

GCSE Religious Studies

Practice Questions

Revision Booklet



PARKWOOD
E-ACT ACADEMY

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Each unit will have practice questions for 4 mark, 5 mark and 12 mark questions.

4 mark questions

Structure

Make one point

Develop it

Make a second point

Develop it

Belief one

1 mark for stating the belief with limited detail.

2 marks for developing/expanding the first point.

Belief two

1 mark for stating the belief with limited detail.

2 marks for developing/expanding the first point.

- 4 Mark questions for **Beliefs** will ask for two ways a belief in something influences a Christian.
- 4 mark questions for **Practices** will ask for two contrasting ways religious believers do something.
- 4 mark **Theme** questions will ask for two beliefs about a topic. They may ask you to refer to the religious tradition of Great Britain – if so you **must** use Christianity in one of your points.

Religious Beliefs - Influence

For the **Beliefs** 4 mark questions you need to be able to explain **how** beliefs **influence** a religious believer.

In other words...

How does this belief **impact** them?

What do they **do** because of this belief?

How do they **feel** because of this belief?

How does having this belief **affect** their lives?

How does this belief **change** the way they live?

One way a belief in _____ **influences** a Christian/Muslim is...

Another way a belief in _____ **influences** a Christian/Muslim is...

5 mark questions

Structure

Make one point

Develop it

Make a second point

Develop it

+ Include a religious teaching

First point

Simple explanation of a relevant point – 1 mark

Detailed explanation of a relevant point – 2 marks

Second point

Simple explanation of a relevant point – 1 mark

Detailed explanation of a relevant point – 2 marks

Relevant and accurate reference to sacred writing – 1 mark

- 5 Mark questions for **Beliefs** or **Practices** will ask for two beliefs or practices.
- 5 mark **Theme** questions will ask for two beliefs about a topic.

12 mark questions

Structure

Paragraph 1

- Explain why people might **agree** with the statement. Include more than one reason. Support with **religious teachings**. Suggest strengths or weaknesses of point.

Paragraph 2

- Explain why people might **disagree** with the statement. Include more than one reason. Support with **religious teachings**. Suggest strengths or weaknesses of point.

Paragraph 3

- Explain which side has the best argument and 'wins'. **Make a judgement** and say why you have chosen that argument as the strongest. Add an additional reason/evidence to **support your judgement**.

12 mark questions will ask you to:

Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you should:

- refer to religious teaching
- give reasoned arguments to support this statement
- give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
- reach a justified conclusion.

12 mark questions

Sentence prompts

Paragraph 1 – Arguments For

- Some Christians/Muslims believe that...
- One reason they believe this is that the Bible/Qur'an says...
- Additionally Jesus/Muhammad said...
- Another reason some Christian/Muslims might support this is...
- However this raises the question...
- An advantage of this is...

Paragraph 2 – Arguments Against

- On the other hand...
- However other Christians/Muslims might feel...
- A key feature of the religion is...
- The Bible/Qur'an suggests...
- This means that...
- However this raises the question...
- An advantage of this is...

Paragraph 3 – Conclusion

- Having reviewed the evidence...
- Looking at both sides of the argument...
- I make the judgement that...
- In conclusion...
- An advantage of this is...
- Additionally...

Christian Beliefs

4 mark questions



- Explain two ways in which belief in the **resurrection of Jesus** influences Christians today.
- Explain two ways in which beliefs about the **creation** of the world might influence Christians today.
- Explain two ways in which learning about the **crucifixion** might influence Christians today.
- Explain two ways in which believing that God is **all-loving** might influence Christians today.
- Explain two ways in which believing in **Judgement Day** might influence Christians today.
- Explain two ways in which a belief in **incarnation** might influence Christians today.
- Explain two ways in which a belief in **salvation** might influence Christians today.
- Explain two ways in which a belief in **atonement** might influence Christians today.
- Explain two ways in which a belief in **the afterlife** might influence Christians today.
- Explain two ways in which a belief in **the trinity** might influence Christians today.
- Explain two ways in which a belief that God is **all-powerful** might influence Christians today.
- Explain two ways in which a belief in **Jesus ascension** might influence Christians today.

Christian Beliefs

5 mark questions



- Explain two Christian teachings about **creation**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two Christian **teachings about the nature of God**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two Christian teachings about **salvation**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two Christian teachings about the **ascension of Jesus**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two Christian teachings about the **resurrection of Jesus**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two Christian beliefs about **the afterlife**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two Christian beliefs about **incarnation**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two Christian beliefs about **resurrection**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.

Christian Beliefs

12 mark questions



Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you should:

- refer to religious teaching
 - give reasoned arguments to support this statement
 - give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
 - reach a justified conclusion.
-
- "The resurrection of Jesus was the most important event in his life."
 - "There cannot be an all-loving God if suffering exists"
 - "Salvation should only be achieved by those who work for it"
 - It is impossible to understand the nature of God.
 - Evil is needed in the world.
 - If the trinity exists, God is not one.
 - The Bible is all that is needed for Christians to understand creation.
 - A belief in the afterlife is not important in Christianity.
 - The Incarnation was the most important event in Jesus' life.
 - Salvation from sin is the most important belief for Christians today.

Christian Practices

4 mark questions



- Explain two contrasting ways in which Christians carry out **Eucharist** services.
- Explain two contrasting ways in which Christians carry out **Baptism** services.
- Explain two contrasting ways in which Christians carry out **pilgrimage**.
- Explain two contrasting ways in which Christians **worship**.
- Explain two contrasting ways in which Christians **pray**.
- Explain two contrasting ways in which Christians help the **local** community.
- Explain two contrasting ways in which Christians help out the **worldwide** community.
- Explain two contrasting ways in which Christians help those being **persecuted**.
- Explain two contrasting ways in which Christians respond to **persecution**.
- Explain two contrasting ways in which Christians work for **reconciliation**.
- Explain two contrasting ways in which Christians celebrate **Easter**,
- Explain two contrasting ways in which Christians celebrate **Christmas**.

Christian Practices

5 mark questions



- Explain two ways in which Christian **street pastors** carry out their Christian duty. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two ways in which **pilgrimage** is important to Christians. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two ways in which **Christmas** is important to Christians. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two ways in which a worldwide **Christian relief organisation** carries out its mission overseas. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two ways in which **private worship** is important for Christians. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two ways in which Christians help others in their **local community**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two ways in which Christians celebrate **Easter**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two ways in which Christians respond to the word **poverty**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two ways in which Christians support those in countries where it is **forbidden to follow Jesus**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain **two** ways in which the Church gets its message to people. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.

Christian Practices

12 mark questions



Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you should:

- refer to religious teaching
 - give reasoned arguments to support this statement
 - give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
 - reach a justified conclusion.
-
- “Christians should just rely on evangelists for Church growth.”
 - “All Christians should do something practical to help their community.”
 - “Pilgrimages are a waste of money.”
 - “No child should be baptised.”
 - “Christmas is the most important Christian festival.”
 - “Missionary work is the best way to spread the faith of Christianity”
 - “Every Christian should be an evangelist”
 - “The Eucharist should be practiced the same way in all churches”
 - “Reconciliation to God is more important than reconciliation to other people.”
 - “It is not possible to “rejoice and be glad” if you are suffering persecution.”
 - “Religious charities should just focus on emergency aid.”
 - “The best way for Christians to grow closer to God is to go on a pilgrimage.”

Islam Beliefs

4 mark questions



- Explain two ways in which belief in **the six articles of faith** influences **Sunni** Muslims today.
- Explain two ways in which belief in **the 5 roots of Usul a din** influences **Shia** Muslims today.
- Explain two ways in which belief in **Tawhid** influences Muslims today.
- Explain two ways in which belief that **God is just** influences Muslims today.
- Explain two ways in which belief in **angels** influences Muslims today.
- Explain two ways in which belief in **Risalah (Prophethood)** influences Muslims today.
- Explain two ways in which belief in **the Day of judgement** influences Muslims today.
- Explain two ways in which belief in **Jannam and Jahannam** influences Muslims today.
- Explain two ways in which belief in **predestination** influences Muslims today.
- Explain two ways in which belief in **the Night of Power** influences Muslims today.
- Explain two ways in which belief in **the authority of the Qur'an** influences Muslims today.
- Explain two ways in which belief in **the Imamate** influences Shia Muslims today.

Islam Beliefs

5 mark questions



- Explain two Muslims teachings about **Tawhid**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two Muslim beliefs about **predestination**.
- Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two Muslim teachings about **angels**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two Muslim teachings about **holy books** other than the Qur'an. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two Muslim teachings about Risalah (**Prophethood**). Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two Muslim teachings about **Jannam** or **Jahannam**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two Muslim teachings about the **Qur'an**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two Muslim beliefs about the **Night of Power**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two Muslim beliefs about God being **transcendent**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two Muslim beliefs about God being **immanent**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two Muslim teachings about **Muhammad**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two Muslim teachings about Adalat (**justice**). Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.

Islam Beliefs

12 mark questions



Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you should:

- refer to religious teaching
 - give reasoned arguments to support this statement
 - give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
 - reach a justified conclusion.
-
- “Prophet Adam can teach Muslims all they need to know.”
 - “The Qur’an is the only important book in Islam.”
 - “It does not matter how it was revealed or compiled, it is the fact Muslims have the Qur’an that is important
 - “Ibrahim is the perfect role model for Muslims.”
 - “Belief in angels has no impact on the life of Muslims.”
 - “Mika’il is more important than Jibril.”
 - “Religious believers have no proof that an afterlife exists.”
 - “The Sunnah is more important than the Qur’an as a guide to life for Muslims today.”
 - “For a Muslim, believing that Allah is all-powerful is not important.”
 - “Predestination cannot exist if humans have freewill.”

Islam Practices

4 mark questions



- Explain two contrasting ways in which Muslims carry out **prayer**.
- Explain two contrasting ways in which Muslims celebrate the festival of **Eid al Adha**.
- Explain two contrasting ways in which Muslims **give alms**.
- Explain two ways in which **Sawm** is important to Muslims.
- Explain two contrasting understandings of **charity**.
- Explain two contrasting ways in which Muslims celebrate **Ashura**.
- Explain two contrasting ways in which Muslims celebrate **Eid ul Fitr**.
- Explain two ways in which **Hajj** is important to Muslims..
- Explain two reasons why the **Shahadah** is important to Muslims.
- Explain two ways in which **Sawm** is important to Muslims.

Islam Practices

5 mark questions



- Explain two ways in which **Jumma** prayer is important to Muslims. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two ways in which **Zakat** is important. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two ways in which A Muslim celebrates **Ashura**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two ways in which **pilgrimage** is important to a Muslim. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two ways in which a Muslim celebrates **Eid ul Fitr**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two ways in which a Muslim can give to **charity**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two ways in which Muslims view the **Salah** (prayer) as important. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two ways in which a Muslim celebrates **Eid ul Adha**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two ways in which **wudu** is important to Muslims. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two ways in which Muslims believe **festivals** are important. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two ways in which the **Ka'aba** is important in the Muslim Hajj (pilgrimage). Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.

Islam Practices

12 mark questions



Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you should:

- refer to religious teaching
 - give reasoned arguments to support this statement
 - give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
 - reach a justified conclusion.
-
- "Eid al Adha is the most important festival for Muslims"
 - "Prayer is not important"
 - "The Shahadah is the most important pillar of Islam."
 - "Muslims can never lead their lives as well as Muhammad did."
 - "Giving to charity is the most important act a Muslim can do."
 - "Sawm is the best way to show devotion to Allah."
 - "Going on pilgrimage is the best way to show devotion to Allah."
 - "Only through prayer can Muslims truly understand God"
 - "Eid ul Adha is the most important festival."
 - "Every Muslim should give what they can to charity."

Theme A
4 mark questions



- Explain two religious beliefs about **marriage**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **divorce**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **same sex marriage**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **contraception**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **gender equality**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about the **role of women in the church**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about the **role of parents**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about the **role of women in the family**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about sexual relationships outside of marriage (**adultery**),
- Explain two religious beliefs about **sexual relationships before marriage**.

Theme A

5 mark questions



- Explain two religious teachings about **sexual relationships outside of marriage** (adultery). Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **same sex marriage**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **contraception**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **divorce**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about the **treatment of women**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **remarriage**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about the **role of parents**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **same sex parents**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **sexual relationships before marriage**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **the role of women in the church**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.

Theme A

12 mark questions



Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you should:

- refer to religious teaching
- give reasoned arguments to support this statement
- give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
- reach a justified conclusion.

- "Marriage is the correct place for sexual relationships"
- "Same sex marriage is wrong"
- "Women and men should be treated completely equally"
- "Everyone should use contraception"
- "Divorce is not acceptable"
- "Marriage is outdated and old-fashioned and is not needed"
- "Gender prejudice cannot be stopped"
- "Women should not be leaders in the church"
- "Religious believers should never be sexist."
- "Homosexuals should not be allowed to worship in churches."
- "Remarriage is adultery."
- "There is no reason to use contraception."

Theme B

4 mark questions



- Explain two religious beliefs about **vivisection**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **caring for the planet**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **abortion**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **euthanasia**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **stewardship**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about the **origins of humans**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **creation**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about the **value of the world**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about the **value of animals**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **hospices**.

Theme B

5 mark questions



- Explain two religious teachings about **vivisection**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **abortion**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about the **creation of human life**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **the creation of the universe**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **euthanasia**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **the value of animals**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **the use of hospices**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **stewardship**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **the value of the planet**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **dominion**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.

Theme B

12 mark questions



Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you should:

- refer to religious teaching
 - give reasoned arguments to support this statement
 - give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
 - reach a justified conclusion.
-
- “Science and religion can never agree”
 - “Animal experimentation should be made illegal”
 - “There is no good reason for abortion”
 - “Those that are ill and suffering should be allowed to end their own lives”
 - “The main focus of Christians should be on caring for the planet”
 - “There is no point in being a good steward”
 - “It does not matter how we treat animals.”
 - “Christians should focus on this life and not the next.”
 - “When God gave humans dominion over the world, it meant we could do what we like.”
 - “Humans are misusing their power over animals.”
 - “Religious believers should always fight for life to be preserved”
 - “Everyone should have the right to die if that is what they want.”

Theme D

4 mark questions



- Explain two religious beliefs about **holy war**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **weapons of mass destruction**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **using violence**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **pacifism**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **violent protest**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **forgiveness**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **justice**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **war**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **victims of war**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **terrorism**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **protesting**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **just wars**.

Theme D

5 mark questions



- Explain two religious teachings about **terrorism**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **war**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **holy war**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **forgiveness**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **weapons of mass destruction**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **pacifism**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **justice**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **violent protest**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **victims of war**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **using violence**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.

Theme D

12 mark questions



Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you should:

- refer to religious teaching
 - give reasoned arguments to support this statement
 - give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
 - reach a justified conclusion.
-
- “War is never acceptable.”
 - “Using weapons of mass destruction is sometimes necessary”
 - “The best response to violence is to walk away”
 - “Christians should use violence to protest unjust laws”
 - “Helping victims of war should be a priority for Christians”
 - “If God is on your side Holy war must be acceptable”
 - “If forgiveness happens there is no reason for war”
 - “Pacifism is unrealistic and never works”
 - “There should be no wars in the 21st century”
 - “Religion cannot end war.”

Theme E

4 mark questions



- Explain two religious beliefs about **good and evil**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **hate crimes**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **the aims of punishment**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **forgiveness**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about the **treatment of criminals**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **corporal punishment**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **capital punishment**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **suffering**.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **breaking the law** in order to get a bad law changed.
- Explain two religious beliefs about **victims of crime**.

Theme E

5 mark questions



- Explain two religious teachings about **forgiveness**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **corporal punishment**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about the **death penalty**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about the **aims of punishment**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **good and evil**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **justice**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **the treatment of criminals**, Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **sin**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **how to treat victims of crime**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
- Explain two religious teachings about **crime**. Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.

Theme E

12 mark questions



Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you should:

- refer to religious teaching
 - give reasoned arguments to support this statement
 - give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
 - reach a justified conclusion.
-
- "Prison is the only way to punish criminals"
 - "The death penalty is the best form of punishment"
 - "Corporal punishment helps children learn right from wrong"
 - "Prisons should be horrible places without comfort"
 - "Murderers should never be forgiven"
 - "All crime should be punished severely"
 - "Reforming is the most important aim of punishment"
 - "Justice can only be found through capital punishment."
 - "Religious people should always forgive others for their crimes"
 - "Those who cause suffering should not be helped."
 - "Protecting people from criminals is the most important aim of punishment."
 - "People are not evil, some just do evil things"



- Make sure that you **bring your practice answers in to school** to be marked and receive feedback.
- Remember to **use a timer** to practice writing to gain 1 mark per minute.