

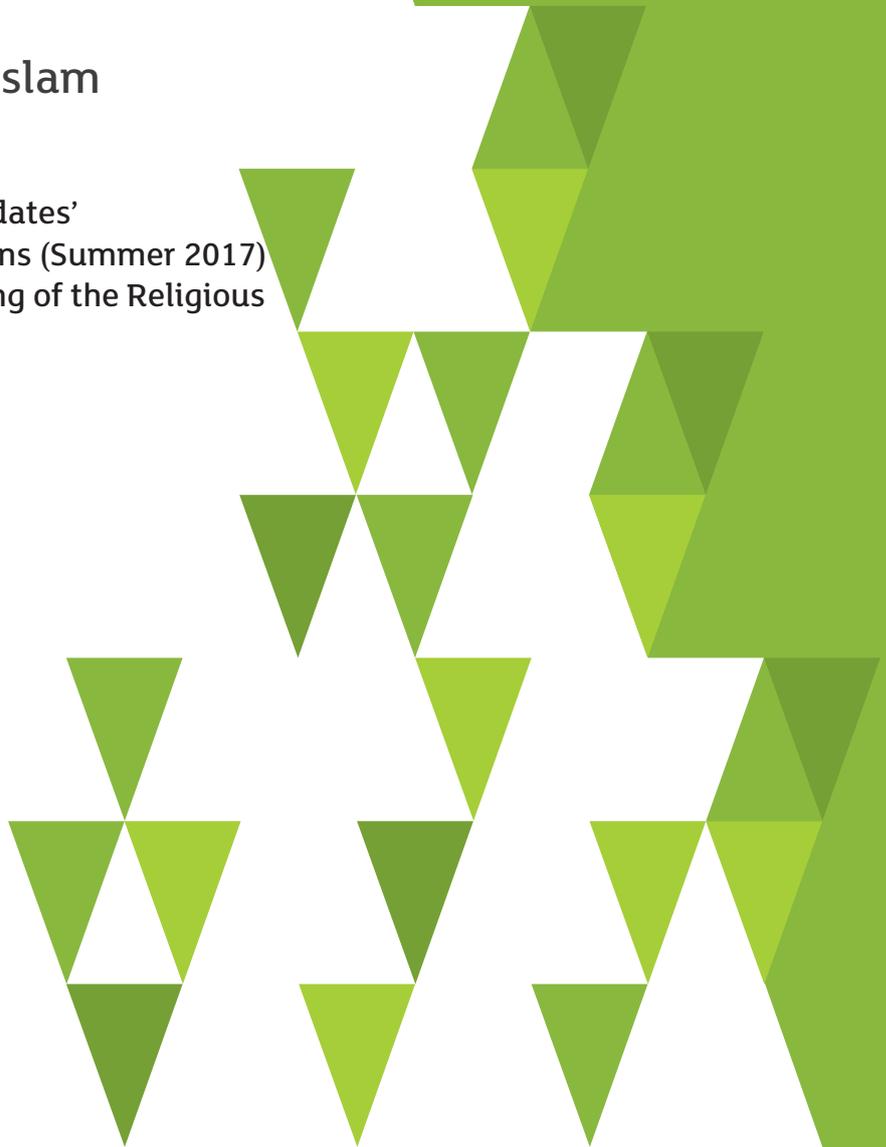
GCE



CCEA GCE AS  
Exemplifying Examination  
Performance  
**Religious Studies**

AS 6: An Introduction to Islam

This is an exemplification of candidates' performance in GCE AS examinations (Summer 2017) to support the teaching and learning of the Religious Studies specification.



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# EXEMPLIFYING EXAMINATION PERFORMANCE

## GCE Religious Studies

### Introduction

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Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donna Finlay". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D' and a long, sweeping tail on the 'y'.

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**GCE: AS Religious Studies**

**SRE61: An Introduction to Islam**

**Grade: A Exemplar**

## Section A

Answer **one** question from Section A

**Q1a** “For the Muslim, Hajj signifies both an outward and an inner spiritual pilgrimage.”

With reference to this quotation, explain the rituals of Hajj and their importance for Muslims. [25]

### Student's response

*It is very easily recognised that Hajj signifies both an outward and an inner spiritual pilgrimage.*

*Hajj is a pilgrimage to Mecca that all Muslims usually make at least once in their lives. It represents the journey that Muhammad made to Medina where he established the first Islamic community, therefore holds great significance for Muslims.*

*This pilgrimage begins by going to Mecca and going to the Great Mosque, where the Ka'aba is centred inside. The Ka'aba is a small cubed building where 360 idols were previously kept, but now it is empty and no one goes inside. Muslims circle the Ka'aba 7 times anti clockwise praying as they do so. On one wall of the Ka'aba is the black stone which is said to be from the heavens, and black because of peoples sins. Muslims try and touch and kiss this black stone but those further away just raise their hand towards it.*

*Muslims then go to Mount Safa and Mount Marawa where they run between each 7 times, re enacting the story of hagar and Ishmael. They then go to Zamzam well, where they drink this water and also buy containers to bring home with them, as it holds much significance for muslims. The most important part of the pilgrimage is then going to Mount Arafat, which is believed to be the 'Mountain of Mercy'. Here Muslims pray and confess their sins, just as Muhammad did in his time, therefore muslims reenact the actions of their prophet Muhammad, highlighting the outwardness of the pilgrimage. Muslims also at mount Arafat collect pepples for the next stage of Hajj. Before this next stage, they spend a night under the stars at Musdalifa, which is a time of spiritual reflection for Muslims, highlighting the inner spiritual aspect of the pilgrimage. The next stage is the 'stoning of the Devil' where muslims throw 7 pepples at 3 pillars which represent the Devil and evil. This reenacts and represents the story of when Ishmael was tempted by the devil but chased him off by stoning him. Muslims then return to Mecca and to the great Mosque, where they again pray together whilst circling the Ka'aba.*

*Hajj very much signifies both on inward and outward spiritual pilgrimage. The various different acts reenacting many stories of the time of Muhammad express an outward spiritual pilgrimage as they are actively reenacting them as what Muhammad done. During Hajj also all Muslim men dress in white robes and women dress modestly. This means that nobody is distinguished from one another and everyone is the same no matter status, poor, job. It unites everyone as a whole, and represents the brotherhood of Muslims, Ummah. It is a time for both self reflection and inner spirituality and also to remember the life of Muhammad.*

### **Examiner's comments**

#### **Band 5 23 Marks**

The answer to the question demonstrated a comprehensive level of response in a number of ways. There was evidence of a detailed knowledge of the Hajj pilgrimage. The route was accurately outlined and the details of what happened at each place. At another level the response was able to offer comments which demonstrated an understanding of the importance of each place, the people being remembered or the symbolism of actions. In this way the response targeted the particular demands of the question. The most challenging aspect of the question was the quotation which referred to Hajj as 'an outward and an inner spiritual pilgrimage.' The response directly dealt with this aspect of the question, throughout the answer and in the final section, which only the strongest responses managed to do. Overall it was a comprehensive level of response, which was well structured and used accurate technical language.

**Q1b** Evaluate the view that it is easy to observe the Pillars in an Islamic country. Justify your answer. [25]

### Student's response

*It is easily recognised that pillars can be easily observed in an Islamic country. For Muslims in Islamic countries, pillars have always been a tradition and way of life. Islamic countries are also majority Muslim, therefore everyone will be doing the same thing so it is easier when most people around you are also practicing the pillars.*

*The pillars are part of the Muslim faith, therefore Muslims in Islamic countries find it easy to carry out as it is a way of life. The pillar of Zakat, which is giving to charity may be easily observed and carried out in Islamic countries as it is a means of helping others such as the poor, disabled and orphans. This may be easily observed in Islamic countries because it is a way of helping others, even those who are not Muslim can easily view this, again as they want to help others. The Zakat requires muslims to give 2.5% of there surplus money after all essentials are paid, so it is a small amount. The pillar of Salah is also easily observed in Islamic countries as this is prayer, and prayer plays a major role in the lives of many, especially Muslims. This pillar is said to be most important and is a central practice of daily lives of muslims. It can be easily observed because prayer can be used anywhere and is easily done, either at home or in a mosque or in any clean space. As most Islamic countries are predominantly Muslim, everyone will be also praying 5 times a day, so everyone can do it together easily.*

*However it can be easily recognised that are not easily observed. For example, the Zakat pillar may be a struggle for those who don't work or are very poor, and are unable to give 2.5% to charity. It can also be recognised that Salah can be difficult to observe in daily life. Those who work 5 days a week from nine to five or nurses who work long days may find it difficult to carry out five different times of prayer as they may be unable to leave work for a while to pray. However in Islamic countries, most work places should be adapted and allow for this. Fasting, saum may also be a very difficult pillar to observe because during the month of Ramadan, muslims fast for a month. This can be an extremely difficult task, especially for elderly, younger children, or pregnant women, therefore this pillar not as easily observed.*

*It is clear to see that most pillars can be easily observed in Islamic countries as they are predominantly Muslim and work places etc are adopted for this, and this lifestyle is normal! However some pillars can also be more difficult to observe.*

## Examiner's comments

Band 4 17 Marks

The answer to this question demonstrated a very good attempt to respond to the view expressed in the question. There was a very good attempt to present a critical evaluation. A good variety of points were made and expanded. Regular references to the Pillars were made and used as evidence. In this way the arguments were strengthened. The response also offered a counter argument which indicated a good attempt. The main point being made was that the Pillars are challenging in themselves regardless of context. Overall it was a very good attempt to offer a critical analysis which was clear, structured and coherent.

**Q2a** Examine the practice and significance of prayer for the individual Muslim and the wider Islamic community. [25]

## Student's response

*Salat, which is the pillar of prayer is the second pillar of Islam. According to Broshi, the practice of Salat and Zakah are the most important parts of Islam.*

*A Muslim must pray five times per day as demonstrated by Muhammad. He began to do this after the Hajra and therefore Muslims believe that they must follow in his example.*

*Before carrying out prayer, a Muslim must carry out wudu which is washing. They must wash all body parts involved in the prayer. They wash their right hand, left hand, mouth, face and feet so that they can be clean before Allah. This is known as minor ablutions. There are major ablutions also which is washing of the entire body. Women must do this after menstruating for example. The carrying out of wudu shows that prayer is significant because they are communicating directly with Allah. Therefore, Muslims want to ensure that they are clean to be in his presence.*

*A Muslim must carry out prayer five times per day which is in correspondence with the five angles of the sun. This shows that prayer is significant to a Muslim because they are stopping to think about God on five occasions, thus they are put him in the forefront of their lives. Therefore salat is significant.*

*Salat also shows that a Muslim is outwardly committed to God, thus shows the wider community that they are committed to Islam.*

*Salat brings ummah, which is unity. This is because after prayer, Muslims have the opportunity to come together in the Mosque and socialise with people of the same belief thus, prayer is significant because it brings Muslims together.*

*Prayer holds a large part of Islam. This is shown by the rules associated with prayer, which shows how revered the second pillar is. Women must pray in a separate area to men which highlights the significance of salat because Muslims don't want to be distracted. Muslims must pray on prayer mats or a clean area which reinforces that they must be physically clean in God's presence before they can be spiritually cleansed. One must not distract another in prayer by whispering etc which shows how important prayer is to a Muslim because they do not want to be disrupted with their time with God. There is also a special merit for people who come early to prayer. Walton says that angels stand with their scrolls at the doors into the prayer hall and once this shuts, they roll up the scrolls. Therefore, prayer allows Muslims to win favours with Allah.*

*Prayer also gives Muslims the opportunity to hear a khutbah sermon from the imam. This will help them in their Muslim faith as they can hear recitations from the Qur'an from the minbar. Thus, prayer is significant because it allows them to learn.*

*Muslims must all pray in the direction of Mecca towards the Ka'ba. This also helps to create ummah because all Muslims across the world are doing this.*

*Jum'ah prayers on a Friday noon are particularly significant. This is because male Muslims can all come to the Mosque and pray their ra'gus together. This is the sacred day in Islam and Muslim countries take a holiday on this day. Therefore, prayer is a significant practice for a Muslim because it brings wider community together to worship Allah. According to Nasr, the whole world is a place of prayer, therefore it shows the significance of prayer because it can be carried out anywhere. If there is no water for wudu, a Muslim can use sand or dirt to carry out ablutions. Therefore, this shows the significance because God wants everyone to pray no matter what the situation, unless one is unclean, for example a woman menstruating. This shows the significance of prayer because one must be fully physically clean prior to coming before Allah.*

*To conclude, prayer is of extreme importance in Islam because it not only helps to bring the individual closer to God, allows a Muslim to communicate with God and grow in faith, thus helping them get to a paradise. It also helps to bring ummah or unity to the local community of Muslims by coming together for Jumma prayers on a Friday and knowing that they all follow this practice. Furthermore, it brings Muslims around the globe together as they all pray towards the Ka'ba in Mecca and prayers are being lifted at all times of the day because of different time zones and different angles of the sun.*

## Examiner's comments

Band 5 21 Marks

The response demonstrated a detailed knowledge of prayer and was able to go beyond accurate factual details and presented points of explanation which focused on the significance of prayer. In this way understanding was demonstrated. For example there is an extended explanation of the significance of wudu for an individual Muslim and also praying five times a day. There was also a focus on the ummah which targeted the question of 'the wider community'. The significance of Friday prayers was considered in relation to both the individual and the community. Overall it was an excellent level of response which clearly attempted to address the various aspects of the question asked.

**Q2b** Assess the claim that the mosque is more essential to the Islamic faith than the Imam. Justify your answer. [25]

## Student's response

*The mosque or masjid is the place of prostration and a place where Muslims can go and pray, socialise and hear Khutbah sermons.*

*Some may claim that the Imam is more important than the mosque, thus will disagree with this statement. Nasr says that the whole world is a place of prayer, pure and clean. Therefore, the mosque isn't completely necessary because Muslims can pray anywhere, as Allah created the world so that they could glorify him.*

*The mosque can also become very materialistic and expensive, thus instead of giving aims and following the pillar of Zakat to give money to those in need such as the poor, widows or orphans, the Muslims are investing more money into the decoration of the building. Therefore, this detracts from the Islamic practice of faith.*

*The Imam is more important because he will make the call to prayer in the minbar, thus he is more important because without him, the call to prayer couldn't be made. Therefore the Imam is more essential.*

*Additionally, the Mosque is less important because it could lead to paganism, which is exactly what Muhammad taught against by destroying the 360 idols in the Ka'ba. This is because people were more focused on polytheism than monotheism. The mosque could lead Muslims to committing shirk, which the Mecca salats teach against. This is because Muslims may begin to worship the Mosque more than Allah. The Mosques can be a distraction in the Muslim faith, thus are less essential.*

*The Imam can provide counselling and help to Muslims, particularly in a non-Muslim country such as the United Kingdom where Muslims are a minority group. They can give guidance on how to follow the Qur'an and practise faith in today's secular, multi-cultural society. An Imam can also give advice on the growing Islamophobia problem due to the actions of extremist, minority groups such as Isis who killed 22 people in Manchester on 22<sup>nd</sup> May at an Ariana Grande concert.*

*Imams also teach the Madrassah to children beginning at the age of five. They play a vital role in educating them on the Qur'an so that the religion can be passed down the generations thus will be sustainable. Therefore, the Imam is more important to the Islamic faith as he can insure the spread of it.*

*On the other hand, suta 3 says that masjids are houses built so that God's name could be said in them, thus they are more important in the Muslim faith. This is because it is a safe place for Muslims to practise their religion.*

*Mosques are also places where Muslims can learn more about their faith because it has all the resources that they need. Some Mosques have libraries where they can read books teaching about Islam as well as the Qur'an which, according to Esposito is the final, uncreated, uncorrupted word of Allah. The Mosque also has waiting facilities which are necessary before prayer is carried out. The Mosque contains the mihrub which is a niche in the wall which points to Mecca. It also has clocks which show the time for prayer. The Mosque is a vital resource which helps to educate Muslims and teach them about the Qur'an as well as a vital place to practise their faith, thus holds greater importance.*

*Finally, the Mosque reminds the Muslims of key aspects in their faith. The walls represent the five pillars, the foundations represent the Qur'an and the ceiling or dome represents Shariah Law. Therefore, the Mosque was built considering God at all times, thus is of vital importance to Muslims as it is a building solely for Allah.*

*To conclude, the Mosque is the place for Muslims to go to while the Imam is the person who can teach. The Mosque provides the resources and facilities for the practise of faith while the Imam enforces it. Therefore, they both have different roles, thus are essential in different ways. However, they are both vital for Muslims. However, I believe the Imam is more important because he is the one who can teach Muslims and encourage them.*

## Examiner's comments

Band 5 23 Marks

The response began by offering a wide variety of arguments to counter the claim presented in the question, in relation to the value of the mosque and Imam. Each point is expanded and evidence and scholarship are used to defend the points made. A similar approach was taken when the claim was defended. A good variety of arguments were presented to defend the claim, these were developed and defended skilfully. In the concluding paragraph a clear conclusion is reached. Overall it was an excellent attempt to produce a critical analysis where there was a clear diversity of arguments and personal insights.

## Section B

Answer **one** question from Section B

**Q3a** How do the significant events in Muhammad's life from the Hijra until his death show him to be a prophet and statesman? [25]

### Student's response

*There are many events from Muhammads life from the Hijra until his death which signify he is both a prophet and a statesman. Najj means prophet and statesman is one who is a leader who shows both tact and diplomacy Muhammad could be seen to be both.*

*In September 622CE Muhammad entered Medinah on the Hijra him and another 70 families. He showed that he was both a statesman and also a prophet by letting the will of Allah and also the will of his camel to guide him to the house him and his friend Abu Bakr would stay. The camel choose a house which was a relation of Muhammad's tribe (Muhammads tribe being the Quraish). Muhammad face much opposition and was often opposed by the Medinahs who did not like the Hijra Muslims who came with Muhammad. Muhammad faced many persecutions but tried to deal with it in a statesman order he confronted the 6 leading superpowers of the citizens of Yathrib. He also made a charter for Medinah which showed how he as a statesman would help at that time In Medinah it was mainly conquered by two Arab tribes who had made alliances with the Jews in Medinah.*

*Then there was a problem between the Qurash tribe and the Meccas Muhammed stated that the idolatry was more of an issue then the truce during rammadan. This lead to the battle of Badar which with Muhammed only having 300 men defeated his opponents. He took show of the Qurash tribe captive and then he made them teach ten of his men this showed he was clever as a statesman but also as a diplomat. In the battle of Uhud 625CE he tricked the Jewish and the Qurash tribe at which area to go to then Muhammad and his small army won again. At the Battle of the Ditch 627CE they dug a ditch around the land and they won that Battle Muhammad showed through the Battles that he was both a great prophet and a statesman.*

*In 628CE Muhammad received a revelation that he would go on a pilgrimage to Mecca. He made the treaty of Hudinbyia in 628CE it outlined that not in 628CE could any Muslims enter Mecca but instead in 629CE for three days. The truce was broken and in the Muslims where harmed. Therefore in 630CE Muhammad conquered Mecca and confronted all the superpowers there is still copies in the world today of the letters he sent them showing he was a statesman.*

*Then in 632 Muhammad conquered Mecca and gave his final sermon he was unable to perform prayers so Abu Bakr had to.*

*To conclude the Hijra and until his death showed many events which present Muhammad as both a statesman and also a prophet of the Messenger and divine word of Allah through the many revelations he received.*

### **Examiner's comments**

Band 4 19 Marks

This question had a number of aspects to it. The response demonstrated a high level of accurate knowledge of the Hijra, the challenges of Medina, the Battles and the Treaty. The strength of the response is the way in which understanding was shown of how Muhammad demonstrated his statesmanship through these events. The answer showed a clear attempt to address the focus of the question. While there was some focus on prophethood it is not as strong in the answer. Overall it was a very good level of response to the question asked.

**Q3b** “Religious and political leadership are often in opposition to one another.”

With reference to other aspects of human experience, comment on this claim. Justify your answer. [25]

### Student's response

*Religious and political leadership are often in conflict with one another. In the time of Muhammad religion and politics often faced difficulties e.g. the Battle of Badar, Uhud and the Trench all faced opposition due to Muhammad's religious views.*

*However in Islamic countries today through Islamic laws in Shariah law and also through this mixing religious law politics and religion can work in harmony. The politicians of Islamic countries and religious leaders can submerge in their views and help create a balanced society.*

*Today it is clear that the religious and political leaders such as Pope Francis and Donald Trump do not agree with one another. In response to Donald Trump's recent statement 'on building a wall against those of other religions'. The Pope's response was that 'We should not build walls but as Christians we should build bridges'. Therefore this shows that Political and religious leaders do not always share the same common interests.*

*Another example is Queen Elizabeth of England who how recently has made in her Christmas and religious speeches reference to the importance of her religion and also to politics this shows that politics and religion can meet in the middle.*

*Oscar Romero who was archbishop of EL Salvador died as a martyr for his faith he spoke out against the hardships of El Salvador and was killed for his views by the army will given out the Holy Eucharist and performing mass. Behind his death (he died as a Martyr) was the politicians at that time who did not agree with this views.*

*To conclude religious and political leadership are often in opposition with one another for example in Northern Ireland Protestants and Catholics are often deemed one political party or another. This should not be the case religion and politics should mix in harmony and not in spite against one another. It is important to realise religious and political leaders can go hand in hand and not face opposition with one another. An example of this harmony is Shariah Law in Muslim countries where politics and also religion are together as one.*

## Examiner's comments

Band 4 19 Marks

The answer began with a brief comment drawn from taught course material which should be avoided as it takes time and does not enhance marks. The response managed to offer a balanced critical assessment and referred to Shariah Law in Islamic countries and the Queen to show how religious and political leadership do not necessarily have to be in conflict. These points were fairly well developed. A counter claim was also offered and evidence was drawn from Donald Trump, Pope Francis, Oscar Romero and Northern Ireland. While the level of sophistication of the arguments could be higher, nonetheless there was a real attempt to address the question asked, produce a sustained and balanced answer and make good use of other aspects of human experience as part of the argument. Overall a very good level of response.

**Q4a** Explain the process of the compilation of the Qur'an by Muhammad and the Caliphs, considering the importance of the final structure that emerged. [25]

## Student's response

*The Qur'an took three stages to be completed, lifetime of Muhammad, Caliphate of Abu Bahr and Caliphate of Uthman. Despite taking such as long time, it is still considered the final word of Allah and the corner stone of the Islamic faith.*

*The first revelation of the Qur'an was when Muhammad was 40 and he was meditating on Mount Nur in Cave Hira. The angel Jibreel appeared to him and told him to recite. At first Muhammad was afraid but with the reassurance of his wife Khadjia and her Christian cousin Wasqua, he realised he was Allah's chosen prophet to bring the truth to the Arabs.*

*Over the next 23 years, revelations were given to Muhammad which he would recite to his chief scribe Zayol Thabit and they would be written down on materials such as stone, palm leaves and animal bones. They took place over a long period of time to reflect man's gradual awakening to the truth from the previous age of ignorance. There were 114 swas which were also divided into ayas and also spilt between Meccan and Median sections. Meccans swas were more poetic and focused on the message of Allah, whereas, Median swas are "lambering in length" – Maedonald and focus on laws and how to live as Muslim. Muhammad organised the swas in sections relevant to each other however, he died before completing it.*

*During the caliphate of Abu Bahr, a problem arose. Muslim's were about to go into battle and they realised everyone who had memorised the Qur'an, hanifs, could be*

*killed and therefore there would be no Qur'an. Zayd Thabit was ordered to gather together all the parts of the Qur'an and with the help of the other scribes, complete it. Once it had been completed, it was circulated around the main law schools and a copy given to Hasfa, Uthman's daughter.*

*However, during the caliphate of Uthman, regional differences were being noticed within the Qur'an. Again Zayd Thabit was asked to take Hasfa's copy, make more copies, and circulate it around the law schools. All other copies were destroyed.*

*The final structure is known as the Uthmanic Recension and Muslim's today still believe it to be the same copy they learn from. Muslim's treat the Qur'am with respect and importance as they view it as a miracle, and since Muhammad was illiterate, the Qur'an is considered his.*

### **Examiner's comments**

Band 4 19 Marks

The response indicated a very good level of accurate knowledge of the details of how the Qur'an was produced. The chronology of events and the role of Muhammad, the secretaries and the caliphs was accurately outlined. Alongside this there were regular explanatory comments which indicated understanding throughout. The answer also successfully addressed the question in relation to comments regarding the 'structure' of the Qur'an. The comments relating to the Meccan and Medinan Surahs were particularly good. Therefore all aspects of the question were addressed. It is interesting to note that although this answer was concise in style, there was a clear precision about it. Overall it was a very good level of response.

**Q4b** With reference to other aspects of human experience, explore the view that it is difficult to preserve religious belief and identity in a secular age. Justify your answer. [25]

### Student's response

*I would agree to a large extent with the statement 'it is difficult to preserve religious belief and identity in a secular age'. Within the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, religion has been given the stigma of outdated as many people associate it with the past, believing it cannot have an opinion with today's problems.*

*Society today has become more secular with different religions being more well known. Within schools, different religions are taught which gives people a wider viewpoint of religions and may affect or change their beliefs. Furthermore, society's morales have changed a lot therefore people view religion as outdated and irrelevant. Asher's Bakery refused to make a cake for a celebration as the costumer asked for a comment to do with homosexuality. As the company define themselves as Christians, they refused to make this case and as a result, they were taken to court and fined. Because their religious beliefs differed from society's, they were classed as judgemental and hateful and punished for their religious views.*

*Another difficulty within preserving religious beliefs and identity comes with the materialisation of festivals. Christmas is a Christian festival that celebrates Christ coming to earth in the form of a baby. However, businesses commercialise the festival to create a profit from this celebration. Easter is also a time to remember Christ's sacrifice for sins yet Cadbury's realised a promotional picture of its egg hunt and left out the word Easter. Society has become so focused on making money from religious festivals, it has taken away the true meaning and identity of the festival.*

*However, religious believers will always have their sacred text to turn to, so they have a reminder of their beliefs and through them, their identity. Jews focus on the first 5 books of the Old Testament, called the Torah. Within it, it provides laws they must follow to live a life for God and it helps them make decisions, thus becoming part of their identity.*

*Although it is difficult to preserve religious belief and identity in a secular age, religious believers know they will always face persecution and suffering to do with their beliefs. In the Bible, Jesus says, "Take up your cross and follow me". This suggests all followers of Jesus will face some kind of hardship within a society that rejects their religious beliefs. In 2016, a nurse was fired from her job as she spoke to patients about their religious views. However, she claims her job required her take a survey from patients about to go in for an operation which included a question on religious beliefs. This is an example of religious believers suffering however as it*

says in Romans, “suffering produces character, character perseverance and perseverance hope.”

*Despite these factors, within today’s secular society, many people look for proof and have turned to science to provide explanations for things such as miracles. Dawkins claims that miracles cannot happen as that means changing the order of nature which goes against God’s character as He is perfect. Many people start to put healing miracles down to advancements in medicine and some churches, such as the Baptist Church, believe miracles stopped with the apostles’ deaths. This proves a struggle for religious believers to maintain faith in a disbelieving society.*

*Finally, mission also proves difficult to preserve belief for religious believers as many people are closed off to listening to preachers. Jews also do not believe in mission and their faith is passed down through generations. However, this means their faith is dying out and is a struggle for the preservation of their religious beliefs.*

*To conclude, although religious believers will find it hard to preserve their beliefs and identities within a secular age, they will always have a church community to support, teach and love them.*

## **Examiner’s comments**

Band 4 19 Marks

The response offered a considerable number of arguments and there was an attempt to offer a diversity and balance in those arguments. Each argument is sustained and developed with reference to other aspects of human experience. The material was well chosen and well used to enhance the arguments. In relation to the particular aspects of the question the response attempted to address the question directly e.g. ‘preserving religious identity’ and a ‘secular age.’ Most of the arguments are fairly well focused on the question, while others drift away from the question. Overall it offered a very good attempt at critical analysis with a very good range of evidence and examples.

