



- Provide evidence to support your response, ensure that each question is answered with appropriate and concise detail.

#### *Advice for teachers*

- Ensure that candidates are versed in the terminology specifically used to write the examination. Refer to the glossary of key terms on the course page of the School Curriculum and Standards Authority' website.
- The term 'interplay' is an important aspect of the course and thus it is vital that candidates are aware that 'interplay' is more than just the interaction between a religion, person, context and/ or event. It requires candidates to describe, analyse and evaluate the dynamic relationships between these aspects.
- Candidates must be explicitly taught how to break down questions and ensure they answer the specifics of questions.

### **Comments on specific sections and questions**

#### **Section One: Source analysis (48 Marks)**

Candidates performed quite well in Section One with a mean of 62.02% which is higher than the overall mean of the examination. In previous years this has not been the case.

Candidates produced pleasing results for lower order questions and interpretation of data. However, many candidates struggled with questions that required higher order thinking and linking of sources to current issues.

#### **Section Two: Short answer (44 Marks)**

Overall, the candidates' performance in Section Two was satisfactory which indicated that candidates had solid grasp of the syllabus content for this section.

#### **Section Three: Essay (25 Marks)**

Overall, the mean result for Section Three has increased from 2017 to 2018 with means of 13.86/25 and 12.84/25 in 2017 compared to 2018 means of 14.25/25 and 14.28/25. The selection of Questions 9 and 10 was evenly split which could be due to the similar nature of the questions as both required candidates to discuss the 'interplay' of particular events or persons. The answers in this section indicate that writing solid introductions, structuring of paragraphs and meaningful conclusions are still not being done properly. Many candidates made use of paragraphs, but the technique of constructing meaningful paragraphing in the body of the extended response is still not evident in many responses. Many still rely on one large paragraph per example. Also, the understanding of term 'interplay' varied.