



# Cambridge O Level

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**BIBLICAL STUDIES**

**2035/02**

Paper 2 The Portrayal of Jesus in the Synoptic Gospels

**For examination from 2024**

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 60

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**Specimen**

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This document has **14** pages.

**Generic Marking Principles**

These general marking principles must be applied by all examiners when marking candidate answers. They should be applied alongside the specific content of the mark scheme or generic level descriptions for a question. Each question paper and mark scheme will also comply with these marking principles.

**GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 1:**

Marks must be awarded in line with:

- the specific content of the mark scheme or the generic level descriptions for the question
- the specific skills defined in the mark scheme or in the generic level descriptions for the question
- the standard of response required by a candidate as exemplified by the standardisation scripts.

**GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 2:**

Marks awarded are always **whole marks** (not half marks, or other fractions).

**GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 3:**

Marks must be awarded **positively**:

- marks are awarded for correct/valid answers, as defined in the mark scheme. However, credit is given for valid answers which go beyond the scope of the syllabus and mark scheme, referring to your Team Leader as appropriate
- marks are awarded when candidates clearly demonstrate what they know and can do
- marks are not deducted for errors
- marks are not deducted for omissions
- answers should only be judged on the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar when these features are specifically assessed by the question as indicated by the mark scheme. The meaning, however, should be unambiguous.

**GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 4:**

Rules must be applied consistently, e.g. in situations where candidates have not followed instructions or in the application of generic level descriptions.

**GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 5:**

Marks should be awarded using the full range of marks defined in the mark scheme for the question (however; the use of the full mark range may be limited according to the quality of the candidate responses seen).

**GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 6:**

Marks awarded are based solely on the requirements as defined in the mark scheme. Marks should not be awarded with grade thresholds or grade descriptions in mind.

**Guidance on using levels-based mark schemes**

Marking of work should be positive, rewarding achievement where possible, but clearly differentiating across the whole range of marks, where appropriate.

The marker should look at the work and then make a judgement about which level statement is the best fit. In practice, work does not always match one level statement precisely so a judgement may need to be made between two or more level statements.

Once a best-fit level statement has been identified, use the following guidance to decide on a specific mark:

- If the candidate's work **convincingly** meets the level statement, award the highest mark.
- If the candidate's work **adequately** meets the level statement, award the most appropriate mark in the middle of the range (where middle marks are available).
- If the candidate's work **just** meets the level statement, award the lowest mark.

**Annotation:**

- Ticks have no defined meaning for levels of response marking.
- Other annotations will be used by examiners as agreed during standardisation, and the meaning will be understood by all examiners who marked that paper.

**Level descriptions for AO1 Knowledge and understanding**

- Demonstrate knowledge of specified texts and corresponding Christian teachings, beliefs and practices.
- Demonstrate understanding of these texts, teachings, beliefs and practices in both biblical and modern contexts, including areas where there are different views within Christianity.

These level descriptions are used for part **(a)** questions in Questions 3, 4 and 5 and all part **(b)** questions.

| <b>Level</b> | <b>Description</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <b>Marks</b> |
|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Level 3      | <p><b>Accurate and relevant knowledge and understanding</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answers the question, using detailed, accurate and relevant knowledge.</li> <li>• Demonstrates clear understanding through a well-developed and substantial response.</li> <li>• A well-structured format.</li> </ul>                                                                                                             | 5–6          |
| Level 2      | <p><b>Some accurate and relevant knowledge and understanding</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partially answers the question, using some accurate and relevant knowledge.</li> <li>• Demonstrates some understanding through a partially developed response, covering some of the points.</li> <li>• Responds in a mostly structured format.</li> </ul>                                                                    | 3–4          |
| Level 1      | <p><b>Limited accurate and relevant knowledge and understanding</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attempts to answer the question, using limited accurate and relevant knowledge.</li> <li>• Demonstrates limited understanding through an underdeveloped response through limited coverage of the points or a response in general terms.</li> <li>• Attempts to present the information in a structured format.</li> </ul> | 1–2          |
| Level 0      | No relevant material to credit.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 0            |

**Level descriptions for AO2 Evaluation**

Use evidence and reasoned discussion of a range of points of view to make judgements about issues within Christianity arising from the texts.

These level descriptions are used for all part (c) questions.

| <b>Level</b> | <b>Description</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <b>Marks</b> |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Level 4      | <p><b>Clear and well-reasoned evaluation in response to the question</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Considers more than one point of view in detail.</li> <li>• Fully answers the question, using relevant evidence to support a well-structured discussion.</li> <li>• Concludes with a clear and well-reasoned judgement.</li> </ul>                              | 7–8          |
| Level 3      | <p><b>Clear evaluation in response to the question</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Considers more than one point of view.</li> <li>• Answers the question, using some relevant evidence to support a well-structured discussion.</li> <li>• Concludes with a clear judgement.</li> </ul>                                                                             | 5–6          |
| Level 2      | <p><b>An evaluation in response to the question</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Considers one point of view; any other attempts to state a point of view are descriptive.</li> <li>• Partially answers the question, using partially relevant evidence to support a structured discussion.</li> <li>• Concludes with a judgement.</li> </ul>                         | 3–4          |
| Level 1      | <p><b>Limited evaluation in response to the question</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Descriptive response with an attempt to state a point of view, describing material linked to the question or topic.</li> <li>• Attempts to answer the question, using limited relevant evidence to support a discussion.</li> <li>• Limited or no judgement present.</li> </ul> | 1–2          |
| Level 0      | No relevant material to credit.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 0            |

**SECTION A**

| Question | Answer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Marks    |
|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1(a)(i)  | <p><b><u>Luke 2:1, 3, NRSVA</u></b></p> <p><b>In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered ... All went to their own towns to be registered.</b></p> <p><b>State the purpose of all the world being registered as mentioned in this passage.</b></p> <p>Any <b>two</b> from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the register was a means of obtaining statistics/numbers about people governed by Rome (in Judea)</li> <li>• to help in administering/governing the empire</li> <li>• to tax people.</li> </ul> <p>Award one mark for each response.</p> <p>Accept any other valid points.</p>                                                                                         | <b>2</b> |
| 1(a)(ii) | <p><b>Suggest reasons why this registration was relevant to Luke’s story of the birth of Jesus.</b></p> <p>Any <b>four</b> from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• because of the Roman register Joseph, who was a descendant of King David, was required to travel with Mary to Bethlehem</li> <li>• Bethlehem was the tribal place of Joseph’s birth</li> <li>• Bethlehem was also David’s birthplace</li> <li>• Joseph and Mary going to Bethlehem was fulfilling the Old Testament prophecy (Micah) that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem</li> <li>• because it was an historical event that took place around the birth of Jesus.</li> </ul> <p>Award one mark for each response.</p> <p>Accept any other valid points.</p> | <b>4</b> |

| Question | Answer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Marks    |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1(b)     | <p><b>Explain the Jewish attitude to the Roman occupation of Palestine at the time of Jesus.</b></p> <p>Use the level descriptions for AO1 Knowledge and understanding to mark candidates' response to this question.</p> <p>Answers may include some of the following ideas, but all valid material must be credited.</p> <p>Candidates are likely to give a general description of some of the conditions under Roman rule. Roman rule was harsh and there was often dissent and rebellion which was treated with cruel punishment. The Jews resented the high taxes demanded of them to pay for the administration of the occupied territory.</p> <p>The Jews considered much of what the Romans did to be blasphemous and an insult to their religion. The Romans were insensitive to the religious traditions and customs of the Jews. The Zealots led violent revolts against the Romans from time to time. The Sadducees made some attempt to cooperate with the Romans. The Jews were resentful of Roman religion and its idolatry and the declaration that the Emperor was a God.</p>                                                                                                                                                | <b>6</b> |
| 1(c)     | <p><b>To what extent are the birth stories in the gospels the same story told in different ways?</b></p> <p>Use the level descriptions for AO2 Evaluation to mark candidates' response to this question.</p> <p>Answers may include some of the following ideas, but all valid material must be credited.</p> <p>Some candidates might agree that Matthew and Luke have common elements in their stories, e.g. Joseph taking Mary as his wife (betrothed and the baby being born in Bethlehem, the City of David). In both accounts the birth is according to the prophecy that there would be a Messiah. Candidates might give examples of similarities.</p> <p>Other candidates might disagree with this view. The Christian tradition of combining the two accounts into one continuous story ignores the different intentions and purposes of the authors who were writing for unique audiences.</p> <p>Luke was concerned with people on the margins and wanted the details of Jesus' humble birth to show Jesus as a compassionate saviour.</p> <p>Matthew was writing for Jewish Christians and wanted to show Jesus as the Jewish Messiah fulfilling scripture and recognised by people from other parts of the world (the Magi).</p> | <b>8</b> |

| Question  | Answer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Marks    |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 2(a)(i)   | <p><b><u>Mark 4:39–40, NRSVA</u></b></p> <p><b>He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, ‘Peace! Be still!’ Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, ‘Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?’</b></p> <p><b>State the occasion when Jesus said this.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calming/stilling of the storm.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <b>1</b> |
| 2(a)(ii)  | <p><b>State what was happening on this occasion, just before Jesus spoke these words.</b></p> <p>Any <b>two</b> from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• waves were filling the boat with water</li> <li>• Jesus was asleep</li> <li>• the disciples woke Jesus and said, ‘Teacher don’t you care if we drown?’</li> </ul> <p>Award one mark for each response.</p> <p>Accept any other valid points.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>2</b> |
| 2(a)(iii) | <p><b>State what this incident reveals about the person of Jesus.</b></p> <p>Any <b>three</b> from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jesus could control the wind and the waves</li> <li>• he had power over the elements of nature</li> <li>• the forces of nature obeyed him</li> <li>• he was confident of his power and unafraid (he was sleeping)</li> <li>• it revealed his divinity</li> <li>• God’s power is limitless</li> <li>• also Jesus’ role as saviour – he acted to save the disciples.</li> </ul> <p>Award one mark for each response.</p> <p>Accept any other valid points.</p> | <b>3</b> |



| Question | Answer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Marks    |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 2(b)     | <p><b>Explain what this story might reveal about the faith of the disciples.</b></p> <p>Use the level descriptions for AO1 Knowledge and understanding to mark candidates' response to this question.</p> <p>Answers may include some of the following ideas, but all valid material must be credited.</p> <p>The disciples had panicked and were afraid of drowning, in contrast to Jesus who was sleeping when the storm arose. When Jesus calmed the storm they were even more terrified and wondered who he was that the wind and waves obeyed him.</p> <p>Jesus questioned the disciples about their faith. As this incident illustrated, the disciples had failed to understand and believe in his power and authority. Even after all they had seen and heard while they had been with him in Galilee, they asked each other the question, 'Who is this?' They did not understand or have faith in him.</p> <p>Some candidates might mention that this lack of faith was shown in other incidents right up to the time of the arrest of Jesus, when the disciples deserted him.</p>                                                                                                                | <b>6</b> |
| 2(c)     | <p><b>Discuss the view that belief in miracles should be important to all Christians today.</b></p> <p>Use the level descriptions for AO2 Evaluation to mark candidates' response to this question.</p> <p>Answers may include some of the following ideas, but all valid material must be credited.</p> <p>Some candidates might argue that belief in miracles should be important to Christians as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (physical) signs of God's power</li> <li>• examples of Jesus'/God's compassion for those who are suffering</li> <li>• illustrations of God's intervention in the natural world/supernatural power</li> <li>• reinforcing their faith.</li> </ul> <p>For some people there is proof of the miracles in places of pilgrimage or the accounts of witnesses.</p> <p>Other candidates might argue that there could be natural explanations for some of the miracles in the gospels and in life today. They might believe that there are logical or psychological reasons for occurrences referred to as miracles. They might suggest that some Christians, while still believing and having a Christian faith, are less interested in the supernatural.</p> | <b>8</b> |

**SECTION B**

| Question | Answer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Marks    |
|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 3(a)     | <p><b>Give an account of the trial of Jesus before the High Priest.</b></p> <p>Use the level descriptions for AO1 Knowledge and understanding to mark candidates' response to this question.</p> <p>Responses might include some of the following in quotation or paraphrase, but all valid material must be credited.</p> <p><u>Matthew 26:57, 59–68</u></p> <p>Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the High Priest, in whose house the scribes and elders had gathered. The chief priests and the whole council (Sanhedrin) were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, 'This fellow said, "I am able to destroy the Temple of God and build it in three days."'</p> <p>The High Priest stood up and said to Jesus, 'Have you no answer? (What is it that they testify against you)?' But Jesus was silent. Then the High Priest said to him, 'I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.'</p> <p>Jesus said to him, 'You have said so. But I tell you: from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of Heaven.'</p> <p>Then the High Priest tore his clothes and said, 'He has blasphemed! Why do you still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your verdict?' They answered, 'He deserves death.'</p> <p>Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, saying, 'Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?'</p> | <b>6</b> |

| Question | Answer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Marks    |
|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 3(b)     | <p><b>Explain why the religious leaders opposed Jesus and plotted to kill him.</b></p> <p>Use the level descriptions for AO1 Knowledge and understanding to mark candidates' response to this question.</p> <p>Answers may include some of the following ideas, but all valid material must be credited.</p> <p>Previously, the chief priests and the Pharisees had heard Jesus teaching with authority and in parables and they knew he was criticising them. They felt threatened by him and they looked for ways to arrest him. But they were afraid of the crowds in Jerusalem who were following Jesus and declaring him to be a prophet.</p> <p>During Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, the Pharisees were anxious that he was leading a Messianic demonstration.</p> <p>In cleansing the Temple, Jesus' action was seen as a condemnation of the priestly authorities in charge of the Temple, who had permitted unlawful practices.</p> <p>In Mark 11:18: when the chief priests and the scribes heard about this, they kept looking for a way to kill Jesus. They were afraid of him because the whole crowd was spellbound by his teaching.</p>                                                                                                       | <b>6</b> |
| 3(c)     | <p><b>'During his ministry, Jesus did not want people to know his true identity.' Discuss.</b></p> <p>Use the level descriptions for AO2 Evaluation to mark candidates' response to this question.</p> <p>Answers may include some of the following ideas, but all valid material must be credited.</p> <p>In discussion, candidates might explore a number of views on this.</p> <p>Some candidates might say that evidence that Jesus revealed his true identity can be found throughout the gospels. Jesus often showed his divine nature to the crowds and the disciples when he was alone. He used titles such as Son of Man and acknowledged the Son of David (both usually seen as referring to the Messiah). He forgave sinners, performed exorcisms and carried out other miracles. Candidates might use other evidence from his healings and ministry.</p> <p>However, the titles Jesus used about himself such as Son of Man did not necessarily imply divinity but referred to the suffering servant in Isaiah. He did not use titles such as Messiah or Son of God about himself and he referred to God as his Father. Also, after some healings he asked people not to tell anyone what had happened. Candidates may give other examples.</p> | <b>8</b> |

| Question | Answer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Marks    |
|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 4(a)     | <p><b>Describe the miracle Jesus performed because of a Syrophenician woman's faith.</b></p> <p>Use the level descriptions for AO1 Knowledge and understanding to mark candidates' response to this question.</p> <p>Responses might include some of the following in quotation or paraphrase, but all valid material must be credited.</p> <p><u>Mark 7:24–30</u></p> <p>Jesus went to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and he did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice – a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him and she came and bowed down at his feet. The woman was a gentile of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter.</p> <p>Jesus said to her, 'Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' But she answered him, 'Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs.'</p> <p>Then Jesus told her that for such a reply, 'You may go, for the demon has left your daughter.'</p> <p>She went home and found her child lying on the bed and the demon had gone.</p> | <b>6</b> |
| 4(b)     | <p><b>Explain what the conversation between Jesus and the woman might teach about Jesus' relationship with gentiles.</b></p> <p>Use the level descriptions for AO1 Knowledge and understanding to mark candidates' response to this question.</p> <p>Answers may include some of the following ideas, but all valid material must be credited.</p> <p>Jesus' response to the woman appears to mean that his ministry and healing is exclusively for the Jews (the children). However, when the woman replies that 'even dogs eat the crumbs ...', Jesus is impressed by her understanding and faith that gentiles will be included too. He has compassion for her and her daughter is instantly healed.</p> <p>The event shows that Jesus' ministry is not exclusively for the Jews but a universal one. His compassion (and healing/salvation) is for all who have faith in him. The miracle also shows the power of Jesus in that the daughter is instantly healed from a distance.</p>                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>6</b> |

| Question | Answer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Marks    |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 4(c)     | <p><b>To what extent is this a story about the purpose of Jesus’ ministry rather than about a woman’s faith?</b></p> <p>Use the level descriptions for AO2 Evaluation to mark candidates’ response to this question.</p> <p>Answers may include some of the following ideas, but all valid material must be credited.</p> <p>Some candidates might say that this is a miracle about prejudice. Candidates might explain the Jewish attitude to foreigners (the woman was a Greek) and non-Jews. Gentiles were despised and considered unclean. At the time of Jesus, it would be unusual for a rabbi or a religious leader to have any dealings with them. Jesus overturns this prejudice by speaking to the woman and healing her daughter.</p> <p>Other candidates might say that this is a story about faith. The woman recognises that Jesus has the power to heal her daughter and by healing her daughter Jesus responds to the faith of a gentile, including her in the kingdom.</p> <p>Other candidates might have a more balanced view arguing this is a story about faith overcoming prejudice and discrimination. The readers of Mark’s Gospel would have been mainly gentiles and the story would have provided reassurance.</p> | <b>8</b> |

| Question | Answer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Marks    |
|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 5(a)     | <p><b>Give an account of the parable of the rich fool.</b></p> <p>Use the level descriptions for AO1 Knowledge and understanding to mark candidates’ response to this question.</p> <p>Responses might include some of the following in quotation or paraphrase, but all valid material must be credited.</p> <p><u>Luke 12:13–21</u></p> <p>In answer to someone in a crowd who had asked Jesus to tell the man’s brother to share his inheritance, Jesus refused to become an arbitrator in such a matter and he said to the crowd, ‘Be on your guard’, ‘Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist of an abundance of possessions.’</p> <p>Then he told them a parable: ‘The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, “What should I do for I have no place to store my crops?” Then he said, “I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones and there I will store my grain and goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink and be merry.”</p> <p>But God said to him, “You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?” So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God.’</p> | <b>6</b> |

| Question | Answer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Marks    |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 5(b)     | <p><b>Explain what Jesus’ parables about rich people might teach Christians today.</b></p> <p>Use the level descriptions for AO1 Knowledge and understanding to mark candidates’ response to this question.</p> <p>Answers may include some of the following ideas, but all valid material must be credited.</p> <p>Candidates might explain that the teaching in the parables is important because it is about behaviour in preparing for the kingdom.</p> <p>In parables such as the rich fool and the rich man and Lazarus, the teaching is not about having wealth on earth but ensuring that a person’s life is rich towards God. Many people today put too high a value on having money and possessions. The teachings warn against greed and putting love of wealth before the chance of eternal life.</p> <p>Using wealth in the right way is important for Christians. The rich man in the story of the rich man and Lazarus went to Hell because he did not help the poor. The rich fool hoarded his wealth instead of sharing it and never benefited from his greed.</p> <p>Other contemporary examples of treating/using wealth in the correct way today might be given.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>6</b> |
| 5(c)     | <p><b>Assess the view that Jesus’ parables will always have something to teach Christians.</b></p> <p>Use the level descriptions for AO2 Evaluation to mark candidates’ response to this question.</p> <p>Answers may include some of the following ideas, but all valid material must be credited.</p> <p>Some candidates might argue that the parables are timeless and when applied to any age/time or situation they have a message for believers. The parables are stories/illustrations that hold people’s attention and challenge them about their behaviour and belief. The messages in them are as relevant today as they were in the time of Jesus. Proof of this is that the parables have survived as an important Christian teaching. The parables refer to simple, everyday things to teach about important religious themes. Examples might be given to support the argument.</p> <p>Other candidates might argue that the settings, illustrations and comparisons used in the parables often refer to circumstances and occupations that are specific to the first century, and some of the references and illustrations have to be researched and explained before the teaching can be understood. An example might be given.</p> <p>Some candidates might argue that the more straightforward teaching of Jesus and the sayings, such as the teachings in the Sermon on the Mount or on prayer, e.g. the Lord’s Prayer, are the ones that are more memorable or easily understood.</p> | <b>8</b> |