

**Year 11 GCSE Religious Studies - AQA A (8062)**

AQA Spec A - Component 1: *The Study of Religions: Beliefs, Teachings and Practices* [50%]

AQA Spec A - Component 2: *Thematic Studies* [50%]

<b>Question Structures</b>					
	1 Mark	2 Mark	4 Mark	5 Mark	12 Mark
<b><u>Component 1: The Study of Religions: Beliefs, Teachings and Practices</u></b>					
<b>C h r i s t i a n i t y</b>	<p><b>Key beliefs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The nature of God</li> <li>• Different Christian beliefs about creation including the role of Word and Spirit (John 1:1-3 and Genesis 1:1-3).</li> <li>• Different Christian beliefs about the afterlife and their importance, including: resurrection and life after death; judgement, heaven and hell.</li> </ul> <p><b>Jesus Christ and salvation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The incarnation and Jesus as the Son of God</li> <li>• The crucifixion, resurrection and ascension</li> <li>• Sin, including original sin</li> <li>• The means of salvation, including law, grace and Spirit</li> <li>• The role of Christ in salvation including the idea of atonement.</li> </ul> <p><b>Worship and festivals</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Different forms of worship and their significance:</li> <li>• Prayer and its significance, including the Lord’s Prayer, set prayers and informal prayer.</li> <li>• The role and meaning of the sacraments:</li> <li>• The role and importance of pilgrimage and celebrations</li> <li>•</li> </ul> <p><b>The role of the church in the local and worldwide community</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The role of the Church in the local community, including food banks and street pastors.</li> <li>• The place of mission, evangelism and Church growth.</li> <li>• The importance of the worldwide Church</li> </ul>				
<b>I s l a m</b>	<p><b>Key Beliefs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The six articles of faith in Sunni Islam and five roots of Usul ad-Din in Shi’a Islam, including key similarities and differences.</li> <li>• Tawhid (the Oneness of God), Qur’an Surah 112.</li> <li>• The nature of God: omnipotence, beneficence, mercy, fairness and justice/Adalat in Shi’a Islam, including different ideas about God’s relationship with the world: immanence and transcendence.</li> <li>• Angels, their nature and role, including Jibril and Mika’il.</li> <li>• Predestination and human freedom and its relationship to the Day of Judgement.</li> <li>• Akhirah (life after death), human responsibility and accountability, resurrection, heaven and hell.</li> </ul>				

Islam	<p><b>Authority</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risalah (Prophethood) including the role and importance of Adam, Ibrahim and Muhammad.</li> <li>• The holy books</li> <li>• The imamate in Shi'a Islam: its role and significance.</li> </ul> <p><b>Worship</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Five Pillars of Sunni Islam and the Ten Obligatory Acts of Shi'a Islam (students should study the Five Pillars and jihad in both Sunni and Shi'a Islam and the additional duties of Shi'a Islam).</li> <li>• Shahadah: declaration of faith and its place in Muslim practice.</li> <li>• Salah and its significance: how and why Muslims pray including times, directions, ablution (wudu), movements (rak'ahs) and recitations; salah in the home and mosque and elsewhere; Friday prayer: Jummah; key differences in the practice of salah in Sunni and Shi'a Islam, and different Muslim views about the importance of prayer.</li> </ul> <p><b>Duties and festivals</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sawm: the role and significance of fasting during the month of Ramadan including origins, duties, benefits of fasting, the exceptions and their reasons, and the Night of Power, Qur'an 96:1-5.</li> <li>• Zakah: the role and significance of giving alms including origins, how and why it is given, benefits of receipt, Khums in Shi'a Islam.</li> <li>• Hajj: the role and significance of the pilgrimage to Makkah including origins, how hajj is performed, the actions pilgrims perform at sites including the Ka'aba at Makkah, Mina, Arafat, Muzdalifah and their significance.</li> <li>• Jihad: different understandings of jihad: the meaning and significance of greater and lesser jihad; origins, influence and conditions for the declaration of lesser jihad.</li> <li>• Festivals and commemorations and their importance for Muslims in Great Britain today, including the origins and meanings of Id-ul-Adha, Id-ul-Fitr, Ashura.</li> </ul>
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**Component 2: Thematic Studies**

Thematic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b><u>Theme A: Relationships and families</u></b></li> </ul> <p>Sex, marriage and divorce</p> <p>Families and gender equality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b><u>Theme B: Religion and life</u></b></li> </ul> <p>The origins and value of the universe</p> <p>The origins and value of human life</p> <p>The environment and treatment of the world</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b><u>Theme D: Religion, peace and conflict</u></b></li> </ul> <p>Religion, violence, terrorism and war</p> <p>Religion and belief in 21st century conflict</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b><u>Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment</u></b></li> </ul> <p>Religion, crime and the causes of crime</p>
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	<p>Religion and punishment</p>
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