

Candidate Style Answers

GCSE Religious Studies B

OCR GCSE in Religious Studies: J621

Unit: B601 (Christianity)

These candidate style answers are designed to accompany the OCR GCSE Religious Studies B specification for teaching from September 2009.

GCSE Religious Studies B

B601 Philosophy 1 (Deity, Religious and Spiritual Experience, End of Life)

OCR has produced these candidate style answers to support teachers in interpreting the assessment criteria for the new GCSE specifications and to bridge the gap between new specification release and availability of exemplar candidate work.

This content has been produced by senior OCR examiners, with the support of the Qualification Manager, to illustrate how the sample assessment questions might be answered and provide some commentary on what factors contribute to an overall grading. The candidate style answers are not written in a way that is intended to replicate student work but to demonstrate what a “good” or “excellent” response might include, supported by examiner commentary and conclusions.

As these responses have not been through full moderation and do not replicate student work, they have not been graded and are instead, banded “medium” or “high” to give an indication of the level of each response.

Please note that this resource is provided for advice and guidance only and does not in any way constitute an indication of grade boundaries or endorsed answers.

8e) ‘Everyone should thank God for their food.’ Discuss this statement. You should include different supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer. (12)	
Candidate style answer	Examiner’s commentary
<p><i>Christians would agree with this statement because they believe that God created the world and everything in it. They believe that the beauty and complexity of the Earth and how it all works is down to God. The way the world works to provide people with food shows the planning God did to ensure his creation was provided for. In Genesis it shows how God told Adam and Eve that he had given them every herb, plant and tree, and that he gave them dominion over every other living thing that he had created. Because Christians believe this they think we should thank God for the food we receive because it is a gift from him to us. Most Christians thank God before</i></p>	<p>This is a high level response. The candidate has given a detailed account of why Christians think that everyone should thank God for their food and thus it was a good response to the question.</p> <p>It was well developed in that it gave different supported viewpoints including a variety of arguments for both sides of the debate. The candidate has given biblical support for Christian beliefs and actions, although he or she might also have mentioned the example of Jesus who gave thanks for food.</p> <p>It contains Christian teaching and beliefs about God and examples of different ways in which Christians might put these beliefs into practice through saying Grace, tithing and harvest festivals.</p>

they eat food. They may also give back to God a proportion of what they receive from him in a tithe. This is a way they can thank God for what they have and to show that it really belongs to him. Harvest festival services are also a way of worshipping God and thanking him for what he has given us.

Atheists would not agree with this statement as they do not believe that God exists. They believe that there is no supreme being who created everything, the universe can about by chance and can be explained through evolution. As God does not exist why should we thank him?

Many people in the world are literally starving to death so they would not want to thank God for their food because they haven't got any. Some people would say if God was real he would not allow people to starve to death, especially children who have not done anything wrong. Why would they want to thank God for allowing them to die?

I believe that everybody should thank God for their food because I am Muslim and I believe that all things come from God. It is by Allah's will that we have food to eat so we should thank him for what he has given us.

8e) 'Everyone should thank God for their food.'

Discuss this statement. You should include different supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

(12)

Candidate style answer

Not everyone should thank God for their food. People who do not believe in God would not want to thank God for their food because they do not believe he exists. They might want to thank farmers for their food.

Christians believe that everyone should thank God for their food because they believe that God provides for all of us. In the Lord's Prayer people say 'give us this day our daily bread', this reminds them that God is the provider of all things so we should thank him for it.

Muslims give thanks to Allah for their food. They believe that everything we have is down to the will of Allah so we have a duty to thank him.

I think that it is up to individuals. If they believe in God then they should thank him. If people don't believe in God why would they want to thank him?

Examiner's commentary

This is a medium level response.

The candidate has addressed the focus of the question. There is some repetition of Christian belief but it does include relevant information. There are two differing viewpoints both of which are clearly supported.

They could have developed their answer further by giving examples of when and how Christians thank God for their food and supporting Biblical quotes.