



RS.CP4 Pilgrimage and Celebrations

AQA 8062 · Calculators not allowed · about 55 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Answer ALL questions. Show all your working.

- 1** This question checks key vocabulary used in Christian teaching about pilgrimage and celebrations.
- (a) State what is meant by pilgrimage. (1)
- (b) Name one place of Christian pilgrimage in Britain. (1)
- (c) State what is meant by Advent. (1)
- (d) State what is meant by Lent. (1)
- (e) Name the day in Holy Week on which Christians remember the crucifixion of Jesus. (1)

(Total for Question 1 is 5 marks)

-
- 2** Give three reasons why Christians go on pilgrimage.

(Total for Question 2 is 3 marks)

- 3** Explain two reasons why Iona is an important site of Christian pilgrimage in Britain. Refer to Christian belief and teaching in your answer.

(Total for Question 3 is 4 marks)

- 4** Explain two contrasting Christian views on the importance of pilgrimage today. Refer to a source of wisdom and authority in your answer.

(Total for Question 4 is 5 marks)

5 This question is about Christian celebrations. It is the AQA-style 24-mark, five-part question: parts (a) to (d) are worth 12 marks; part (e) is the 12-mark evaluation.

- (a)** State what Christians celebrate at Christmas. (1)
- (b)** Give two ways Christians celebrate Christmas. (2)
- (c)** Explain two reasons why Christmas is important for Christians today. Refer to scripture in your answer. (4)
- (d)** Explain two contrasting Christian views about how Christmas should be celebrated in Britain today. Refer to a source of wisdom and authority in your answer. (5)
- (e)** Evaluate this statement: 'Pilgrimage is the most important way for Christians to show their faith.' In your answer you should: refer to Christian teaching, refer to different points of view, reach a justified conclusion. (12)

.....

(Total for Question 5 is 24 marks)

6 Explain two ways the celebration of Easter is important for Christians today.

(Total for Question 6 is 4 marks)

7 Give three events of Holy Week.

(Total for Question 7 is 3 marks)

Mark scheme · RS.CP4 Pilgrimage and Celebrations

Question 1

- (a) **B1** a journey made by a believer to a place of religious significance, oe
- (a) **Answer: A journey made by a believer to a place of religious significance.**
- (b) **B1** e.g. Iona / Walsingham / Lindisfarne, oe
- (b) **Answer: E.g. Iona (or Walsingham, or Lindisfarne).**
- (c) **B1** the period of preparation before Christmas, oe
- (c) **Answer: The period of preparation before Christmas.**
- (d) **B1** the 40-day period of preparation before Easter, oe
- (d) **Answer: The 40-day period of preparation before Easter.**
- (e) **B1** Good Friday, oe
- (e) **Answer: Good Friday.**

Question 2

- **B1** to grow closer to God/deepen their faith, oe
- **B1** to visit a place associated with an important figure or event in Christian history, oe
- **B1** as an act of penance or thanksgiving (or to experience a sense of community with other pilgrims), oe
- **Answer: Any three: to grow closer to God; to visit a place linked to an important figure or event; as an act of penance or thanksgiving; for community with other pilgrims.**

Question 3

- **B1** point 1: it is where St Columba founded a monastery in the 6th century, from which Christianity spread across Scotland, oe
- **B1** development: pilgrims visit to connect with this historic origin of British Christianity, oe
- **B1** point 2: the Iona Community today is an ecumenical Christian community welcoming visitors of different denominations, oe
- **B1** development: pilgrims can take part in shared worship there, reflecting Jesus's promise in Matthew 18:20, 'where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them', oe
- **Answer: E.g. its historic link to St Columba's 6th-century monastery; the modern ecumenical Iona Community, linked to Matthew 18:20.**

Question 4

- **B1** belief 1: some Christians, especially in Catholic and Anglo-Catholic traditions, believe pilgrimage remains an important spiritual practice, following a long history of visiting holy places, oe
- **B1** development: shrines such as Walsingham, a site of Marian devotion since the medieval period, continue to attract many pilgrims seeking spiritual renewal, oe
- **B1** belief 2: other Christians believe pilgrimage is not essential, since God can be worshipped anywhere, oe
- **B1** development: based on John 4:21-24, in which Jesus tells the Samaritan woman that true worship is 'in the Spirit and in truth' rather than tied to one place, oe
- **B1** reference to a source of wisdom and authority made accurately, oe
- **Answer: Contrast: pilgrimage valued as an important tradition (e.g. Walsingham) vs pilgrimage seen as unnecessary since worship is 'in Spirit and truth' (John 4:21-24).**

Question 5

- (a) **B1** the birth of Jesus Christ, oe
- (a) **Answer: The birth of Jesus Christ.**
- (b) **B1** attending a Christmas Eve/midnight or Christmas Day church service, oe
- (b) **B1** giving and receiving gifts (or a nativity play, or carol singing), oe
- (b) **Answer: E.g. attending a Christmas Day church service, and giving/receiving gifts.**
- (c) **B1** point 1: it celebrates the incarnation, the belief that God became human in the person of Jesus, oe
- (c) **B1** development: based on John 1:14, 'The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us', central to Christian belief about who Jesus is, oe
- (c) **B1** point 2: it is an opportunity for Christians to give thanks and show generosity to others, reflecting the gift of Jesus to the world, oe
- (c) **B1** development: many churches run Christmas outreach events, e.g. collecting gifts or food for those in need, oe
- (c) **Answer: E.g. celebrating the incarnation (John 1:14); an opportunity for thanksgiving and generosity.**
- (d) **B1** belief 1: some Christians believe Christmas should focus mainly on its religious meaning, centred on church services and reflection on the incarnation, oe
- (d) **B1** development: based on Luke 2:10-11, the angel's announcement 'today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you', which some feel is at risk of being lost amid commercial celebrations, oe
- (d) **B1** belief 2: other Christians believe it is acceptable to combine religious worship with wider family and cultural traditions, since these can still express Christian generosity and joy, oe
- (d) **B1** development: they may point to the Magi bringing gifts to the infant Jesus (Matthew 2:11) as an early precedent for gift-giving at Christmas, oe
- (d) **B1** reference to a source of wisdom and authority made accurately, oe
- (d) **Answer: Contrast: Christmas kept mainly religious (Luke 2:10-11) vs combined with wider family/cultural tradition, e.g. gift-giving (Matthew 2:11).**
- (e) **L4** (10-12): A well-argued, balanced answer that considers more than one point of view in a developed way, using accurate and detailed references to Christian teaching and/or scripture to support each point, and reaches a clear, justified conclusion.
- (e) **L3** (7-9): A clear and reasoned answer that considers more than one point of view, supported by relevant references to Christian teaching and/or scripture, though the justification of the conclusion may be less developed.
- (e) **L2** (4-6): A reasoned answer that considers at least one point of view, with some relevant supporting evidence, but with limited or no consideration of an alternative view.
- (e) **L1** (1-3): One or more relevant points are made, but with little or no supporting evidence and no reasoned conclusion.
- (e) **L0** (0): No relevant content.
- (e) **Indicative content:**
 - Agree: pilgrimage involves real sacrifice of time, money and effort, which can be seen as a strong outward demonstration of faith and devotion.
 - Agree: pilgrimage sites such as Iona and Walsingham have a long history in British Christianity, and visiting them connects believers to this tradition.
 - Agree: for some Christians, the physical journey of pilgrimage mirrors and strengthens their spiritual journey towards God.
 - Disagree: Jesus taught that true worship is 'in the Spirit and in truth' rather than tied to a place (John 4:24), suggesting no single practice like pilgrimage is essential.
 - Disagree: daily practices such as prayer, reading the Bible, attending church and acts of service are followed by far more Christians and arguably show faith just as strongly, sustained over a lifetime rather than a single journey.
 - Disagree: many Christians never go on pilgrimage, for example due to cost or ability, and this does not make their faith any less genuine.
 - A balanced answer might conclude that pilgrimage can be a powerful and meaningful expression of faith for those who undertake it, but it is one option among many rather than the single most important way of showing faith.

Question 6

- **B1** point 1: it celebrates the resurrection of Jesus, the central belief of the Christian faith, oe
- **B1** development: based on 1 Corinthians 15:14, 'if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith', showing how central the resurrection is considered to be, oe
- **B1** point 2: it gives Christians hope of eternal life, since Jesus's resurrection is seen as proof that death has been defeated, oe
- **B1** development: many churches hold special sunrise services on Easter Sunday to celebrate this hope, oe
- **Answer: E.g. celebrating the resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:14); giving hope of eternal life, marked by sunrise services.**

Question 7

- **B1** Palm Sunday (Jesus's entry into Jerusalem), oe
- **B1** the Last Supper (Maundy Thursday), oe
- **B1** Good Friday (the crucifixion) (or Easter Sunday, the resurrection), oe
- **Answer: Any three: Palm Sunday; the Last Supper (Maundy Thursday); Good Friday (crucifixion); Easter Sunday (resurrection).**