
AS

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

7061/2E – Study of religion: Judaism
Report on the Examination

7061
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General comments

There were some very impressive scripts and some answers achieved full marks, but there were also some that did not focus on the question, or did not apply the material to the question asked. Few appeared to have any difficulty completing the paper in the time available, and every question was tackled by every student. On some scripts the answers to the questions varied greatly in quality, but there were no questions which were consistently answered poorly. There was good use of technical terms in many answers, but also some where attempts to use the correct terms resulted in confusion, and in some cases in answers saying the exact opposite to what appeared to be intended. It was, however, generally possible to make sense out of what the student was trying to say. There were only a few scripts that were really difficult to read or bordering on illegible.

Question 1

Part 01.1

Whilst responses generally demonstrated good knowledge of the sanctity of life, there was some confusion about whether or not this permitted embryo research because the significance of belief about when life actually started was not clearly explored. In most responses there was no discussion about the tension between the sanctity of life of the unborn child and that of the mother, for example, in cases where carrying the child threatened the mother's life.

Part 01.2

Students appeared generally well-informed regarding Jewish views about the purpose of life; however there were limited AO2 skills on display in many responses to this question. AO2 skills require the presentation of arguments supporting different points of view, and critical analysis and evaluation of those arguments, and of the view presented. Answers that only supported the view that the teaching is confusing because there are different ideas about the purpose of life could only achieve Level 2.

Question 2

Part 02.1

Responses generally demonstrated good knowledge of aspects of the role of the synagogue. However in many responses there was more description of a synagogue than was necessary, and only limited awareness of the diversity of roles it may fulfil was shown.

Part 02.2

It is important to note that AO2 answers should express and attempt to justify points of view before reaching a reasoned conclusion, but in many responses to this question there were no evidence of AO2 skills. Many responses only provided relevant background information about the Talmud.

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

Grade boundaries and cumulative percentage grades are available on the [Results Statistics](#) page of the AQA Website.