

GCSE Religious Studies – Exam Board = Edexcel

Exam Dates:

- 15/05/2017
Religious Studies Unit 2: Religion And Life Based On A Study Of Christianity
1hr 30
- 17/05/2017
Religious Studies Unit 8: Religion. And Society Based On A St. Of Christ. And At Least One Other Rel.
1hr 30mins

Exam Overview:

- Religion and Life Based on a Study of Christianity (Year 10 work - Christianity only) Modules include Believing in God, Matters of Life and Death, Community Cohesion and Marriage and Family Life.
- Religion and Society Based on a Study of Christianity and Judaism. This is all of Year 11 work and focuses on Christianity and Judaism except for the Rights and Responsibilities modular which is Christianity only.

Guide to Exam Papers:

- Religious Studies Unit 2: Religion And Life Based On A Study Of Christianity
 - 1hr 30
 - 80 marks plus 4marks for SPAG
 - 50% of overall mark
 - Completion of x1 complete question from a choice of 2 for each module. X4 questions per sections:
 - A- KEYWORDS (2MARKS)
 - B- Give 2 detailed opinions (4marks)
 - C- Explain - giving 4 reasons including religions (8marks)
 - D- To respond to a statement with 3 arguments supporting and 3 arguments against the statement INCLUDING CHRISTIAINTY (6marks)
- Religious Studies Unit 8: Religion. And Society Based On A Study Of Christianity and Judaism. (Unit Rights and responsibility only from Christianity viewpoint.)
- 1hr 30mins

- 80 marks plus 4marks for SPAG
- 50% of overall grade
- Completion of x1 complete question from a choice of 2 for each module. X4 questions per sections:
- KEYWORDS (2MARKS)
- Give 2 detailed opinions (4marks)
- Explain - giving 4 reasons including religions (8marks)
- To respond to a statement with 3 arguments supporting and 3 arguments against the statement INCLUDING CHRISTIANTY (6marks)

Areas of Revision

Subject Specific Exam Techniques.

- Understanding the exam marking scheme for RE GCSE is vital to passing the exam. Each question on the exam is explained in detail and it is fundamental that students learn this to be able to answer the questions correctly.
- Students must complete all exam papers in preparation for their summer exam.
- In preparation, students can focus on a single topic and attempt to answer all exam questions focused on this.
- In preparations students can choose and complete all Keywords questions in order to learn and understand all the key words. Even though this is the lowest awarding marks question it is equivalent to 10% of the overall grade and can be the difference between a grade.

Subject Specific Revision Techniques

- YouTube Mr McMillan revision - watch the videos and rewrite what you learn so it is embedded into your understanding.
<https://www.youtube.com/user/MrMcMillanREvis>
- Complete all past papers focusing on the Exam techniques outlined above. Revise a topic and time yourself. Also complete the exam paper in double the time and write the best possible answers that you can to learn more about the topic.
- Mind Map key topics e.g Believing in God, break this down into all the different topics covered, then complete further mindmaps on the individual topics - detail is key to understanding the individual topics.
- Que Cards - summarise a topic over 5 different cards, then re write and condense the information onto 3 cards and finally rewrite condensing all of the information onto 1 card for short, sharp and specific key points of learning.

Parental Strategies for supporting students.

- Exam practice is a fundamental part of preparing students for their summer exams. I would advise that for both papers Unit 2 and Unit 8 all exam papers are completed and are available on the Edexcel website or from your RS teacher. Peer and Joint marking is always a positive learning tool, students learn the parts they are missing from the exam paper and possible other answers from the mark scheme.
- Students are required to know differing Christian beliefs for the Unit 2 paper (year 10 work) and Jewish and Christian Beliefs for the Unit 8 paper (Year 11 work.) Support your child in helping them to learn some of the key religious beliefs and quotations to support their answers to some of the religious based questions in the exam. Please see attached sheet with some of the Key Christian belief. Jewish beliefs and further Christian beliefs are also evident in the revision packs that have been given to students.
- Students have to be able to give their opinion in support or against a subject area of the course. This is typically required within a question B style question. It is vital that students are able to explain their opinions in detail. Ask your child their opinions on statements in the exam papers and to give 2 reasons for it. Or quiz your child on current news reports so that they are able to explain themselves in detail.

Resources to support Revision for GCSE Religious Studies

Please find a list below of all the specific religious studies revision pages which will help your child to prepare for their exams. Please note it is vital that you refer to the specification to ensure the correct subjects are being examined.

<http://www.rsrevision.com/GCSE/>

<http://www.revisioncentre.co.uk/gcse/re/>

http://www.bbc.co.uk/learning/subjects/religious_studies.shtml

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/rs/>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Va9N03NmlY>

Please note that there are a number of revision videos on YouTube which have been created to support students. Please see link above. In YouTube in the search engine type: edexcel GCSE RS. This will give you a number of options to watch. Please note it must be from a Christian or Jewish perspective (Not Islam) .

Revision Books

Please find a list below of all the specific RS revision books which will help your child to prepare for their exams:

CPG GCSE Religious Studies Edexcel Religion and Life Revision Guide (with online edition)

ISBN:978 1 84762 301 0

£4.95

GCSE Religious Studies Edexcel Religion and Society Revision Guide (with online edition) - RESR43

ISBN:978 1 84762 303 4

£4.95

Edexcel GCSE Religious Studies Unit 2A: Religion & Life - Christianity

Student Book

ISBN 9781846904202

£13.50

Edexcel GCSE Religious Studies Unit 8B: Religion & Society - Christianity & Islam Stud Bk

ISBN 9781846904233

£13.50

Revision Tips

- 1. Learn those Keywords - Put post it notes around your room to help you to remember them.**
- 2. Watch your timing - about 1 minute per mark**
- 3. Outline -Describe about 3-4 points, 3-4 sentences per point**
- 4. Explain - use the word BECAUSE and refer to the Bible 'Christians teach that.....'**
- 5. Do you agree?. Question D....Always state why some people would agree and some other won't agree and what your opinion is. YOU MUST REFER TO CHRISTIANITY.**
- 6. Write something for every question that you answer and check your answers at the end. IF YOU FINISH EARLY KEEP CHECKING AND ADDING INFORMATION, CHECK YOUR SPAG ALSO IN Q's 1& 2.**

