

# How to answer AQA GCSE exam Questions

The image features a solid red banner at the top. Inside the banner, the text "How to answer AQA GCSE exam Questions" is written in a white, sans-serif font. Below the banner, a white downward-pointing arrow shape is centered, pointing towards the rest of the page.

# There are two types of questions in the assessment

---

A01: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religion and beliefs include:

- Beliefs, practices and sources of authority
- Influences on individuals, communities and societies
- Similarities and difference within and/or between religions and beliefs.

# 1 mark Questions

---

These are multiple choice questions.

You have to choose the correct answer out of 4 possible answers.

E.g. Which of these is NOT an aim of punishment

Deterrence      Forgiveness      redemption      Vindication

## 2 mark questions

---

Short answer (asking for two facts)

One mark for each of **two** correct points.

E.g. Give two believes on capital punishment

# 4 mark questions

---

Asking for two ways in which beliefs influence Christians today OR two contrasting ways in which religion is practised OR two contrasting beliefs in contemporary British society about an issue studied, ONE to be Christianity. In theme C, non-religious perspective.

For each of the **two** ways/contrasts:

- One mark for a simple explanation of a relevant and accurate way/contrasts;
- Two marks for a detailed explanation of a relevant and accurate way/contrasts.

# 4 mark questions

---

E.g.

Explain two contrasting beliefs in contemporary British society about sex before marriage .

Your answer should include Christian beliefs and one other religious tradition.

# 5 mark questions

---

Asking for two Christian beliefs or teachings OR two Christian practices OR two religious beliefs about a philosophical or ethical issues PLUS reference to scripture or sacred writings.

For each of the **TWO** beliefs/practices:

- One mark for a simple explanation of a relevant and accurate belief/practices
- Two marks for a detailed explanation of a relevant and accurate belief/practices
- PLUS one mark for a relevant, accurate reference to scripture or sacred writings.

# 5 mark questions

---

Explain two religious beliefs about what happens when a person dies.

Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.



## A02 Questions

---

Analyse and evaluate aspects of religion and belief, their significance and influence.

# 12 mark questions

Levels	Criteria	Marks
4	A well-argued response, reasoned consideration of different points of view. Logical chains of reasoning leading to judgements(s) supported by knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence and information.	10-12
3	Reasoned consideration of different points of view Logical chains of reasoning that draw on knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence and information.	7-9
2	Reasoned consideration of a point of view. A logical chain of reasoning drawing on knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence and information Or Recognition of different points of view, each supported by relevant reasons/evidence.	4-6
1	Point of view with reason(s) stated in support	1-3
0	Nothing worthy of credit	0

# 12 mark questions

---

'Religious believers should not eat meat'

Evaluate this statement in your answer. In your answer you:

- should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement
- should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
- should refer to religious arguments
- may refer to non-religious arguments.
- should reach a justified conclusion

# ADA(A)M

---

**HOW TO ANSWER A 12 MARK QUESTION...**

**ADA(A)M**

**A** - **AGREE** - THIS SHOULD BE AN EXPLAINED POINT WHICH AGREES WITH THE STATEMENT.

**D** - **DISAGREE** - THIS SHOULD BE AN EXPLAINED POINT WHICH DISAGREES WITH THE STATEMENT.

**A** - **ADD RELIGION** - THIS POINT SHOULD EXPLAIN X2 RELIGIOUS BELIEFS RELATING TO THE QUESTION.

**(A)** - **ADD NON-RELIGION** - THIS IS NOT ALWAYS REQUIRED BUT IF POSSIBLE ADD A HUMANIST OR NON-RELIGIOUS POINT OF VIEW.

**M** - **ME/ CONCLUSION** - THIS COULD BE A SUMMARY OF YOUR ARGUMENT AND CAN INCLUDING YOUR OWN OPINION, AS LONG AS IT IS JUSTIFIED!

# SPaG

---

You get 5 additional SPaG marks awarded for the 12 mark question.

1 marks for threshold performance

2-3 for intermediate performance

4-5 for high performance