



RELIGION AND LIFE

ATAR course examination 2024

Marking key

Marking keys are an explicit statement about what the examining panel expect of candidates when they respond to particular examination items. They help ensure a consistent interpretation of the criteria that guide the awarding of marks.

Section One: Source analysis

40% (46 Marks)

Question 1

(21 marks)

(a) Outline the context of Source 1A.

(2 marks)

Description	Marks
Outlines the context of Source 1A	2
Makes a general comment about the context of Source 1A	1
Total	2
Answers could include:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• an extract from an RCA website that reflect the views of several refugees about what it means to be free• created in 2023 as part of Refugee Week celebrations.	
Sample answer:	
The context of Source 1A acknowledges and celebrates the contributions of refugees in modern Australia. Taken from the 2023 refugeeweek.org.au website.	
Accept other relevant answers.	

- (b) Summarise the overall perspective on freedom presented in Source 1A. (3 marks)

Description	Marks
Summarises the overall perspective on freedom presented in Source 1A	3
Outlines some common views on freedom presented in Source 1A	2
Makes a general comment about the views expressed in Source 1A	1
Total	3
<p>Answers could include:</p> <p>The perspective on freedom varies, with it meaning different things to different people. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a sense of freedom is individual • absence of violence • belonging • agency • ability to practice culture and religion • to express opinion • legal and financial status/autonomy • equal rights • freedom of speech. <p>Sample answer:</p> <p>Source 1A presents the idea that freedom means different things to different people; that freedom is a personal feeling. All four refugees identified that a lack of external constraints or limits contributes to their own feelings of freedom. The refugees expressed that they feel free when they can “express my opinion”, “have my own bank account”, “speak my own language”, and can “participate in community events”.</p> <p>Accept other relevant answers.</p>	

Question 1 (continued)

- (c) With reference to Source 1B, distinguish between the concepts of 'negative liberty' and 'positive liberty'. (3 marks)

Description	Marks
Distinguishes between the concepts of 'negative liberty' and 'positive liberty', with reference to Source 1B	3
Defines 'negative liberty' and 'positive liberty', with reference to Source 1B	2
Makes a general comment about 'negative liberty' and/or 'positive liberty'	1
Total	3
<p>Answers could include:</p> <p>Distinguishing factors (recognition of the factors):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> negative liberty means freedom from, intentional interference, coercion, an external force preventing an action <p>whereas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> positive liberty means freedom to, the capacity to act, passive, an internal/personal limitation for action. <p>Sample answer:</p> <p>In Source 1B, 'negative liberty' is simplified to mean 'freedom from', such as freedom from an external force that actively restricts and limits personal freedom such as Jack being 'locked ... in a basement' or 'someone stole his car'. Conversely, 'positive liberty' refers to one's own internal 'capacity to' exercise a decision, 'lacking the capacity to fulfil his desires'. 'Negative liberty' is typically championed by libertarians as the only form of freedom that a government should promote.</p> <p>Accept other relevant answers.</p>	

(d) Evaluate the reliability of Source 1B.

(3 marks)

Description	Marks
Evaluates the reliability of Source 1B	3
Outlines some factors that affect the reliability of Source 1B	2
Makes general comments about the reliability of Source 1B	1
Total	3
<p>Answers could include:</p> <p>Response uses words and phrases that refer to the extent of the reliability as well as the reasoning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • moderate reliability • source – website Libertarianism.org • could make presumption it is official site as it has .org in link • could presume views are an accurate reflection of the organisation’s views • author does not appear to be well-known • format – blog post (typically an opinion not necessarily facts, weakening its reliability). <p>Sample answer:</p> <p>Source 1B has moderate reliability. It comes from a website, libertarianism.org, which the reader may presume is an official site of a group and the views etc. represent the group’s views and thus is an accurate and authoritative synopsis of their views. However, the author does not appear well-known, and its format is a blog post which is typically opinionative and can be divisive. For example, the author contrasts libertarian and non-libertarian perspectives, adding generalisations such as ‘typically’ and ‘we recognise’, whilst the non-libertarians do not have a reply in this source. This lack of balance weakens Source 1B’s reliability.</p> <p>Accept other relevant answers.</p>	

Question 1 (continued)

- (e) Discuss the extent to which the perspectives on freedom in **either** Source 1A or Source 1B align with **one** religion's concept of freedom. (5 marks)

Description	Marks
Discusses the extent to which the perspectives on freedom in either Source 1A or Source 1B align with one religion's concept of freedom	5
Explains how the perspectives on freedom in either Source 1A or 1B align with one religion's concept of freedom	4
Describes similarities and/or differences between how a source and a religion view freedom	3
Identifies some similarities or differences between how a source and a religion view freedom	2
Makes general comments about the views on freedom expressed in a source	1
Total	5
<p>Answers could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> response uses words and phrases that refer to the quality or extent of alignment between the perspectives represented in the sources and the religious concept of freedom e.g. "to a great/limited extent". <p>Sample answer:</p> <p>The Islamic concept of freedom is founded on theological and ethical principles derived from the Quran and other authoritative texts. According to Islam, human freedom depends on submitting to the will of God (Allah) and fulfilling one's moral duties. Muslims generally believe that while humans have freedom of will and autonomy, these freedoms are somewhat limited by moral and social obligations, as well as accountability for one's actions. This is reflected in the Islamic concept of 'wasat' or 'moderation'. As such, the libertarian perspective on freedom in Source 1B does not align strongly with the Islamic understanding of freedom. While Islam promotes 'negative liberty', by emphasising freedom from coercion or external oppression, similarly to libertarians, it also focuses strongly on promoting 'positive freedoms' – which libertarians do not. According to Source 1B, "libertarians believe the state... should never undertake to actively promote positive liberty". This is in direct contrast to Islamic understandings of using one's freedom to fulfil moral obligations towards others and contribute to society. Therefore, while there are some similarities, the libertarian concept of freedom does not align strongly with Islamic perspectives.</p> <p>Accept other relevant answers.</p>	

- (f) With reference to Source 1A and Source 1B, and to a religion you have studied, discuss the contestability of the above claim. (5 marks)

Description	Marks
Discusses the contestability of the claim. Refers to Source 1A and 1B, and to a religion, to substantiate the response	5
Comments on the contestability of the claim. Refers to Source 1A and 1B, and to a religion, to substantiate the response	4
Comments on the claim's contestability. Refers to Source 1A and/or 1B and/or a religion	3
Identifies the meaning of the claim, but makes limited reference to the sources and/or a religion	2
Makes general comments about the claim, the source/s, and/or a religion	1
Total	5
<p>Answers could include:</p> <p>Response to include phrases and words such as 'highly contestable', 'somewhat contestable', etc.</p> <p>Somewhat contestable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • source material provides a range of differing perspectives, those holding these may disagree • religions have their own perspective and may also disagree • on the other hand, Source 1A highlights what happens to people when those in power exercise their 'free will' taking or restricting the freedom of others. <p>Sample answer:</p> <p>The claim that societies based on 'free will', would result in chaos is somewhat contestable. The Catholic concept of freedom suggests that individuals have the freedom to perform deliberate actions on one's own responsibility (Catechism of the Catholic Church - paragraph 1731), but that true freedom is directed towards the good – even, towards the ultimate good, which is God. However, not all in a society follow the Catholic traditions, and in Australia we see an overall decline in religion, including Catholic Christianity, suggesting that there will be fewer people into the future understanding this perspective. Nevertheless, Catholic Christianity does not have a monopoly on goodness based on free will. The concept of "positive liberty" (capacity to) in Source 1B aligns with the attitudes towards freedom in Source 1A; all speakers identify beneficial or socially harmonious actions such as "belonging", freedom of "culture and religion", to "have a bank account", wear "traditional dress" and speak one's own language. None of these actions would be easily viewed as generating "chaos", but rather, the opposite is suggested, by way of social harmony. It must be recalled, however, that these individuals have escaped persecution and oppression, where the "negative liberty" (Source 1B) of those in power have caused harm and damage. Thus, the claim is somewhat contestable.</p> <p>Accept other relevant answers.</p>	

Question 2

(12 marks)

(a) Outline how gratitude plays a part in Stephen Colbert's life.

(2 marks)

Description	Marks
Outlines how gratitude plays a part in Stephen Colbert's life	2
Makes general comments about Stephen Colbert and/or gratitude	1
Total	2
<p>Answers could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • response needs to incorporate a 'how' statement. • gratitude/being thankful for existence, desire to direct that gratitude towards something or someone, return kindness. <p>Sample answer:</p> <p>Stephen Colbert finds gratitude meaningful. In Source 2, he expresses that he feels "great gratitude for existence", and that he has a strong impulse to channel and direct that gratitude towards a higher power – in his case, the Christian God. Stephen Colbert's feelings of gratitude connect him to something beyond the visible world, giving his life meaning.</p> <p>Accept other relevant answers.</p>	

(b) Outline how science plays a part in Ricky Gervais's life.

(2 marks)

Description	Marks
Outline how science plays a part in Ricky Gervais's life	2
Makes general comments about Ricky Gervais and/or science	1
Total	2
<p>Answers could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • response needs to incorporate a 'how' statement. • science is constantly proved and can be proved again. <p>Sample answer:</p> <p>Ricky Gervais states that religions come and go and that in our history, beliefs in many gods have developed. This points to his uncertainty that God exists. On the other hand, he says "science is constantly proved all of the time". Science gives him meaning because he sees it as concrete and certain whereas religions are ephemeral.</p> <p>Accept other relevant answers.</p>	

- (c) With reference to Source 2 and your learning, explain **one** view of religion that leads people to follow a religious way of life. (4 marks)

Description	Marks
With reference to Source 2 and own learning, explains a view of religion that leads people to follow a religious way of life	4
With reference to Source 2 and own learning, describes a view of religion that leads people to follow a religious way of life	3
Outlines a view of religion that leads people to follow a religious way of life; refers to Source 2 and/or own learning	2
Makes general comments about a view of religion or following a religious way of life.	1
Total	4
<p>Answers could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • response needs to incorporate a view of a religion, evidenced by their own learning and reference Source 2 • views of religion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ religion as a belief system ▪ religion as a positive force in society ▪ religion as an upholder of morality. <p>Sample answers:</p> <p>Sample one: One view of religion is that, as a “belief system”, it offers meaning and purpose to deep and fundamental questions about life, such as the origin, purpose, and destiny of humankind. In Source 2, Steven Colbert suggests this as being central to his view of religion and thus his religious way of life. Colbert looks for a “demiurge” to explain why there is anything in the world, rather than nothing, proving an assumption that ultimate reality exists. This view meets Colbert’s spiritual needs, enhancing his desire to express that sense of wonder and “gratitude” for his own origin, to therefore self-identify as a religious person. As a religious person, he therefore can draw on this sense of meaning and purpose to engage in a respectful dialogue with a non-religious person such as Ricky Gervais in an intelligent, informed manner. Such respectful dialogue on a national TV format might also be further inspiring for others to follow a religious way of life, seeing this public witness in a positive and articulate light.</p> <p>Sample two: Many people see that religions provide a great deal of support for those in need through their care agencies. This observation may lead people to lead a religious way of life as they too may reach out to others to support them in their need, they may be encouraged to join a religious based agency (i.e. volunteers helping at City Mission Christmas Lunch) or even committing to a particular religion having seen the good that they do. Steven Colbert states in Source 2 that he has a strong desire to direct that gratitude towards something or someone, and that thing is God, indicating that his positive view of a religion leads him to follow a religious way of life.</p> <p>Accept other relevant answers.</p>	

Question 2 (continued)

- (d) With reference to Source 2 and your learning, explain **one** view of religion that leads people to follow a non-religious way of life. (4 marks)

Description	Marks
With reference to Source 2 and own learning, explains a view of religion that leads people to follow a non-religious way of life	4
With reference to Source 2 and own learning, describes a view of religion that leads people to follow a non-religious way of life	3
Outlines a view of religion that leads people to follow a non-religious way of life; refers to Source 2 and/or own learning	2
Makes general comments about a view of religion or following a non-religious way of life	1
Total	4
<p>Answers could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • response needs to incorporate a view of a religion, evidence of their own learning and reference Source 2 • views of religion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ religion as contradictory ▪ religion as unprovable ▪ religion as outdated. <p>Sample answer:</p> <p>People may view the disagreements between religions and the plethora of gods as evidence that religion is 'untrue', and therefore that it is unnecessary to live a religious life. Ricky Gervais points to this view of religions in Source 2. Ricky Gervais clearly states that his focus is on science rather than religion. In 21st century Western societies, there is a great deal of anti-religious feeling and rejection of religious values due to the apparent inconsistencies that exist between different religions. The lack of certainty and 'unprovable' nature of religion therefore leads people to follow a non-religious way of life.</p> <p>Accept other relevant answers.</p>	

Question 3

(13 marks)

- (a) With reference to Sources 3A, 3B, 3C and 3D, explain how the practices of the global fashion industry may generate tension and/or conflict in society. (5 marks)

Description	Marks
Explains how the practices of the global fashion industry may generate tension and/or conflict in society, with reference to Sources 3A, 3B, 3C and 3D	5
Describes problems caused by the practices of the global fashion industry and makes some links to tension and/or conflict. Refers to Sources 3A, 3B, 3C and 3D	4
Describes problems caused by the practices of the global fashion industry, with some reference to the sources	3
Outlines some problems caused by the practices of the global fashion industry, with limited or no reference to the sources	2
Makes general comments about the fashion industry	1
Total	5
<p>Answers could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • refers to, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ environmental impacts ▪ social impacts ▪ globalisation • tension between more developed nations (consumers of 'fast fashion') and less developed nations (producers of 'fast fashion') • tension/conflict between workers and employers over pay and conditions • conflict between individuals and organisations with conflicting worldviews and values (e.g. environmentalists and neoliberal capitalists). <p>Sample answer:</p> <p>There is a lot of debate today about the global fashion industry and its significant impact on the environment through its contribution to greenhouse gas emissions and wastage as outlined in Source 3A. This may cause tension in society between those who follow fashion and wish to have the latest clothing at whatever cost and those who purchase fashion after consideration of the environment and ethics. Source 3B considers the ethics of labour exploitation and in a sense, slave labour where workers are paid a pittance for the labour in constructing garments that will eventually sell at inflated prices which does not deter some buyers.</p> <p>Source 3D indicates that a worker is paid just 18 Euro cents to produce a t-shirt that is sold for 17 Euro. This discrepancy could lead to conflict and tension in a society when people feel that the payment for the worker is unjust. Furthermore, Source 3C also indicates that the fashion industry is the "second most polluting" industry after oil. In recent years, the 'green' movement has gained traction in our society and has encouraged greater action on environmental issues. People may protest against fashion companies, brands, and the sale of the product – or even vandalise stores that continue to sell the item. Tension and conflict are generated because some people feel the injustices and environmental damage caused by this industry very deeply and feel that they must fight against it to stop the injustices, create a more just society and stop the damage done to the environment.</p> <p>Accept other relevant answers.</p>	

Question 3 (continued)

- (b) (i) Summarise how Baptist World Aid Australia responded to the issues presented in Sources 3A and 3B. (4 marks)

Description	Marks
Summarises how Baptist World Aid Australia responded to the issues. Makes relevant reference to Source 3A and 3B	4
Outlines how Baptist World Aid Australia responded to the issues. Makes relevant reference to Source 3A and 3B	3
Identifies how Baptist World Aid Australia responded to the issues	2
Makes general comments about how Baptist World Aid Australia has interacted with the issues	1
Total	4
<p>Answers could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • publishing the Ethical Fashion Guide • working with affected communities in Pacific, Middle East, Southeast Asia, South Asia and Africa • “Advocacy, research and education” • lobbying to raise standards for workers. <p>Sample answer:</p> <p>Baptist World Aid Australia has worked to “raise the standards for workers in global fashion supply chains through the Ethical Fashion Guide”. This publication shines a spotlight on the practices of major Australian and global fashion brands”. Through such activities the community can see that progress toward a more just and environmentally industry is being made. The Ethical Fashion Guide also provides “information to guide consumer decisions”. In this way, Baptists are encouraging people to shop with more sustainable and ethical brands, which in turn could encourage other brands to adopt better practices.</p> <p>Accept other relevant answers.</p>	

- (ii) Summarise why Baptist World Aid Australia has responded to the issues presented in Sources 3A and 3B. (4 marks)

Description	Marks
Summarises why Baptist World Aid Australia responded to the issues. Makes relevant reference to Source 3A and 3B	4
Outlines why Baptist World Aid Australia responded to the issues. Makes relevant reference to Source 3A and 3B	3
Identifies why Baptist World Aid Australia responded to the issues	2
Makes general comments about why Baptist World Aid Australia has interacted with the issues	1
Total	4
<p>Answers could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • elimination of poverty • all people to enjoy the fullness of life as God intends • provides jobs and livelihood • forced labour unacceptable • spotlighting global supply issues. <p>Sample answer:</p> <p>The Baptist World Aid Australia has responded to the global fashion industry because they have a vision “to see a world where poverty has ended, where all people enjoy the fullness of life God intends.” This vision reflects fundamental Christian beliefs of the dignity of the human person and caring for the poor. As Source 3B states, through Baptist World Aid, they reflect important religion beliefs by standing “with the oppressed and marginalised, advocating for a more just world”. Through working with those affected and publishing the Ethical Fashion Guide, Baptists aim to “inspire action” and create positive change in the world.</p> <p>Accept other relevant answers.</p>	

Section Two: Short answer

30% (54 Marks)

Question 4

(20 marks)

- (a) Outline why constructing a series of research and focus questions is an essential step for a researcher before commencing a research project. (3 marks)

Description	Marks
Outlines why constructing a series of research and focus questions is an essential step for a researcher before commencing a research project	3
Identifies why constructing a series of research and focus questions are important	2
Makes general comments about research	1
Total	3
Answers could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • helps identify and align the research with its objectives • helps establish the scope of the research project • ensures the research is focused and not too broad or narrow • helps ensure relevance of the research project • provides the researcher with guidance. Accept other relevant answers.	

- (b) Name **three** other factors that a researcher needs to incorporate into an effective research design, and outline why each is important. (9 marks)

Description	Marks
For each factor (3 x 1 mark)	
Names a research design factor	1–3
Subtotal	3
For each example (3 x 2 marks)	
Outlines why the factor is important	2
Makes a general comment about the factor and/or its importance	1
Subtotal	6
Total	9
<p>Answers could include:</p> <p>Provides relevant reasons, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ethical considerations (informed consent, confidentiality, harm to participants) • the type of data to be collected (quantitative, qualitative) • how data will be collected (research methods) • how data will be used • how findings will be communicated. <p>Sample answers:</p> <p>Research methods: The method used to collect and analyse data needs to be fitting for the data and be able to deal with the data. This factor is important because it ensures that the research report will have validity and will enable others to evaluate the veracity of the finding and the usefulness of the results for the community.</p> <p>Ethics: The research must ensure that the rights of individuals are respected (e.g. through informed consent and confidentiality). This factor is important because it protects the rights of participants, and encourages respondents to be open and honest, thus contributing to the validity of the research.</p> <p>Communication of findings: The way research findings are communicated is important because the research has little value if it cannot be located or understood by its intended audience. Researchers must take into account their audience and communicate their findings in an accessible manner for that group. This way, the research findings can be interpreted and then applied to real-world situations.</p> <p>Accept other relevant answers.</p>	

Question 4 (continued)

- (c) (i) Name and describe **one** method a researcher may choose to collect data. (4 marks)

Description	Marks
Names a data collection method	1
Subtotal	1
Describes a method a researcher may choose to collect data	3
Outlines relevant details about a method a researcher may choose to collect data	2
Makes a general comment about a research method	1
Subtotal	3
Total	4
<p>Answers could include:</p> <p>Examples of data collection methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • survey/questionnaire • structured interview • focus group • observation. <p>Sample answer:</p> <p>A questionnaire is a set of written or printed questions that research participants are asked to answer. They can be used to collect both quantitative and qualitative data. Generally, 'open-ended' questions are used to gather qualitative data (e.g. "What is your relationship with God?"). 'Closed' questions are often used to gather quantitative data (e.g. "How often do you attend religious services?"). Questionnaires can be completed online, by email, on paper, or verbally. In some research projects, participants may complete the questionnaire by themselves, whereas in others, they may be completed with the researcher.</p> <p>Accept other relevant answers.</p> <p>Note: answers must correctly name and describe in detail a specific data collection method and not a general research technique.</p>	

- (ii) Identify **two** advantages and **two** disadvantages of the data collection method named in part (c)(i) above. (4 marks)

Description	Marks
Advantages	
Any two of	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • excellent way to gather lots of information from many people • relatively simple • online or email questionnaires can be sent to a wider community ensuring the valid collection of data • large samples can be achieved • large samples allow analysis with probability techniques allowing stronger conclusions and applicability within other communities • are a reliable and widely used research technique • can be conducted electronically to obtain responses that can be grouped according to demographics to describe any trend or pattern amongst responses. • can be used to grasp any initial concepts or major themes and reveal any gaps that might require follow-up. 	1–2
Subtotal	2
Disadvantages	
Any two of	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lack of flexibility – the researcher is committed to the single questionnaire and so adjustment is difficult • limited ability to ensure honesty of responses • analysing responses can be time consuming • respondent fatigue can occur with long questionnaires • participants may misinterpret questions. 	1–2
Subtotal	2
Total	4
Accept other relevant answers.	

Question 5

(15 marks)

Today, and in the past, religions use a variety of structures and/or processes to address important issues.

- (a) Summarise **one** important issue that a religion is/was required to address. (3 marks)

Description	Marks
Summarises an important issue that a religion is/was required to address	3
Outlines an important issue that a religion is/was required to address	2
Makes general comments about an issue and/or its relationship to a religion	1
Total	3
<p>Answers could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • resolving disputes about matters of faith and practice • addressing how a religion and its members can or should respond to society and/or issues in society • declining participation • matters concerning marriage and family life • disagreements, disputes and scandals that arise • responding to developments in society. <p>Sample answer:</p> <p>Sample one: An important issue for the Catholic Church is the shortage of priests in the Amazon region. Because there are limited numbers of ordained priests in remote regions of the Amazon, many communities have limited access to sacraments and pastoral care, meaning they cannot fully participate in their faith. This is also an issue for the Church at large, as it has become increasingly difficult to maintain its presence and influence in these areas of South America.</p> <p>Sample two: An important issue for the Islamic religion is the coercion by sub-groups in the use of violence against non-combatants to achieve political or ideological aims. Such sub-groups claim to act in the name of Islam, disturbing the view of the majority of peace-loving Muslims thus perpetuating the inaccurate understanding that Islam is a violent religion.</p> <p>Accept other relevant answers.</p>	

- (b) Describe the key elements of **one** religious structure and/or process that could be used to address the issue summarised in part (a) above. (4 marks)

Description	Marks
Describes the key elements of a religious structure and/or process that could be used to address the issue summarised in part (a)	4
Outlines the key elements of a religious structure and/or process that could be used to address the issue summarised in part (a)	3
Identifies elements of a religious structure and/or process that could be used to address the issue summarised in part (a)	2
Makes general comments about a relevant religious structure or process	1
Total	4
<p>Answers could include:</p> <p>The structure or process must be relevant to the issue selected in part (a).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • statements from religious leaders (e.g. Catholic encyclicals) • gatherings and deliberation by a group of religious leaders (e.g. synods) • formal structures that adjudicate over matters in dispute (e.g. tribunals) • the exercise of authority by a designated religious leader. <p>Sample answers:</p> <p>Sample one: The Catholic Church uses a Synod structure to address issues. In the Catholic Church there are three types of Synod Assembly – ordinary general assemblies, which are held at fixed intervals and concern the universal Church; extraordinary general assemblies, which are held to address an urgent matter; and special assemblies, which are held to address issues in a particular geographical area. Bishops attend Synod Assemblies, along with certain invited guests (e.g. experts in the field being discussed, or representatives from other denominations). However, only Bishops have voting rights.</p> <p>Sample two: The issuing of a fatwa (iftā) is an Islamic process by which a qualified Islamic scholar (mufti) makes a ruling or judgement on a specific question of Islamic law. The fatwa might be requested by an individual or group or might be done independently by the mufti to educate the wider community. To decide the point of law and then issue the fatwa, the mufti must consult religious texts, including the Quran, Hadiths (records of the teachings and actions of Muhammad), and other Islamic legal texts such as ijma and ijtihad. The mufti themselves must possess extensive knowledge of Islamic belief and law, as they are essentially issuing the fatwa on behalf of Allah.</p> <p>Accept other relevant answers.</p>	

Question 5 (continued)

- (c) Explain how the religious structure and/or process was used in order to address the important issue summarised in part (a) on page 14. (4 marks)

Description	Marks
Explains, using examples, how the structure and/or process was used to address the important issue	4
Describes how the structure and/or process was used to address the important issue	3
Outlines how the structure or process was used to address the issue	2
Makes general comments about the use of the structure or process	1
Total	4
<p>Answers could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> include steps of how the structure/process was used to address the issue must make reference to issue summarised in part (a). <p>Sample answers:</p> <p>Sample one: There are three main stages of a Synod Assembly, as demonstrated in 2019 with the Synod of Bishops for the Pan-Amazon Region (also known as the Amazon Synod). The Synod Assembly begins when it is announced by the Pope. The Amazon Synod was announced in late 2017 by Pope Francis, with a focus on “finding new ways to evangelise... especially the indigenous”. This begins the preparatory phase of the Assembly, which focuses on consultation of the faithful and the drafting of documents. The second phase of the Assembly is the discussion phase, which begins with a Mass held by the Pope, and mainly consists of Bishops making submissions and participating in discussions. This phase of the Amazon Synod was held in October 2019 and concluded with the issuing of its Final Document, <i>The Amazon: New Paths for the Church and for an Integral Ecology</i>. The final phase is implementation, when bishops return to their dioceses and initiate implementation of the Synod Assembly’s conclusions in their local churches. At the conclusion of the Assembly, the Pope may choose to publish a Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation for the wider Church and public, as Pope Francis did with <i>Querida Amazonia</i> in 2020.</p> <p>Sample two: There are four main stages in the process of issuing a fatwa. These are al-taswir (problem description), al-takyif (adaptation), al-hukm (legal explanation) and al-ifta’ (fatwa determination). The first stage involves the mufti deeply exploring the question or issue at hand. In the adaptation phase, the mufti research links between the issue at hand and existing authoritative texts such as the Quran to determine where the ruling may be found. The next phase is legal explanation, in which the mufti decides the ruling on the legal question (again, based on authoritative texts). The final stage is the proclamation of the legal ruling.</p> <p>Accept other relevant answers.</p>	

- (d) Evaluate whether the religious structure and/or process is/was effective in addressing the important issue summarised in part (a) on page 14. (4 marks)

Description	Marks
Evaluates whether this religious structure and/or process is/was effective in addressing the important issue	4
Explains how effective the religious structure and/or process is/was in addressing the important issue	3
Outlines some advantages and/or disadvantages of the religious structure and/or process	2
Makes general comments about the effectiveness of the religious structure or process	1
Total	4
<p>Answers could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • elements that increase effectiveness • elements that decrease effectiveness • was/is the outcome temporary or permanent • who was/is affected by the outcome • did the structure/process address the issue as a whole, or only in a limited/partial way • which members of the religion and/or wider society did the structure/process engage in addressing the issue – all/some/nil • to what degree did the structure/process address the issue e.g. acknowledge, make suggestions or draw conclusions, or close/resolve the issue altogether. <p>Sample answers:</p> <p>Sample one: The 2019 Synod Assembly has not been effective in addressing the issue of the shortage of priests in the Amazon region. Although the Assembly proposed that married men who are permanent deacons should be able to be ordained as priests "in extreme situations, and with conditions", this has not eventuated as of 2024. This proposal also created a great deal of media attention and controversy, especially among conservative Catholic factions, which in turn detracted from the issue at hand. This highlights a key disadvantage of Synod Assemblies – despite the extensive resources and time that goes into them, their recommendations are not binding on the Church, and so may never come to fruition.</p> <p>Sample two: The issuing of a fatwa can be an effective process in addressing important issues, as they are highly authoritative decisions made by respected Islamic leaders. Fatwas are justified by the most holy and authoritative texts in Islam, and help Muslims apply these teachings to modern issues. However, the implementation of the fatwa ruling is often where the effectiveness of the process is reduced. The <i>Fatwa on Terrorism and Suicide Bombings</i> was effective in clarifying Islamic principles around terrorism and challenging prevailing attitudes that Islam is a violent religion. However, fatwas are not binding, and acts of religiously-motivated terrorism and violence have continued in the 14 years since the fatwa was issued.</p>	
Accept other relevant answers.	

Question 6

(5 marks)

Evaluate the impact **one** social factor has on how people interact with religion.

Description	Marks
Evaluates the impact a social factor has on how people interact with religion	5
Explains the impact a social factor has on how people interact with religion	4
Describes the impact a social factor has on how people interact with religion	3
Outlines some relevant detail about a social factor and/or how people interact with religion	2
Makes general comments about a social factor	1
Total	5
<p>Answers could include:</p> <p>Sample social factor one: Changing attitudes towards sexuality and gender</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> western societies have largely shifted their attitudes towards sexuality and gender in the last 50 or so years de facto relationships, same sex relationships, divorce, remarriage are all more accepted in society than in the past however, many religious groups still do not accept these views and attitudes (e.g. Catholic Church, Eastern Orthodox Churches, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, some Hindu and Islamic congregations) 2017 Marriage Equality debate and religious commentary surrounding it brought many of these issues into public life this may lead people to have negative perceptions and interactions with some or all religions these stances may also lead to people leaving or rejecting their faith because it conflicts with their personal views some may still consider themselves to be part of the religion but disagree with its teachings on sexuality and gender. <p>Sample social factor two: Political ideologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> political ideologies can influence a person's interaction with their own religion, or other religions people may be persecuted for following a particular religion a particular religion may be promoted and favoured, which may encourage more people to join/convert to that faith living under a theocratic regime. For people in these countries, religious law and civil law are one and the same, and adherence to religious laws is mandatory. This may increase adherence to the faith but may also lead to conflict and resentment. May also lead to clandestine practices of other faiths. 	
Accept other relevant answers.	
<p>Note: response needs to include a degree or level of accuracy, depth, knowledge and understanding about, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> prevailing attitudes in society political ideologies rise of secularism. 	

Question 7

(14 marks)

- (a) (i) Identify **three** distinct ways in which religion plays a role in the public life of either Australia or another nation. (3 marks)

Description	Marks
Any three of	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provider of education • provider of welfare services • provider of healthcare • lobbying governments • influencing voters • influencing politicians • providing subject matter for art, music, film. 	1–3
Total	3
Accept other relevant answers.	

- (ii) Describe **two** of the ways identified in part (a)(i). (6 marks)

Description	Marks
For each example (2 x 3 marks)	
Describes a way religion plays a role in the public life of Australia or another nation	3
Outlines a role that religion plays in the public life of Australia or another nation	2
Makes general comments about a role religion plays in Australia or another nation	1
Total	6
<p>Sample answers:</p> <p>Sample one: The Jewish religion acts as a provider of charitable services through the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, also known as The Joint or JDC. JDC is a Jewish organisation that was set up during World War One to support Jewish communities in crisis. It operates in 70 countries, providing aid to the most vulnerable Jewish people around the world, and also leading the Jewish response to global crises and disasters by providing emergency aid. In Israel, JDC also works with the government to research and develop social welfare programs. Through JDC, the Jewish religion maintains a public and positive presence in many nations.</p> <p>Sample two: Religion plays a role in the public life of Australia by lobbying governments. In Australia there are numerous well-funded and well-resourced religious lobbying groups, such as the Australian Christian Lobby and Common Grace. The Australian Christian Lobby is a network of 250,000 Christians who lobby politicians and governments at all levels to pass legislation that aligns with their beliefs. In recent years, their focus has been on protecting 'religious freedom' and removing access to gender-affirming healthcare and abortions. At the other end of the political spectrum, Common Grace is a group of 45,000 members that pushes politicians to pass more progressive legislation on issues such as climate, domestic violence, and asylum seekers. Common Grace was also a dominant voice in the 'Yes' campaign of the 2023 Voice Referendum.</p>	
Accept other relevant answers.	

Question 7 (continued)

- (b) Evaluate the impact **one** of the ways identified in part (a)(i) on page 17 has on the public life of Australia or another nation. (5 marks)

Description	Marks
Evaluates the impact one of these ways has on the public life of Australia or another nation	5
Explains the impact one of these ways has on the public life of Australia or another nation	4
Outlines the impact one of these ways has on the public life of Australia or another nation	3
Makes general comments about how one of these ways has an impact on the public life of Australia or another nation	2
Makes general comments about religion in public life	1
Total	5
<p>Answers could include:</p> <p>Sample answer:</p> <p>Religious political lobbying is likely to have a negative impact on the way that religions are perceived in Australia. Australia is generally thought of as a secular country, and Australians are some of the least religious people in the world. As such, it is unlikely that the majority of Australians would approve of religious influence over their politicians. While some religious lobby groups do promote secular ideals (such as Common Grace promoting climate action), others are overtly religious and conservative (such as the Australian Christian Lobby campaigning against a proposal to remove the Lord's Prayer from Victorian parliament). There would no doubt be religious people who appreciate their views being presented directly to politicians, however, as religious affiliation in Australia continues to decrease, it is likely that such work will be seen as political interference and will be perceived negatively by most Australians.</p>	
Accept other relevant answers.	
Note: answer needs to evaluate the impact on the public life of the nation.	

Section Three: Essay

30% (20 Marks)

Question 8

(20 marks)

Examine the influence religion has on society, using suitable examples from the past and/or present.

Description	Marks
Criterion 1: The influence religion has on society	
Examines the influence religion has on society	5
Explains the influence religion has on society	4
Describes the influence religion has on society	3
Outlines how religion influences society	2
Makes general comments about religion and society	1
Subtotal	5
Criterion 2: Examples from the past and/or present	
Describes in detail suitable examples from the past and/or present	3
Outlines suitable examples from the past and/or present	2
Identifies a suitable example(s) from the past and/or present	1
Subtotal	3
Criterion 3: Use of evidence	
Uses relevant evidence to support their essay	4
Uses some relevant evidence to support their essay	3
Provides some evidence to support their essay	2
Provides limited evidence	1
Subtotal	4
Criterion 4: Development of argument	
Develops a sustained, logical and sophisticated argument	3
Presents a logical development of ideas	2
Attempts to develop an argument or idea	1
Subtotal	3
Criterion 5: Essay Structure	
Introduction	
Articulates clearly an appropriate purpose, direction and structure of the essay	2
Indicates the purpose of the essay	1
Body	
Logically sequences the essay using well-structured paragraphs	2
Uses a series of paragraphs	1
Conclusion	
Summarises succinctly the argument/viewpoint developed in the essay	1
Subtotal	5
Total	20

Question 9

(20 marks)

Examine the role religion plays in the life of one significant religious person, using suitable examples from the past and/or present.

Description	Marks
Criterion 1: The role religion plays in the life of one significant religious person	
Examines the role religion plays in the life of one significant religious person	5
Explains the role religion plays in the life of one significant religious person	4
Describes the role religion plays in the life of one significant religious person	3
Outlines the role religion plays in the life of one significant religious person	2
Makes general comments about religion and an individual	1
Subtotal	5
Criterion 2: Examples from the past and/or present	
Describes in detail suitable examples from the past and/or present	3
Outlines suitable examples from the past and/or present	2
Identifies a suitable example(s) from the past and/or present	1
Subtotal	3
Criterion 3: Use of evidence	
Uses relevant evidence to support their essay	4
Uses some relevant evidence to support their essay	3
Provides some evidence to support their essay	2
Provides limited evidence	1
Subtotal	4
Criterion 4: Development of argument	
Develops a sustained, logical and sophisticated argument	3
Presents a logical development of ideas	2
Attempts to develop an argument or idea	1
Subtotal	3
Criterion 5: Essay Structure	
Introduction	
Articulates clearly an appropriate purpose, direction and structure of the essay	2
Indicates the purpose of the essay	1
Body	
Logically sequences the essay using well-structured paragraphs	2
Uses a series of paragraphs	1
Conclusion	
Summarises succinctly the argument/viewpoint developed in the essay	1
Subtotal	5
Total	20

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Question 2(c)** Extracts from: Colbert, S. (Presenter). (2017, February 2). *Ricky Gervais and Stephen go Head-to-Head on Religion* [Transcript]. In *The Late Show With Stephen Colbert*. Retrieved April, 2024, from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P5ZOwNK6n9U&t=1s>
- Question 3(a)** Paragraph 2 (sentences 1 and 2) data from: Clean Clothes Campaign. (n.d.). *Breakdown of Costs of a T-shirt*. [Infographic]. Retrieved April, 2024, from <https://cleanclothes.org/image-repository/wages-vs-profit.png>
Paragraph 2 (sentence 3) information from: TheRoundup. (2024). *Key Statistics Environmental Impact of Fashion*. [Infographic]. Retrieved April, 2024, from <https://theroundup.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/fast-fashion-environmental-impact.png>
- Question 3(b)(ii)** Quotes from: Keegan, P., Knop, S., & Graham, B. (2022). *The Ethical Fashion Report* (pp. 4 & 50). Retrieved April, 2024, from https://www.tearfund.org.nz/Portals/0/Ethical%20Fashion/2022%20Ethical%20Fashion%20Report.pdf?ver=hFVoWr__xzqEPLfTDOja3Q%3D%3Dcan

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