

OXFORD AQA

INTERNATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

INTERNATIONAL GCSE

ISLAMIAT

9237/2

Paper 2 The life of Hazrat Muhammad ﷺ and sources of authority in Islam

Mark scheme

Specimen

Version: 1.0 Final

Mark schemes are prepared by the Lead Assessment Writer and considered, together with the relevant questions, by a panel of subject teachers. This mark scheme includes any amendments made at the standardisation events which all associates participate in and is the scheme which was used by them in this examination. The standardisation process ensures that the mark scheme covers the students' responses to questions and that every associate understands and applies it in the same correct way. As preparation for standardisation each associate analyses a number of students' scripts. Alternative answers not already covered by the mark scheme are discussed and legislated for. If, after the standardisation process, associates encounter unusual answers which have not been raised they are required to refer these to the Lead Examiner.

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Section A

Life and teachings of Hazrat Muhammad ﷺ

Question	Part	Marking guidance	Total marks
1	1	<p>Name one opponent of Hazrat Muhammad ﷺ during his life.</p> <p>One mark for any correct answer given.</p> <p>Possible answers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The hypocrites • The Mushriks • Abu Lahab • Abu Jahl (Amr ibn Hisham) • Abu Sufyan ibn Harb • Umayyah ibn Khalaf • Abdullah ibn Ubayy • Aas ibn Wa'il • Hind bint Utbah (Abu Sufyan's Wife) • Waleed ibn Mughira, etc <p>Note: This indicative content is not exhaustive, other creditworthy responses should be awarded marks as appropriate.</p>	<p>1</p> <p>AO1 = 1</p>

Question	Part	Marking guidance	Total marks
1	2	<p>Give two Muslim beliefs about Hazrat Muhammad’s ﷺ call to prophethood (<i>nabuat</i>).</p> <p>One mark for each of two correct points.</p> <p>Possible answers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allah selected him for this significant role • It happened at the age of 40 and took place in Cave of Hira • The angel Jibril (AS) served as the messenger, delivering divine messages to Muhammad ﷺ. • The Prophet ﷺ feared for his life during this first encounter. • Muhammad ﷺ was supported by Hazrat Khadija (RA) his wife • Muhammad ﷺ is the last Prophet, marking the completion of the line of prophets. • There is confirmation of Muhammad's ﷺ prophethood (<i>nabuat</i>) in previous scriptures. • Muhammad’s ﷺ exemplary character, known as <i>Al-Akhlaq Al-Adheemah</i>, is considered a reflection of divine qualities, etc. <p>Note: This indicative content is not exhaustive, other creditworthy responses should be awarded marks as appropriate.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>AO1 = 2</p>

Question	Part	Marking guidance	Total marks
1	3	<p>Explain two reasons why Hazrat Muhammad ﷺ made <i>Hijrah</i> to Medina.</p> <p>One mark for each reason identified, and one additional mark for a suitable explanation of that reason.</p> <p>Maximum of two marks for each reason.</p> <p>Possible answers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The <i>Hijrah</i> presented an opportunity for Muhammad ﷺ to play a key role in resolving conflicts among various tribes in the region (1). His presence in Medina was instrumental in establishing peace and resolving disputes/ He contributed to the overall stability and harmony of the community (1). • The <i>Hijrah</i> facilitated the formation of the first Islamic state in Medina (1). Under the leadership of Muhammad ﷺ, a political and social structure grounded in Islamic principles began to take shape which allowed the seamless integration of religious and civic life (1). • Hazrat Muhammad ﷺ wanted to establish a united Muslim community where individuals could freely practise Islam without the fear of persecution (1). This marked the initiation of a society founded on the principles of Islam/ provided a supportive environment for the growing Muslim population (1). • Another reasons was to escape the escalating hostility and persecution faced by Muhammad ﷺ and early Muslims in Makkah (1). For example, the <i>Hijrah</i> served as a refuge from the relentless opposition of the Quraysh tribe offering a safer haven for the Prophet ﷺ and his community to practise and propagate their faith (1). • He was ordered by Allah. Muhammad ﷺ saw in a dream that he was doing <i>Hijrah</i> to the city of Medina (1) “I saw in a dream that I was migrating from Makkah to a land which there are date-palms” (Bukhari) / he was invited, approached by the people of Medina to migrate (1). <p>Note: This indicative content is not exhaustive, other creditworthy responses should be awarded marks as appropriate.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>AO1 = 4</p>

Question	Part	Marking guidance	Total marks
1	4	<p>Explain two reasons why the events of the <i>Isra Wal Mir'aj</i> are important for Muslims.</p> <p>Use one teaching from the Qur'an or Hadith in your answer.</p> <p>When assigning AO1 marks, give one mark for each reason identified, and an additional mark for a suitable explanation of that reason. A maximum of two marks for each reason.</p> <p>When assigning AO2 marks on the teaching from the Qur'an or Hadith, give:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one mark for a general reference to a teaching from the Qur'an or Hadith • two marks for a specific, relevant and accurate reference to a teaching from the Qur'an or Hadith which is applied to the question. <p>Possible answers (AO1):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The events of <i>Isra wal Mi'raj</i> are important for Muslims given its spiritual importance as it confirms that Hazrat Muhammad ﷺ is a special messenger chosen by Allah (1). The journey from Makkah to Jerusalem and through the heavens shows that his mission is truly divine/ It reminds Muslims how important it is to have faith and submit to Allah (1). • The <i>Isra wal Mi'raj</i> highlight the importance of daily <i>Salah</i> (1) during this journey, Allah told Muhammad ﷺ about the obligation of the five daily prayers, making it clear that regular prayers are a direct way for Muslims to connect with Allah/ show discipline, and expresses gratitude / emphasise that prayers are crucial in the Islamic faith and play a big role in a Muslim's life (1). • Muhammad ﷺ went through the heavens, met other prophets, and saw paradise (1). This shows Muslims that despite facing tough times, there's a special reward waiting for those who stay strong in their faith and do good deeds / this gives comfort and motivation to Muslims, encouraging them to continue on their religious journey (1). <p>Possible teachings from the Qur'an or Hadith (AO2):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Qur'an says Muhammad ﷺ travelled on a night journey (1). In the Qur'an Allah says "Exalted is He who took His Servant by night from the sacred place of worship to the farthest place of worship, whose surroundings We have blessed, to show him some of Our signs. He alone is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing." (Qur'an 17:1) showing the importance of this journey (1) • The Prophet ﷺ met other prophets during this journey (1). For example, in a Hadith narrated by Anas bin Malik it says: "The Night Journey of the Prophet ﷺ was a two-fold journey. The Prophet ﷺ, while on the bed, was awakened, Jibril (AS) came to him, and he rode with him on the Buraq, till they reached the "Lot-Tree" and the boundary of the Seventh Heaven. Then Jibril 	<p>6</p> <p>AO1 = 4 AO2 = 2</p>

		<p>(AS) left him. ... The Prophet ﷺ said, 'I met Ibraheem (AS), Moses (AS), Jesus (AS), and Joseph, and the prophets.' (Sahih Muslim) (1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muhammad ﷺ visited heaven and hell (1) Narrated by Ibn 'Abbas: "The Prophet ﷺ was shown the various (portions) of the Land of the Heaven during the Night Journey, and he saw Paradise and Hell. The things he was shown were shown to him in reality." (Sahih Bukhari) (1) <p>Note: This indicative content is not exhaustive, other creditworthy responses should be awarded marks as appropriate.</p>	
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Question	Part	Marking guidance	Total marks															
1	5	<p>‘Hazrat Muhammad’s ﷺ greatest victory was the Battle of Badr?’</p> <p>Evaluate this statement.</p> <p>In your answer, you should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • refer to the passage to support your arguments and other sources of authority • give reasoned arguments to support this statement • give reasoned arguments to support different points of view. <table border="1" data-bbox="459 730 1350 2076"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="459 730 563 775">Level</th> <th data-bbox="563 730 683 775">Marks</th> <th data-bbox="683 730 1350 775">Success criteria</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="459 775 563 1095">4</td> <td data-bbox="563 775 683 1095">10-12</td> <td data-bbox="683 775 1350 1095"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A well-argued response, with thorough consideration of different points of view. • Logical chain of reasoning leading to a judgement that is well supported by detailed and relevant evidence and information. • Excellent use of the passage or another source of authority provided, with references applied directly to the issue. </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="459 1095 563 1346">3</td> <td data-bbox="563 1095 683 1346">7-9</td> <td data-bbox="683 1095 1350 1346"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reasoned consideration of different points of view. • Logical chain of reasoning supported by relevant evidence and information. • Good use of the passage or another source of authority with references linked to the issue. </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="459 1346 563 1675">2</td> <td data-bbox="563 1346 683 1675">4-6</td> <td data-bbox="683 1346 1350 1675"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some reasoned consideration of one or more points of view. • Generally logical chain of reasoning drawing on evidence and information which is mostly relevant. • Limited use of the passage or another source of authority <p>Note: maximum Level 2 if only one point of view is considered.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="459 1675 563 2076">1</td> <td data-bbox="563 1675 683 2076">1-3</td> <td data-bbox="683 1675 1350 2076"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic consideration of one or more points of view • Chain of reasoning is basic or implicit, drawing on some relevant evidence and information. • Little or no use of the passage or another source of authority to support a point of view. <p>Note: maximum Level 1 if there is no reference to the passage or another source of authority in the response.</p> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Level	Marks	Success criteria	4	10-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A well-argued response, with thorough consideration of different points of view. • Logical chain of reasoning leading to a judgement that is well supported by detailed and relevant evidence and information. • Excellent use of the passage or another source of authority provided, with references applied directly to the issue. 	3	7-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reasoned consideration of different points of view. • Logical chain of reasoning supported by relevant evidence and information. • Good use of the passage or another source of authority with references linked to the issue. 	2	4-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some reasoned consideration of one or more points of view. • Generally logical chain of reasoning drawing on evidence and information which is mostly relevant. • Limited use of the passage or another source of authority <p>Note: maximum Level 2 if only one point of view is considered.</p>	1	1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic consideration of one or more points of view • Chain of reasoning is basic or implicit, drawing on some relevant evidence and information. • Little or no use of the passage or another source of authority to support a point of view. <p>Note: maximum Level 1 if there is no reference to the passage or another source of authority in the response.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>AO2 = 12</p>
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0	Nothing worthy of credit				
		<p>Possible answers:</p> <p>Arguments for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Battle of Badr was a crucial moment in Muhammad's ﷺ life. Positioned strategically, it became more than just a battleground. It represented a key spot for trade. Intercepting the Quraysh caravan at Badr showcased Muhammad's ﷺ strategic skills and the emerging strength of the Muslim community. • The divine support during the battle, with angels fighting alongside the Muslim army, helped the Muslims to overcome a large army when they were small in number (there were only 313). This added to the significance of their miraculous victory and affirmed the legitimacy of Muhammad's ﷺ mission. • The defeat of the Quraysh weakened their influence, as many of their leaders were lost. This victory allowed the Muslims to strengthen their position in Medina as it reduced the immediate threat from Makkah. It also boosted the morale of the Muslim community, instilling newfound confidence and resilience. • The given verse (Qur'an 3: 121-127) refers to the battle of Uhud where Allah reminds the believers of the victory that was given at Badr. Here Allah reminds the believers of trusting in Allah and that the help of Allah is for those that are God conscious. • This verse shows that both the battle of Badr and Uhud are equally as important as the believers were sent angels from the heaven to support them. <p>Other views:</p> <p>Battle of Uhud (625 CE):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This was a great victory because of its scale and complexity. The Battle of Uhud involved a sizable Muslim army facing the Quraysh of Makkah. The battle showcased the resilience of the Muslim community, emphasising their commitment to Islam even in the face of adversity. • The Battle of Uhud is notable for the internal challenges faced by the Muslim forces. For example, despite an initial advantage, a deviation from the Muhammad's ﷺ instructions led to a shift in the battle's outcome. This internal struggle and its consequences contributed to a deeper understanding of the complexities within the early Muslim community. <p>Battle of the Trench (627 CE):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Battle of the Trench, or Khandaq, was a defensive battle where the Muslims successfully repelled a coalition led by the Quraysh. The strategic trench dug by the Muslims played a crucial role in their defense, showcasing their innovative military tactics. It was a great victory as it strengthened the position of the Muslim community in Medina by removing external threats and solidified the unity of the diverse groups in Medina. This contributed to the consolidation of the early Islamic state. 			

		<p>Conquest of Makkah (630 CE):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Conquest of Makkah marked a turning point in Islamic history. Instead of a traditional military confrontation, Prophet Muhammad ﷺ entered Makkah peacefully with a significant Muslim army. This demonstrated forgiveness and tolerance, highlighting the principles of Islam including monotheistic belief (<i>Tawhid</i>). • The peaceful conquest of Makkah led to the widespread acceptance of Islam in the Arabian Peninsula as many people from Makkah embraced Islam, which contributed to the unification of the Arabian tribes under the banner of Islam, etc. <p>Note: This indicative content is not exhaustive, other creditworthy responses should be awarded marks as appropriate.</p>	
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Section B

Sources of authority in Islam

Question	Part	Marking guidance	Total marks
2	1	<p>Name one of the major law schools in Islam.</p> <p>Possible answers:</p> <p>Reward any one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Hanafi</i> • <i>Hanbali</i> • <i>Maliki</i> • <i>Shaf'i</i> • <i>Ja'firiq</i> <p>Note: This indicative content is not exhaustive, other creditworthy responses should be awarded marks as appropriate.</p>	<p>1</p> <p>AO1 = 1</p>

Question	Part	Marking guidance	Total marks
2	2	<p>Give two Muslim beliefs about how the Qur'an should be treated.</p> <p>Possible answers:</p> <p>One mark for any two of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Wudu</i> should be performed before the Qur'an is touched. • The Qur'an should be kept in a high place. • It should be covered with a special cloth. • The Qur'an should be read daily. • It should be read properly with <i>Tajweed</i>. • The Qur'an should be acted upon in daily life. <p>Note: This indicative content is not exhaustive, other creditworthy responses should be awarded marks as appropriate.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>AO1 = 2</p>

Question	Part	Marking guidance	Total marks
2	3	<p>Explain two reasons why the <i>Sunnah</i> of Hazrat Muhammad ﷺ is an important source of authority in Islam.</p> <p>One mark for each reason identified, and one additional mark for a suitable explanation of that reason.</p> <p>Maximum of two marks for each reason.</p> <p>Possible answers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Qur'an doesn't explain how some acts of worship should be carried out (1) The details of actions can such as <i>Salah</i> only be found in the <i>Sunnah</i> of Muhammad ﷺ (1). • The <i>Sunnah</i> is a practical guide and a primary source of law making (1). It shows how Hazrat Muhammad ﷺ himself carried out his duties of worship (1). • The Qur'an instructs Muslims to follow the example of Muhammad ﷺ (1). This makes the <i>Sunnah</i> important because it is emphasised by Allah (1). • The <i>Sunnah</i> was documented in detail (1). Its preservation shows its importance to Muslims as a source of authority (1). • Hazrat Muhammad ﷺ is a role model for Muslims (1). Following his <i>Sunnah</i> allows Muslims to reach <i>Jannah</i> (1). 	<p>4</p> <p>AO1 = 4</p>

Question	Part	Marking guidance	Total marks
2	4	<p>Explain two features of Sahih Bukhari Hadith.</p> <p>Use one teaching from the Qur'an or Hadith in your answer.</p> <p>When assigning AO1 marks, give one mark for each feature identified, and an additional mark for a suitable explanation of that feature. A maximum of two marks for each feature.</p> <p>When assigning AO2 marks on the teaching from the Qur'an or Hadith, give:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one mark for a general reference to a teaching from the Qur'an or Hadith • two marks for a specific, relevant and accurate reference to a teaching from the Qur'an or Hadith which is applied to the question. <p>Possible answers (AO1):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hadiths contained within Sahih Bukhari are meticulously authenticated (1). They set a high standard for the acceptance of Hadiths as Imam Bukhari applied strict criteria to ensure the reliability and authenticity of the narrations (1). • Bukhari used an unbroken chain of trustworthy narrators (<i>Isnad</i>) tracing back to the source/ either a companion of Muhammad ﷺ or the Prophet ﷺ himself (1). This emphasis on a strong chain of narrators ensured that the Hadiths were transmitted through reliable channels, minimising the risk of inaccuracies or fabrications (1). • Bukhari took into account the moral character and integrity (<i>Adalat</i>) of the narrators, ensuring that they were known for their honesty and uprightness (1) This rigorous authentication process contributes to the credibility and reliability of Sahih Bukhari making it a highly respected source in Islamic scholarship (1). • Sahih Bukhari excludes any Hadiths that were deemed weak or questionable in terms of authenticity (1). This enhances the credibility of Sahih Bukhari as a source of Islamic teachings (1). • The Hadiths in Sahih Bukhari are organized thematically, covering various aspects of Islamic life, including beliefs, worship, social conduct, and legal matters (1). This thematic organisation makes it easy for readers to find guidance (1) <p>Possible teachings from the Qur'an or Hadith (AO2):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muhammad ﷺ taught his companions to follow his message (1) The Hadith says whoever revives a Sunnah gets the reward of 10 martyrs showing the importance of books like Bukhari that preserve the Muhammad's ﷺ message (1) • Learning and preserving knowledge was instructed by Muhammad ﷺ (1) In a Muhammad ﷺ said "Seeking knowledge is obligatory upon every Muslim." (Bukhari) (1) <p>Note: This indicative content is not exhaustive, other creditworthy responses should be awarded marks as appropriate.</p>	<p>6</p> <p>AO1 = 4 AO2 = 2</p>

Question	Part	Marking guidance	Total marks															
2	5	<p data-bbox="384 349 1289 421">‘For Muslims <i>Ijma</i> and <i>Qiyas</i> are needed as a source of authority today.’</p> <p data-bbox="384 472 719 499">Evaluate this statement.</p> <p data-bbox="384 555 775 582">In your answer, you should:</p> <ul data-bbox="432 595 1289 763" style="list-style-type: none"> • refer to the passage to support your arguments and other sources of authority • give reasoned arguments to support this statement • give reasoned arguments to support different points of view. <table border="1" data-bbox="384 804 1310 1995"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="384 804 491 846">Level</th> <th data-bbox="491 804 603 846">Marks</th> <th data-bbox="603 804 1310 846">Success criteria</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 846 491 1133">4</td> <td data-bbox="491 846 603 1133">10-12</td> <td data-bbox="603 846 1310 1133"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A well-argued response, with thorough consideration of different points of view. • Logical chain of reasoning leading to a judgement that is well supported by detailed and relevant evidence and information. • Excellent use of the passage or another source of authority provided, with references applied directly to the issue. </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1133 491 1384">3</td> <td data-bbox="491 1133 603 1384">7-9</td> <td data-bbox="603 1133 1310 1384"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reasoned consideration of different points of view. • Logical chain of reasoning supported by relevant evidence and information. • Good use of the passage or another source of authority with references linked to the issue. </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1384 491 1715">2</td> <td data-bbox="491 1384 603 1715">4-6</td> <td data-bbox="603 1384 1310 1715"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some reasoned consideration of one or more points of view. • Generally logical chain of reasoning drawing on evidence and information which is mostly relevant. • Limited use of the passage or another source of authority <p data-bbox="619 1641 1273 1704">Note: maximum Level 2 if only one point of view is considered.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="384 1715 491 1995">1</td> <td data-bbox="491 1715 603 1995">1-3</td> <td data-bbox="603 1715 1310 1995"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic consideration of one or more points of view • Chain of reasoning is basic or implicit, drawing on some relevant evidence and information. • Little or no use of the passage or another source of authority to support a point of view. </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Level	Marks	Success criteria	4	10-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A well-argued response, with thorough consideration of different points of view. • Logical chain of reasoning leading to a judgement that is well supported by detailed and relevant evidence and information. • Excellent use of the passage or another source of authority provided, with references applied directly to the issue. 	3	7-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reasoned consideration of different points of view. • Logical chain of reasoning supported by relevant evidence and information. • Good use of the passage or another source of authority with references linked to the issue. 	2	4-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some reasoned consideration of one or more points of view. • Generally logical chain of reasoning drawing on evidence and information which is mostly relevant. • Limited use of the passage or another source of authority <p data-bbox="619 1641 1273 1704">Note: maximum Level 2 if only one point of view is considered.</p>	1	1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic consideration of one or more points of view • Chain of reasoning is basic or implicit, drawing on some relevant evidence and information. • Little or no use of the passage or another source of authority to support a point of view. 	<p data-bbox="1394 349 1430 376">12</p> <p data-bbox="1347 421 1474 448">AO2 = 12</p>
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		<p>0</p>	<p>Nothing worthy of credit</p>	
<p>Possible answers:</p> <p>Arguments for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ijma</i> represents the collective wisdom of Islamic scholars. Its relevance persists as it reflects a consensus on key issues within the Muslim community. It therefore helps maintain consistency in legal rulings and promotes unity among Muslims, ensuring a unified approach to various aspects of life. • <i>Qiyas</i> allows for the application of established legal principles to new situations, showing adaptability in addressing contemporary challenges. <i>Qiyas</i> provides a flexible framework for reasoning, enabling scholars to derive rulings for issues not explicitly covered in traditional sources, etc. • The passage (Qur'an 4:115) reminds Muslims about the importance of following the rules set out by Allah and his messenger. Many scholars would argue that since the verse refers to 'after guidance has become clear', this implies the need for <i>Ijma</i> and <i>Qiyas</i> of the scholars and thus both are needed as a source of authority. <p>Other views:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The classical methods of <i>Ijma</i> and <i>Qiyas</i> may not be as commonly practised today, as legal reasoning and consensus-building have evolved. While <i>Ijma</i> was used by the early companions (<i>Ijma-e-sahaba</i>) to, for example, elect Muhammad's ﷺ successor, it could be argued that this is less commonly used in the modern day. • Some Muslims argue that the dynamic nature of contemporary challenges requires more specific approaches than traditional methods like <i>Qiyas</i> can provide, etc. • Some would argue that the Qur'an does not explicitly mention <i>Ijma</i> and <i>Qiyas</i> because the Qur'an and Hadith are sufficient. <p>Note: This indicative content is not exhaustive, other creditworthy responses should be awarded marks as appropriate.</p>				