



GCSE

RELIGIOUS STUDIES A

8062/12: Catholic Christianity
Report on the Examination

8062
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General comments

1095 students sat the paper this year.

The standards overall were comparable with those of 2019.

There were very few unanswered questions and there also appeared to be more typed scripts; however, the student answers on these scripts were comparable overall with the handwritten ones.

Question-based comments

Question 1.1

On the meaning of the term 'sacrament' posed no issues to those students who clearly knew the answer and was answered well.

Question 1.2

On why redemption is important for Catholics was well answered by many students, although some did confuse this with resurrection or didn't know the meaning of the term at all.

Question 1.3

On the Nicene Creed was less well answered, only just over half of the students achieving full marks. Many students were unsure about the wording of the prayer and/or the meaning. Many also focused just on the Trinity aspect and little else contained in the prayer or did not include how the beliefs influenced Catholics.

Question 1.4

On the importance of the Anointing of the Sick was answered well overall with many students achieving at least 3 marks; however, some students displayed very little or no knowledge of the sacrament. Some students answered very well adding good examples of sources of authority which enabled them to achieve the maximum 5 marks.

Question 1.5

'For Catholics, Heaven is the only important belief about life after death.' was attempted by most students but many achieved only level 2 or 3.

This was due to a lack of 'recognition of different points of view' or the response not being 'well-argued' or lacking a 'reasoned consideration of different points of view' and 'logical chains of reasoning' required for level 4.

Question 2.1

On 'the raising of the heart and mind to God' definition of prayer was well answered.

Question 2.2

On the Stations of the Cross was well answered overall with many students achieving 2 marks but there were some who did not know the term and had obviously not learnt this.

Question 2.3

On Catholic agencies was well answered with most students being able to discuss the work of one or more of the agencies mentioned.

Question 2.4

On the 'duty to 'Love your neighbour' was also well answered in a variety of ways but some students missed out on the fifth mark due to not being able to add a source of authority.

Question 2.5

'Informal (spontaneous) prayer is the best way to communicate with God', was answered slightly better than question 1.5 though with similar issues regarding achieving the higher levels.

Summary

There were very few questions that were not attempted at all.

The paper was well attempted overall and allowed students of varying academic abilities to achieve success to varying degrees.

The spread of marks demonstrates that the questions were accessible to all students across the ability range with only 26 students achieving 10 marks or less and 30% of students achieving 37 or more marks out of the total 51 available.

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

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