denominations.

Question 1.2

Some answers were very general, discussing attitudes to war rather than to the use of weapons of mass destruction, which was the question. Many answers included Jewish attitudes to war, such as 'A Commanded War', while a small number of answers referred to the Christian Just War theory, which did not answer the question.

Question 2.1

Most answers to this question were very strong and a significant number of answers were awarded full marks. Weaker answers did not appear to know the teachings of the two scholars in any detail.

Question 2.2

There were some excellent answers to this question which examined arguments for and against the authority of the Talmud. Weaker answers failed to answer the question and compared the authority of the Talmud with the authority of the Torah rather than looking at how important the Talmud is as a source of authority.

Question 3.1 Dialogue of Philosophy and Judaism

This question was the more popular of the two philosophy questions. Most answers used philosophical ideas to both support and contradict the statement. Ideas of monism were used to agree that these ideas were irrelevant to Judaism, while dualist ideas were used to contradict the statement. The best answers applied the philosophical ideas to Judaism throughout the answer, while weaker answers did not connect the philosophy to Judaism consistently. Some answers treated the two assessment objectives separately, but this approach still enabled students to achieve full marks.

Question 4.1 Dialogue of Philosophy and Judaism

This question was not popular. While there were a number of good answers, many answers did not fully apply the philosophy to Judaism. There was good discussion of the philosophical arguments regarding truth claims of different religions, but this was not always applied fully to Judaism. Few answers discussed the Jewish view of the Jews as the 'Chosen People' which meant that one aspect of the argument was often not developed.

Question 5.1 Dialogue of Ethics and Judaism

This was the more popular of the two Ethics questions. Most students understood Bentham's ethics and were able to compare his ethical system with Jewish ethics. There was a good discussion of elements of Jewish ethics that can be considered teleological. The counter argument examined the ways in which Jewish ethics can be considered deontological or character-based and there was good use of both Kant and Virtue Ethics as exemplars. Weaker answers gave examples mainly from the idea of moral behaviour leading to the possibility of a good after life, without full discussion of the Jewish position on this.

Question 6.1 Dialogue of Ethics and Judaism

This was not a popular question and most answers struggled to apply Kant's ideas either to Jewish beliefs or to lying. In some, lying was attached at the end of the debate rather than being fully integrated into the answer.

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

Grade boundaries and cumulative percentage grades are available on the [Results Statistics](#) page of the AQA Website.