

RELIGIOUS STUDIES (BIBLE KNOWLEDGE)

Paper 2048/11

Luke and Acts (1-21:15) Short Answer Questions

General comments

A number of scripts reflected good knowledge and understanding of the text. In general, candidates found **Questions 1a, 7a, 8** and **10b** the most difficult. Some candidates left some questions blank. The question most omitted was 14.

Comments on specific questions

Section A

Question 1

- (a) The correct answer to this question was Simeon but many wrote John the Baptist.
- (b) This was generally well answered.

Question 2

- (a) Although most candidates clearly knew the event, there was some confusion over the exact
- and (b)** wording. The most common error was quoting "You are my Son" as "This is my Son".

Question 3

- (a) This was generally well answered.
- and (b)**

Question 4

- (a) A significant number of candidates confused the exact wording of the quotation.
- (b) Quite a few candidates referred to place of worship rather than house of prayer.

Question 5

- (a) There seemed some confusion about what the charges were that were brought to Pilate. Many
- and (b)** candidates referred to blasphemy, cleansing the Temple, forgiving sin or claiming to be the Son of God, as the charges.

Question 6

- (a) A number of candidates misread the question and referred to the apostles/disciples work rather
- and (b)** than what early believers devoted themselves to.

Question 7

- (a) A significant number of candidates referred to preaching or spreading the gospel rather than waiting on tables or the overlooking of the daily distribution of food for widows.
- (b) The most common wrong answers were Matthias and Peter.

Question 8

- (a) Many candidates confused the events at Paphos with other events in Acts. The most common
and (b) wrong answers were Aquilla and Priscilla, and Timothy and Barnabas.

Question 9

- (a) A number of candidates omitted to answer this question. Others seemed confused and common
and (b) wrong answers included "not to preach, not to persecute Christians and to follow the commandments".

Question 10

- (a) This was generally well answered.
- (b) A number of candidates omitted to answer this question. Others were not precise enough to gain the one mark as they wrote that Aquilla and Priscilla had been thrown out of Rome. To gain the credit it was necessary to state that it was because all Jews had been ordered to leave Rome

Section B

Question 11

- (a) This question was not answered well. Many candidates seemed to confuse the incident with Jesus and his meeting with a tax collector, as Zacchaeus and Matthew were common wrong answers.
- (b) Generally, candidates did not seem very familiar with this incident. A significant number of candidates omitted to answer this question. Others seemed to guess at the parable with common wrong answers being one of the parables of the lost, the Pharisee and the publican, and the sower.
- (c) Candidates should note the marks allocated to a question as a guide to the length/detail of answer expected. Many candidates only gave a small part of what Jesus said (e.g. "Your sins are forgiven you") even though there were three marks allocated for the answer.

Question 12

- (a) A variety of answers were given. The most common wrong answers were Suzanna and Martha.
- (b) This was generally well answered.
- (c) To gain the mark, candidates needed to describe the apostles as not believing the women not being afraid or terrified.

Question 13

- (a) Some candidates misread the question and described what they heard. A common wrong answer was that they saw Jesus.
- (b) Again, many candidates did not take into account that 2 marks were allocated for this answer and so only gave one reaction. The question was in the plural (reactions). However, most candidates gained at least one mark.
- (c) Candidates seemed to misunderstand what was being asked, so a popular wrong answer was the reference to a particular day of the week.

Question 14

Candidates did not answer this question well. Many omitted all 3 parts. It was not obvious whether they were short of time or whether they were unfamiliar with the event. Many only gained part marks for a question rather than the full marks available.

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- (a) Many candidates gained only the one mark as they omitted either that the man in the vision said “Come over to Macedonia” or that he said “help us”.
- (b) Though a significant number of people omitted to answer this question, those that did answer generally gained the mark.
- (c) A significant number of people omitted the answer.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES (BIBLE KNOWLEDGE)

Paper 2048/12

Luke and Acts (1-21:15) Short Answer Questions

General comments

The full range of marks was achieved and there were an encouraging number of very good scripts. These reflected good detailed knowledge and understanding of the text. The quality of answers continues to improve and there were few very poor scripts.

Comments on specific questions

Section A

Question 1

(a) The majority of candidates answered this correctly. The most common wrong answer was **and (b)** Zaccheus as John the Baptist's father.

Question 2

(a) Most candidates recalled this event accurately.

(b) Some misread the question and provided part of the narrative or conflated other gospel accounts.

Question 3

(a) Many candidates found this question difficult and the text was often confused with other texts. The most common wrong answer referred to people being converted as the reason for the disciples rejoicing.

(b) Again, candidates found this difficult with some giving the answer to **(a)** in this part or omitting giving any answer.

Question 4

(a) Although the parable was well known, many did not give a full answer. To gain the mark both the idea of inviting friends/neighbours and of joy/rejoicing were required.

(b) Some candidates misread the question and discussed the parable in general terms.

Question 5

(a) A significant number of candidates confused this with John's account of the appearance to Thomas **and (b)** or with Jesus breaking bread. Other candidates did not seem confident about the details and often gained only one of the two marks available for this question.

Question 6

- (a) Generally well answered though a significant number of candidates gave the answer as three, either because of confusion over the word “ascension” or because they misread the question.
- (b) Most candidates answered this correctly.

Question 7

- (a) Generally well answered. The most common wrong answer was “Jesus”.
- (b) Again, this was generally well answered, showing the candidates had good knowledge of this event in Acts.

Question 8

- (a) Although most candidates gave the correct answer, some attributed the ordering of the death to Caesar Augustus or Pilate.
- (b) Again, most candidates gave the correct answer, with Paul, Stephen or Jesus as the most common wrong answers.

Question 9

- (a) Most candidates answered correctly.
- (b) Although the majority of candidates gave the correct answer, a number did not answer this question.

Question 10

- (a) Most candidates accurately recalled the event.
- (b) A number of candidates either chose to omit answering this question or described how Paul brought Eutychus back to life.

Section B

Question 11

- (a) Most candidates answered correctly.
- (b) Some candidates referred to Pharisees rather than teachers, but most gained the two marks.
- (c) Generally well answered, though a number of candidates omitted the first part (why were you searching for me?) and so only gained one of the two marks available.

Question 12

- (a) A number of candidates only quoted part of Jesus’ words.
- (b) Most candidates answered correctly.
- (c) Again, a number of candidates only gave part of Jesus’ words and so gained only one of the two marks available.

Question 13

- (a) Generally well answered. A few candidates confused Paul with Peter in part (b).
and (b)
- (c) Candidates recalled this event very well. Candidates should have noted that three marks were allocated to this answer and reflects the extent of the answer required, some answers were too brief.

Question 14

- (a) This event was generally known by many candidates though a number of candidates did not
and (b) attempt part (b).
- (c) The dramatic part of the account was often described though only a few candidates made reference to the spiritual outcome.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES (BIBLE KNOWLEDGE)

Paper 2048/13

Luke and Acts (1-21:15) Short Answer Questions

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Comments on specific questions

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Question 1

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Question 3

- (a) Many candidates found this question difficult and the text was often confused with other texts. The most common wrong answer referred to people being converted as the reason for the disciples rejoicing.
- (b) Again, candidates found this difficult with some giving the answer to **(a)** in this part or omitting giving any answer.

Question 4

- (a) Although the parable was well known, many did not give a full answer. To gain the mark both the idea of inviting friends/neighbours and of joy/rejoicing were required.
- (b) Some candidates misread the question and discussed the parable in general terms.

Question 5

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- (a) Generally well answered though a significant number of candidates gave the answer as three, either because of confusion over the word “ascension” or because they misread the question.
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- (a) Generally well answered. The most common wrong answer was “Jesus”.
- (b) Again, this was generally well answered, showing the candidates had good knowledge of this event in Acts.

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- (a) Most candidates answered correctly.
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Question 14

- (a) This event was generally known by many candidates though a number of candidates did not
and (b) attempt part (b).
- (c) The dramatic part of the account was often described though only a few candidates made reference to the spiritual outcome.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES (BIBLE KNOWLEDGE)

Paper 2048/21

Luke and Acts (1-21:15) Essay Questions

General comments

The marks covered the full range with evidence of some good answers. Some candidates had detailed knowledge of the text and good understanding of the material. The characteristics of good answers were focus and clear expression. In contrast, a significant number of candidates scored less than 25%. The characteristics of these answers were lack of detailed knowledge, wrong text or lack of addressing focus.

As in previous years, a significant number of candidates answered the part **(a)** questions better than the part **(b)** questions. The skill demands for these questions move away from the narrative to showing reasoning and evaluation. Credit is given for discussion of the material rather than just stating the text.

Answers on Acts of the Apostles showed some improvement from previous years.

Comments on specific questions

Section A

Question 1

- (a)** This was a popular question. However, many candidates did not seem to know the account in detail and omitted what the angel said about Jesus being called Son of the Most High and will have the throne of David and reign forever.

The reference to Elizabeth was also often omitted.

- (b)** This was general well answered, though some candidates gave very general answers not related to part **(a)**.

Question 2

- (a)** Another popular question. However, many candidates were confused as to what constituted a nature miracle and so gave accounts of healings. There were also some candidates who clearly knew John's Gospel and recounted the raising of Lazarus. However, this examination is based on Luke's Gospel as stated in the question and so no credit could be awarded.

- (b)** There were some good answers, and even those candidates who had selected the wrong story in part **(a)** were still able to gain some marks on part **(b)**.

Question 3

- (a)** Most candidates who attempted this question had good knowledge of the details of the parable, though a small number of candidates did not include the last part concerning warning others. Only a very few recounted the wrong parable.

- (b)** This was generally well answered and good answers alluded back to the parable to illustrate.

Question 4

- (a) Surprisingly few attempted this question. Those that did answer this question tended to just focus on the choosing a colt and the throwing out of the traders in the Temple area.
- (b) Candidates struggled to answer this apart from comments about riding a colt rather than a horse.

Question 5

- (a) Many candidates conflated material that was in other gospels. A number of candidates ignored the section of material that was requested and so wrote at length about Jesus' trials. There were also a number of very accurate answers that gained full marks.
- (b) Candidates struggled to answer this part of the question. Some made reference to forgiveness but very little else was discussed.

Section B

Question 6

- (a) As expected, this was well answered with a number of candidates gaining full marks.
- (b) Candidates were able to select from a wide variety of material and there were some good answers reflecting a wide knowledge of Acts of the Apostles. Others tended just to comment generally on preaching and healing.

Question 7

- (a) Most showed good knowledge of the account. Some candidates did not read the whole question and omitted the material concerning reasons why the Sanhedrin convicted Stephen.
- (b) Most limited their answer to a mention about Saul (Paul) but very little else.

Question 8

- (a) Surprisingly, this was not a popular question. It may be that part (b) deterred some from choosing this question. Generally, it was well answered, though some stopped after the event of Paul and Barnabas tearing their garments.
- (b) Most struggled to select material from Acts about Barnabas and present it in terms of illustrating "son of encouragement".

Question 9

- (a) This was a very popular question and many gained full marks.
- (b) In contrast to part (a), this was poorly answered. Few candidates went beyond mentioning baptism and opposition.

Question 10

- (a) A question that few answered. Those that did mostly gave very general and vague answers.
- (b) Those who did attempt this question limited their answers to the power to do signs and wonders.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES (BIBLE KNOWLEDGE)

Paper 2048/22

Luke and Acts (1-21:15) Essay Questions

General comments

The marks covered the full range with evidence of some excellent answers. There was also evidence that textual knowledge of the Acts of the Apostles had improved. Many answers were focused and clearly expressed.

As in previous years, candidates found the part (a) questions more accessible. The skill demands for the part (b) questions move away from the narrative and expect reasoning and evaluation. Credit is given for discussion of the material rather than just stating the text.

It was encouraging that very few candidates broke the rubric and attempted more than five questions.

Comments on specific questions

Section A

Question 1

- (a) This was a popular question which was generally well answered. There was slight conflation with the other gospel accounts with the first temptation. The details on the second temptation about the devil claiming he can give all authority to whom he wants, was often omitted. Most candidates correctly quoted Jesus' replies.
- (b) Many candidates struggled to relate the temptations to Jesus' future mission. The idea of the temptations causing Jesus to doubt his Son of God status was one way to answer the question.

Question 2

- (a) Another popular question. As expected, some candidates confused the leper stories with other miracle accounts. However, most showed good detailed knowledge of the texts.
- (b) Certainly some candidates had studied the characteristics of Luke's Gospel, though a number just focused on his medical interests and omitted his outcasts interests.

Question 3

- (a) Some candidates did know the correct parable but were less confident about the reasons which led to Jesus telling it.
- (b) Most candidates showed reasonable understanding of Jesus' teaching. Candidates who had narrated the wrong parable in part (a) still managed to gain credit here as the teaching in both parables has overlaps.

Question 4

- (a) It is important to read the question carefully, the reference to “before the crowd arrived” was important as credit could not be given to information about the arrest of Jesus.
- (b) This was well answered and candidates showed some good understanding of what we could learn about Jesus from the events in part (a).

Question 5

- (a) Many candidates conflated material that was in other gospels, especially John’s gospel. However, there were some candidates who gave full and accurate accounts including what Jesus said.
- (b) Many candidates restricted their answer to a couple of points such as Jesus was not a ghost and he was physical. More could have been made of the reference to Jesus entering a locked room.

Section B

Question 6

- (a) There were some candidates who showed excellent knowledge of the events and what was said. It was important not to confuse this account with the account in **Question 5**.
- (b) This should have been quite straightforward with a large body of material to select from. However, many candidates limited themselves to just one or sometimes two areas such as boldness and power, and these were rarely developed or illustrated.

Question 7

- (a) It was important for candidates not to just write everything they knew about Jesus. Most of the material is irrelevant to the question asked.
- (b) Candidates should focus on the question set, what was expected was an evaluation of the effect Pentecost had on the early church not an account of Pentecost.

Question 8

- (a) This question was generally well answered. However, many candidates went on to narrate what happened in Damascus, which was more relevant to part (b).
- (b) The focus was on the importance of the role of Ananias. The question did not ask for a narrative of the events but for the importance.

Question 9

- (a) This question was generally well answered.
- (b) The focus of this question was how successful the missionary journey was. If comment was made, it was often in terms of how successful everything had been. Very few attempted any evaluation.

Question 10

- (a) Only a few candidates answered this question. The material needed to be known well enough to address the “how” and “why” aspects in sufficient depth.
- (b) This question produced some good answers.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES (BIBLE KNOWLEDGE)

Paper 2048/23

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Section B

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