2.2 Worship in Britain Today: Diversity, Trends and Denominational Practice: 30-minute Pack

AQA 8062 · about 30 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

1 Give three features of an informal Quaker meeting for worship in Britain today, naming the Quaker context.

(Total for Question 1 is 3 marks)

2 Give two ways ecumenism has affected Christian worship in Britain today, naming the ecumenical context.

(Total for Question 2 is 2 marks)

3 Explain two features of a typical Anglican Eucharistic service in a parish church in Britain, and refer to a source of wisdom or authority in your answer.

(Total for Question 3 is 5 marks)

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4 Explain two reasons why some Orthodox Christians value the use of icons and incense in worship in Britain today.

(Total for Question 4 is 4 marks)

5 Explain two challenges that arise when different Christian denominations try to worship together in Britain today.

(Total for Question 5 is 4 marks)

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6 Explain the importance of worship style diversity for the Christian church in Britain today.

(Total for Question 6 is 6 marks)

7 Evaluate the view that all Christian worship should be the same. In your answer you should give reasoned arguments to support this statement, give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view, refer to religious arguments and reach a justified conclusion.

(Total for Question 7 is 12 marks)

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Mark scheme · 2.2 Worship in Britain Today: Diversity, Trends and Denominational Practice: 30-minute Pack

Question 1

expectant silence where attendees listen for the Spirit, oe **B1**

any attendee may speak if moved to do so, often sharing short ministry or reflection, oe **B1**

no set liturgy or clergy-led sacrament in the meeting itself, oe **B1**

Answer: Expectant silence; anyone may speak when moved; no set liturgy or clergy-led sacrament.

Question 2

greater sharing of worship resources and joint services between denominations, e.g. local ecumenical partnerships, oe **B1**

increased mutual recognition of baptisms and occasional shared eucharists or prayer events, oe **B1**

Answer: Any two: joint services and sharing resources through ecumenical partnerships; mutual recognition of baptism and some shared worship events.

Question 3

feature 1: use of a set liturgy such as the Book of Common Prayer or Common Worship, oe **B1**

development: the set words regulate the structure of the service and reflect Anglican theology of sacrament and worship, oe **B1**

feature 2: celebration of the Eucharist with consecration of bread and wine by a priest, oe **B1**

development: this is understood by many Anglicans as a sacramental act drawing on Jesus's words at the Last Supper, Luke 22:19-20, oe **B1**

a clear reference to a source of wisdom or authority made accurately, e.g. Luke 22:19-20 or the Book of Common Prayer, oe **B1**

Answer: E.g. use of set liturgy such as the Book of Common Prayer; Eucharist celebrated with consecration of bread and wine, linked to Luke 22:19-20.

Question 4

point 1: icons are seen as windows to heaven that aid prayer and focus on the person of Christ or the saints, oe **B1**

development: icons connect the worshipper with the incarnate Christ and the communion of saints, reinforcing Orthodox theology of incarnation, oe **B1**

point 2: incense symbolises prayer rising to God and creates a sense of mystery and reverence in the liturgy, oe **B1**

development: the sensory element helps worshippers enter into the sacred and reflects the holiness of the liturgical space, oe **B1**

Answer: Icons help focus prayer and connect worshippers with Christ and the saints; incense symbolises prayers rising to God and creates reverence and mystery.

Question 5

challenge 1: disagreements over who can preside at Communion and whether different traditions can share a sacrament, oe **B1**

development: this can lead to restricted participation or carefully negotiated services, showing theological and practical limits to unity, oe **B1**

challenge 2: differences in style and expectation, such as quiet liturgy versus lively charismatic worship, may make some participants uncomfortable, oe **B1**

development: practical tensions over music, language and order can hinder full participation and require compromise, oe **B1**

Answer: E.g. disputes over presiding at Communion and sacramental sharing; incompatible worship styles, requiring careful compromise.

Question 6

Level 3 A detailed, well-structured answer that explains multiple reasons why diversity of worship style is important, considers different denominational perspectives, and links reasons to the effects on church life and mission. **5-6**

Level 2 An answer that explains some reasons why worship diversity matters, with limited development or fewer denominational perspectives. **3-4**

Level 1 One or two simple points about worship diversity with minimal explanation or development. **1-2**

Level 0 No relevant content. **0**

Indicative content:

- Diversity allows different cultural and theological expressions to flourish, helping the church reach various social groups and ages.
- Different styles meet different spiritual needs, for example contemplative worship serves those seeking silence and reflection, while charismatic worship suits those seeking emotional expression and spiritual gifts.
- Diversity supports ecumenical cooperation where shared elements can be emphasised while respecting differences, aiding mission and community presence.
- A range of worship styles can prevent one tradition dominating national church life and allows theological convictions about sacraments and authority to be maintained.
- Practical effects include greater engagement, pastoral care tailored to congregations, and challenges such as resource allocation and training for leaders.

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Question 7

Level 1 Basic, limited response with simple assertions for or against the view, little use of religious argument or evidence, and no clear reasoned conclusion. **1-3**

Level 2 A clear attempt to argue both for and against the view, some use of religious arguments or denominational examples, and a partial conclusion which may be descriptive rather than fully justified. **4-6**

Level 3 A well-argued response that develops reasoned arguments on both sides, uses relevant Christian viewpoints and examples, and reaches a supported conclusion. **7-9**

Level 4 A thorough, balanced evaluation with sustained reasoning, wide use of Christian theological and practical arguments, clear reference to denominational differences and ecumenism, and a fully justified, well-argued conclusion. **10-12**

Indicative content:

- Arguments supporting the view: a single form of worship could promote visible unity, reduce confusion for newcomers, and emphasise shared core beliefs such as the lordship of Christ and the centrality of scripture and sacraments.
- Religious argument for uniformity: emphasis on the church as one body in passages such as John 17 on unity could be used to support common worship practices that express unity.
- Arguments against the view: Christian traditions hold differing theological convictions about sacraments, authority and the role of the Spirit, so diversity protects conscience and theological integrity, for example Anglican, Orthodox and Pentecostal differences.
- Practical argument against uniformity: different cultural contexts and pastoral needs require varied worship styles to reach people effectively, as seen in contemporary music attracting youth and quiet liturgy serving contemplative seekers.
- Reference to ecumenism: while some shared services and mutual recognition can be achieved, ecumenical practice often involves compromise rather than total uniformity, showing a balance between unity and diversity.
- A justified conclusion might weigh the importance of visible unity against respect for doctrinal convictions and pastoral effectiveness, arguing for mutual respect and shared essentials rather than identical worship forms.

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