



L-Università
ta' Malta

MATSEC
Examinations Board



Examiners' Report

SEC Religious Knowledge

Main Session 2025

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A. STATISTICAL INFORMATION

The total number of candidates who registered to sit for Religious Knowledge was **2987**.

Level	Number of Candidates
1	37
2	466
3	1715
na	769
Total	2987

Table 1: Distribution of Levels

B. GENERAL REMARKS

Overall performance was generally good, particularly in questions requiring factual recall. At times, candidates left parts or whole questions unanswered, while others confused related concepts. Some responses did not difference between the Old Testament and the New Testament, or a parable and a miracle.

C. COMMENTS ON CANDIDATES' PERFORMANCE BY QUESTION**Paper 1-2-3***Question 1a*

Most candidates gave quite original yet valid answers.

Question 1b

Nearly all responses could not give the actual name of this Judaic tradition.

Question 1c

The majority of candidates answered correctly.

Question 1d

Some of the responses provided mixed this concept with the resurrection of Christ.

Question 1e

Very few candidates could answer this question in full.

Question 1f

Many valid answers were provided.

Question 2a

Many of the candidates were able to identify Saint Peter as the Apostle chosen by Jesus to lead the Church.

Question 2b

Most candidates gave good answers, and some even mentioned talents found in youths.

Question 2c

Many of the candidates did not know the parable of the rich man and Lazarus.

Question 2d

Most candidates mentioned that a person lives morally right when they are able to live an honest life and avoid challenges that are harmful to themselves and others.

Question 3a

Most candidates gave correct answers.

Question 3b

Though many candidates answered correctly, there was a significant number who found it difficult to name the three different kinds of love.

Question 3c

Generally, correctly answered.

Question 3d

Mostly correctly answered.

Question 3e

Very few candidates could answer this question.

Question 3f

Numerous candidates provided practical examples of how this relationship can be achieved.

Question 4a

Generally, correctly answered. Many of the candidates' common responses to this question included the story of Moses.

Question 4b

Most of the candidates did not know the golden rule as described in the Gospels.

Question 4c

The majority of the candidates could not differentiate between monotheism and polytheism.

Question 4d

Most candidates referred to love as a main Christian belief. Yet many did not include the articles of the Creed, the Liturgy or the acts of mercy.

Question 4e

Few candidates could explain the interreligious dialogue.

Paper 1-2

The following table shows the distribution of grades for Paper 1-2.

GRADE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	U	ABS	TOTAL
PAPER 1-2	-	-	-	-	-	1	7	20	40	54	122

Table 2: Distribution of Grades Paper 1-2

Section A

Question 1

Though many candidates answered correctly, some listed Buddhism and Hinduism as monotheism religions.

Question 2

Generally, incorrectly answered.

Question 3

Most candidates referred to the structural part of a building or to secondary Islamic traditions.

Question 4

Generally correctly answered, yet some confused Judaic traditions with Christian traditions and feasts.

Question 5

Generally correctly answered.

Question 6

Common incorrect answers included statements such as punishment from God or a person being given treatment in a hospital.

Question 7

Generally, correctly answered.

Question 8

Generally, correctly answered.

Question 9

Generally, correctly answered.

Question 10

Generally, incorrectly answered.

Section B

Question 11a

Most candidates referred to the story of Jesus when He taught this prayer but did not write the prayer itself. Some responses did not even write the whole prayer.

Question 11b

Many correct answers were provided.

Question 11c

Some of the responses referred to old day christian characteristics such as women wearing a veil on their head, which were incorrect.

Question 11d

Very few correct answers. Many did not answer this question.

Question 11e

Generally correctly answered.

Question 11f

Generally correctly answered.

Question 12a

Though many candidates answered correctly, there were some responses who mixed gifts with talents.

Question 12b

Generally correctly answered.

Question 12c

Generally correctly answered.

Question 12d

Generally incorrectly answered.

Section C

Question 13a

Mostly incorrectly answered.

Question 13b

Mostly unsatisfactorily answered.

Question 13c

Generally correctly answered.

Question 13d

Many responses mentioned popular institutions such as Caritas and Dar il--Providenza.

Question 13e

Mostly satisfactorily answered.

Question 13f

Generally correctly answered.

Question 13g

Few correct answers. Many candidates left this part of the question unanswered.

Question 14a

Generally correctly answered.

Question 14b

Generally correctly answered. Many referred to the sacrament of Confession.

Question 14c

Generally correctly answered.

Question 14d

Generally correctly answered. Although some candidates mixed up gifts with sacraments.

Question 14e

Some candidates found difficulty in explaining two of the gifts.

Question 14f

Generally correctly answered.

Question 15a

Only a few candidates could describe the contribution of a major prophet in the Old Testament.

Question 15b

Few candidates were able to answer this question.

Question 15c

Generally correctly answered. Some mixed the message with names of the Gospels.

Question 15d

Very few candidates described correctly the calling of Samuel when he was at Eli's house. Incorrect answers featured parables from the Bible.

Paper 2-3

The following table shows the distribution of grades for Paper 2-3.

GRADE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	U	ABS	TOTAL
PAPER 2-3	113	189	426	429	347	235	439	-	553	134	2865

Table 3: Distribution of Grades Paper 2-3

Section A*Question 1*

Though many candidates answered correctly, there was a number who listed Buddhism and Hinduism as monotheism religions.

Question 2

Generally correctly answered. Some candidates gave more developed answers mentioning Nostra Aetate, inter-religious dialogue and ecumenism.

Question 3

Most answers were correct, but lacked important details. Some responses were either incomplete, off topic, or left blank.

Question 4

Many candidates answered correctly saying that in receiving the sacraments, Christians are encountering God, giving us His grace.

Question 5

Generally correctly answered.

Question 6

Generally correctly answered.

Question 7

Only few managed to write the cardinal virtues. Most of them wrote about the beatitudes, the deadly sins and the works of mercy.

Question 8

For the most part, candidates correctly answered that a person lives morally well when they are able to choose good actions and avoid those that are harmful to themselves and others.

Question 9

Only a small number of responses were incorrectly answered.

Question 10

Most answers were accurate; however, a few responses mixed up Agape love with Philia love.

Section B

Question 11a

Few candidates opted to answer this question. However, those who did provided many good points. These included sharing everything among themselves, helping those in need within their community, and celebrating the Mass together.

Question 11b

The most common response emphasized the importance of including everyone and extending help to those in need, following the example set by the Apostles. Respondents highlighted the Apostles' commitment to community support and solidarity as a model for how individuals today should act with compassion and inclusivity.

Question 12a

Many candidates responded that we must take care of the environment. Numerous candidates provided practical examples of how this can be achieved, such as recycling, separating waste, and avoiding driving when walking is possible. Many also emphasized the importance of considering those who will live after us.

Question 12b

Many candidates mentioned that if one sees life as a gift we should respect one another, and that these individuals tend to oppose practices such as killing, abortion, and euthanasia, both voluntary and involuntary. Furthermore, many candidates noted that those who view life as a gift tend to adopt a more positive outlook and are more willing to face challenges during difficult times.

Section C

Question 13a

The candidates demonstrated a strong familiarity with the encyclical letter *Laudato Si*. They highlighted several important points, such as the dangers facing our planet and the need for greater awareness. Some candidates also referred to the idea of the world as our common home, emphasizing the importance of caring for it. They even shared practical examples of actions we can take to improve the current situation.

Question 13b

Very few candidates were able to name the four marks of the Church and also describe all of these characteristics. However, those few candidates who mentioned all the marks were also able to give a good description of almost all of them.

Question 13c

Many of the candidates were able to answer this question well. Common responses included the idea that we are living in a multicultural world, and even in Malta we can encounter various cultures, religions, and different beliefs. As a result, we may come across people who try to influence us to

change our religion. Some candidates also mentioned peer pressure and the fast-paced lifestyle we are living in today.

Question 13d

Few candidates were able to address the points about Constantine.

Question 14a

Many of the candidates' common responses to this question included showing respect, helping by giving to charity, such as charity shops, giving some time to those who are lonely, and doing voluntary work, such as at a soup kitchen.

Question 14b

Mostly good answers were given, and most of the candidates mentioned that Jesus used to include everyone in His teaching, including those who were marginalized in society, such as women, children, and sinners. He did this also through His parables, which He told with gentleness and in a way that everyone could understand.

Question 14c

The answers provided to this question were somewhat limited. Most candidates seemed to interpret the question as asking them to describe what the Eucharist is, rather than how it can be a source of support. They mainly wrote that it is the Body and Blood of Christ and that through it, Jesus becomes present within us.

Question 15a

Many incorrect answers were provided, with some mentioning apostles from the New Testament or referring to Abraham and Moses and their stories.

Question 15b

Many of the candidates mentioned that missionary work is when people go abroad from Malta to help in poor countries, for example by building a school or a hospital. They also stated that the benefits include helping these people, as well as the fact that those involved in the missionary work gain a great sense of satisfaction and feel that they are pleasing God.

Question 15c

For this question, most of the candidates answered that the purpose of the Gospels is to spread the word of God and to teach about the life of Jesus, His teachings, and miracles. Many also identified who the four Evangelists are.

Question 15d

There were various answers the most common were the prodigal son and the good Samaritan. Some other responses incorrectly mentioned stories from the Old Testament like the story of Moses, the story of Abraham and miracles of Jesus.

Chairperson

Examination Panel 2025