5.6 Family Life and Procreation: 30-minute Pack

AQA 8062 · about 30 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

1 Explain two contrasting beliefs about what makes a family, religious and/or non-religious. Refer to a source of wisdom and authority or another source in your answer.

(Total for Question 1 is 5 marks)

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2 This question is about religious and non-religious perspectives on family life and procreation. It is the AQA-style 24-mark, five-part question.

(a) State one purpose of the family, according to religious teaching. **(1)**

(b) Give two reasons why families are important in society. **(2)**

(c) Explain two religious teachings about the responsibilities of parents towards their children. Refer to a source of wisdom and authority in your answer. **(4)**

(d) Explain two contrasting beliefs about same-sex parenting, religious and/or non-religious. Refer to a source of wisdom and authority or another source in your answer. **(5)**

(e) Evaluate this statement: 'Children need to be brought up by a mother and a father.' In your answer you should: refer to religious teaching, refer to different points of view, reach a justified conclusion. **(12)**

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(Total for Question 2 is 24 marks)

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Mark scheme · 5.6 Family Life and Procreation: 30-minute Pack

Question 1

belief 1: some religious believers hold that the ideal family is a nuclear family formed through the marriage of a man and a woman, oe **B1**

development: this reflects traditional teaching, such as Genesis 2:24's description of marriage, which some see as the intended foundation for family life, oe **B1**

belief 2: many religious and non-religious people today accept a wide range of family structures, including single-parent, blended and same-sex-parent families, as equally valid, oe **B1**

development: this reflects a belief, held by many, that what matters most for a family is love, stability and care, rather than the particular structure of the household, oe **B1**

reference to a source of wisdom and authority or another appropriate source made accurately, oe **B1**

Answer: Contrast: traditional teaching favouring the married nuclear family (Genesis 2:24) vs the wider contemporary view that love, stability and care matter more than family structure.

Question 2

(a) e.g. to raise and care for children / to provide a stable, loving environment / to pass on religious belief and values, oe **B1**

(a) Answer: E.g. to raise and care for children.

(b) families provide children with the love, care and support they need to grow up well, oe **B1**

(b) families pass on values, traditions and, for many, religious belief and practice, to the next generation, oe **B1**

(b) Answer: E.g. providing love, care and support for children; passing on values and, for many, religious belief and practice.

(c) point 1: many Christians believe parents have a responsibility to raise children well and teach them right from wrong, oe **B1**

(c) development: Ephesians 6:4 instructs fathers to bring their children up 'in the training and instruction of the Lord', showing the seriousness of this responsibility, oe **B1**

(c) point 2: many religious believers, including Jews and Muslims, believe parents should pass on their faith to their children, oe **B1**

(c) development: Deuteronomy 6:6-7 instructs parents to impress God's commandments on their children, showing the importance placed on religious upbringing, oe **B1**

(c) Answer: E.g. Ephesians 6:4 on bringing children up in the Lord's training; Deuteronomy 6:6-7 on teaching children God's commandments.

(d) belief 1: many religious and non-religious people today accept and support same-sex couples raising children, believing a loving and stable home matters more than the sex of the parents, oe **B1**

(d) development: this is reflected in UK law, which allows same-sex couples to marry, adopt and have parental rights on the same basis as opposite-sex couples, oe **B1**

(d) belief 2: some religious believers hold that children are best raised within a traditional family formed by a mother and a father, based on their tradition's teaching on marriage, oe **B1**

(d) development: this view draws on scripture such as Genesis 2:24, which describes marriage between a man and a woman as the foundation the family was traditionally understood to be built on, oe **B1**

(d) reference to a source of wisdom and authority or another appropriate source made accurately, oe **B1**

(d) Answer: Contrast: acceptance of same-sex parenting (reflected in UK adoption/parenting law) vs traditional teaching favouring a mother-and-father family (Genesis 2:24).

(e) **L4** A well-argued, balanced answer that considers more than one point of view in a developed way, using accurate and detailed references to religious teaching and/or scripture to support each point, and reaches a clear, justified conclusion. **10-12**

(e) **L3** A clear and reasoned answer that considers more than one point of view, supported by relevant references to religious teaching and/or scripture, though the justification of the conclusion may be less developed. **7-9**

(e) **L2** 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. **4-6**

(e) **L1** One or more relevant points are made, but with little or no supporting evidence and no reasoned conclusion. **1-3**

(e) **L0** No relevant content. **0**

(e) Indicative content:

- Agree: some religious believers argue that scripture describes the family as founded on the marriage of a man and a woman (Genesis 2:24), and that a mother and father together provide complementary care.
- Agree: some argue that a mother and a father can each offer a distinct kind of role model, and that this combination best reflects their tradition's teaching about family life.
- Agree: for believers who hold this view strongly, it is often tied closely to their tradition's wider teaching on marriage and gender roles within the family.
- Disagree: many religious and non-religious people believe that what determines a child's wellbeing is the love, stability and care they receive, not the sex of their parents.
- Disagree: same-sex couples in Britain today legally marry, adopt and raise children, and research referred to in RS teaching materials generally finds that children of same-sex parents can and do thrive when raised in a loving, stable home.
- Disagree: single parents, grandparents and other carers successfully raise children without a mother and father both present, showing that this is not the only way a child can be well brought up.
- Disagree: some argue that focusing on 'mother and father' as a fixed requirement can unfairly stigmatise loving families that do not fit that pattern.
- A balanced answer might conclude that while many religious traditions value the mother-and-father family as their ideal, most religious and non-religious people today would judge a family primarily by the quality of care and love it provides.

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