

Get set for success

in WJEC Eduqas GCSE (9–1) Religious Studies Route B

In your exams you must demonstrate your ability to:

DEFINE

the a. questions
2 marks

This question is asking you to **define** one of the **key concepts** and add an **example** to show that you really understand what the word means.

DESCRIBE

the b. questions
5 marks

For these questions, you will need to **describe** an event, belief, teaching, attitude or practice. Remember to include good **religious language** and **sources of wisdom and authority** in your description. You should also consider how believers are **affected** or **influenced**.

Top Tip

Supporting your answers with relevant sources of wisdom or sacred texts will help to improve your marks. You don't need to remember the exact words or references, but state in your own words what these sources say and how believers interpret them.

EXPLAIN

the c. questions
8 marks

This time the question is asking you to **explain** an event, belief, teaching, attitude or practice. 'Explain' questions require you to provide a detailed explanation of not just 'what' but also 'why'. Using the word 'because' is a good way to do this.

Again, you must include good **religious language** and **sources of wisdom and authority** in your answer and show understanding of how beliefs **affect** and **influence** individuals, communities and societies.

! Don't Forget

In the Component 1 (Foundational Catholic Theology) c. questions you must explain the views of **two different religious** – either Catholic Christianity and Judaism, or two different Christian traditions. **Don't** include non-religious beliefs here.

DISCUSS

the d. questions
15 marks

These questions ask you to **discuss** the given statement. Read the statement carefully, **analyse** it and consider it from **more than one viewpoint**. You need to **evaluate** how true or valid the statement is according to different viewpoints and then reach a **judgement** on how true or valid it is.

You must use good **religious language** and **sources of wisdom and authority** in your answer and consider how beliefs **affect** and **influence** individuals, communities and societies.

! Don't Forget

Remember to include the views of **non-religious believers** in the 'Origins and Meaning' d. question.

Top Tip

You can pick up extra marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar in the first d. questions of Components 1 and 2, so try to use your **best written English** when answering these questions.

The Keys to Success

Define and give an example

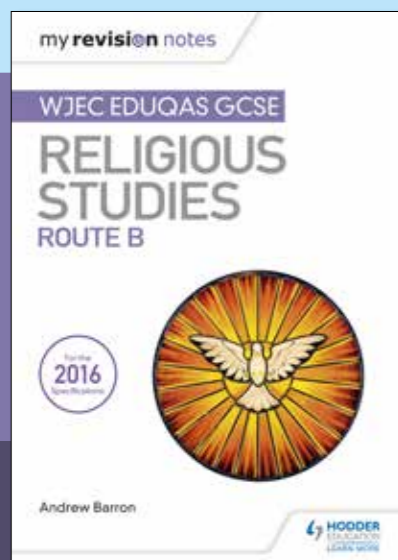
Describe and KISS

Explain and KISS

Discuss and KISS JO

K = Knowledge and understanding
I = Influence of belief
S = Sources of wisdom and authority
S = Specialist religious language
J = Judgements/evaluation
O = Other views

Find out more about the assessment requirements overleaf



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For more detailed guidance on how to answer the different question types, more exam tips, and practice exam questions and answers, check out our WJEC Eduqas GCSE Religious Studies Route B revision guide.

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The key to the Keys to Success

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The assessment requirements: What you need to know

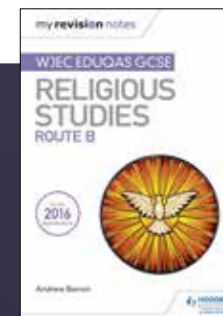
- ✓ The a. questions will relate only to the eight key concepts
- ✓ **Only** Component 1 c. questions will ask directly for **two religions/religious traditions**. You **don't** need to include more than two as that may lead to lack of sufficient depth in your answer
- ✓ Do **not** include non-religious responses in the c. questions for Component 1 as these ask for two **religious** views. The two perspectives may come from traditions **within** Christianity or from Catholic Christianity and Judaism.
- ✓ The **Judasim** content of Component 3 may be used in Components 1 and 2 where **appropriate**. For example, it could be included in c. questions of **Component 1** which ask for two perspectives and also in those **d. questions of Components 1 and 2** which lend themselves to including perspectives from other religions
- ✓ Question d. is the **only** question that targets Assessment Objective 2 (**analyse and evaluate**)
- ✓ **Only** question 1d. of Component 1 (i.e. 'Origins and Meaning') demands the inclusion of **non-religious beliefs**, but all d. questions **can** include non-religious beliefs as long as it is **appropriate** to the question asked
- ✓ The d. questions must show **evaluation** and **reach judgements** about the statement so that they are different from the Component 1 'Explain' (c. question) responses
- ✓ Personal responses that **also fulfil one or more** of the criteria in the marking bands will be credited
- ✓ Responses that offer **no personal opinion** will be credited as long as the evaluation is clear to see
- ✓ **Sources of wisdom and authority** include figures of authority as well as sacred and important texts. Relevant and accurate references to sources of wisdom and authority not in the specification content will also be credited
- ✓ References to specific passages (e.g. John 1:14) are not necessary and **will not** gain extra credit
- ✓ Teachings and texts **do not** need to be quoted directly; an **accurate** paraphrase, used **appropriately**, will be equally credit-worthy
- ✓ The lines **do not** have to be filled; quality always matters more than quantity or including a prescribed number of points. Black pen should be used, but blue will also be accepted
- ✓ **Positive marking** will be employed: incorrect or irrelevant content in responses will be ignored rather than penalised
- ✓ **Spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG)** marks will be applied to the **first d. questions of Components 1 and 2 only**. One or two minor errors could still be awarded full SPaG marks but completely irrelevant and/or completely inaccurate content cannot be awarded SPaG marks. Slight differences in spelling of non-English words will still be credited, e.g. Hebrew words



Component 1 = Foundational Catholic Theology
Component 2 = Applied Catholic Theology
Component 3 = Judaism

My Revision Notes from Hodder Education

Plan and manage a successful revision programme with *My Revision Notes* for WJEC Eduqas GCSE (9–1) Religious Studies Route B. Our revision guide contains a wide range of features that will help you to consolidate and develop your understanding of the content, as well as practise and perfect your exam technique, so that you can approach your exams with confidence.



Key content is condensed into manageable chunks.

Quotations from key religious sources support understanding of religious beliefs and can be drawn upon in your exam.

Knowledge check: a table of all the key concepts for each topic helps you to check your knowledge and understanding.

Prayer within Catholic communities

The significance of prayer

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* defines prayer as 'raising the mind and heart to God'. This means being totally focused on God.

For Catholics, prayer is communicating with God. Catholics pray together through liturgical worship, most commonly the Mass. This is normally called public worship. Catholics also pray on their own, this is called private prayer or private worship.

Catholics can use formulaic prayers. These are prayers which have been passed down over many years as part of the Church tradition, for example, the Lord's Prayer (Our Father, Glory Be and Hail Mary).

Or they might use their own words to speak to God. This is called extempore prayer. It is more spontaneous and does not require planning or preparation. What matters is that Catholics make prayer a part of their life to build their relationship with God.

The Lord's Prayer

Jesus taught his disciples to pray using the Lord's Prayer or Our Father. It is a model for prayer because it contains Adoration, Thanksgiving, Confession and Supplication (ACTS).

- Adoration means worship. Catholics are encouraged to begin their prayer by praising God for who he is and for all that he has done.
- Confession (repentance) means telling God about the things that you have done wrong. They ask God to forgive them.
- Thanksgiving means being thankful to God.
- Supplication, petition or intercession, means praying for their own needs and for the needs of others.

Views on prayer

Prayer is not asking. Prayer is putting oneself in the hands of God, at his disposition, and listening to his voice in the depth of our hearts. (Mother Teresa)

But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret;

and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. (Matthew 6:6)

Ask, and it will be given you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For every one who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. (Matthew 7:7-8)

Sources of authority and wisdom

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

[Our Father' or 'Lord's Prayer']

Praying for and offering Masses for the dead

Catholics have a long tradition of praying for the dead.

- They ask God to welcome the deceased into his presence so they can have eternal life in heaven. The most commonly used prayer is: 'Eternal rest grant unto him/her, O Lord. Let perpetual light shine upon him/her. May he/she rest in peace. Amen.'
- A Catholic might ask a priest to offer a Mass for a relative or friend who has died. The person's name may be mentioned during the Eucharistic prayer.

Now test yourself

- 1 What is the meaning of 'prayer'?
- 2 Explain the importance of prayer for Catholics.
- 3 Explain why Catholics dedicate prayers or offer Masses for loved ones who have died.

Knowledge check	
Question a1 is always about definitions of key concepts. Make sure you know them. Use the look, cover, write and check technique to learn them. Look at the concept. Cover it and then write it down. Finally check your answer.	
Death	The end of physical life. When the physical body ceases completely to function.
Eternal Life	The term used to refer to life in heaven after death. Also, the phrase Jesus uses to describe a state of living as God intends which leads to this life in heaven.
Heaven	Those who have accepted God's grace and forgiveness in this life will enjoy an eternal existence in God's presence in the next life. This face to face encounter with God is what we call 'Heaven'.
Hell	Those who through the exercise of their own free will ultimately reject God's grace and forgiveness, will have chosen to live eternally outside of God's presence. This total lack of God for all eternity is what we call 'Hell'.
Judgement	Judgement is when each individual will be held to account by God for the things they have done or failed to do during their lives.
Magisterium	The teaching authority of the Church, exercised by the bishops in communion with the Pope. In exercising the Magisterium, the Church is given grace by the Holy Spirit to faithfully interpret the scriptures and tradition.
Resurrection	The raising of the body to life again after death. Christians believe that Jesus has already experienced resurrection and that all people will experience it at the end of time.
Soul	The eternal part of a human being given at conception which lives on after the death of the body. Also a name for a human being's rational nature - their mind.

- ##### Summary questions
- 1 What is euthanasia?
 - 2 What is palliative care?
 - 3 Explain the term 'sanctity of life'.
 - 4 What is the right to die?
 - 5 What is eschatology?
 - 6 What is resurrection?
 - 7 What is the soul?
 - 8 Explain what is meant by heaven, hell and purgatory.
 - 9 What is Magisterium?
 - 10 What does *ex cathedra* mean?
 - 11 Give an example of Ordinary Magisterium.
 - 12 What is a sarcophagus?
 - 13 What does Requiem mean?
 - 14 What is a paschal candle?
 - 15 What is prayer?
 - 16 What is the point of praying for someone who is dead?

'Now test yourself' questions provide a quick knowledge check.

Tick boxes enable you to keep track of your revision progress.

Summary questions at the end of each topic help to consolidate knowledge.

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