

## Everyone Feedback for 2021 Trial Exam

### Question 1 (10 marks)

Who was Theophilus? Why does the writer of the Gospel according to Luke begin his narrative with a reference to Theophilus? What does beginning his narrative with a formal prologue tell us about the culture and purpose of the evangelist?

Q1 – not too bad 8/10 The Catholic Church, by name, did not exist until the 4th century. The Christian Church developed during the first century but probably didn't see itself as a separate church from the Jewish religion until the time of St Paul. As such, for this subject, use the term Catholic Church for Q4 and something like Christians, or Luke's community, for the rest of Texts and Traditions.

Q1 10/10 very good answer. You could look at how the prologue imitates the prologues of common Greek histories written around the same time which places it into the realm of being a serious historical document in the mind of its readers.

Q1 – Theophilus is a Greek word, not Hebrew. Overall the answer is pretty good but little errors cost marks. 8/10

Q1 – well done – you tackled all aspects of the topic. A little more needed in the final section. 9/10

Q1 – you write a lot but there is not a lot of substance to the things you write. Some key points about Theophilus would be that his name means "God Lover" in Greek and therefore this name indicates that Luke is writing for a Gentile audience of educated people. If he is an individual, then he is probably an aristocrat of some sort and maybe Luke's patron. While you comment on the content of the prologue you don't really indicate an understanding of why Luke chose to write this formal type of historical prologue for a Gospel. 5/10

### Question 2 (10 marks)

Identify two parables from the chapters for special study. Explain why each passage is called a parable.

What does each parable teach about how to be a follower of Jesus?

Q2 First two parts of the question are answered well but you seem to miss the "followers of Jesus" part of the last question

Q2 – you mention the word parable comes from the Greek but you don't then say what the Greek means. (it means comparison) That would then help you develop an understanding of parables. You need to focus more on what the last part of the question asks about being a follower of Jesus. 7/10

Q2 – your definition of parables is vague which means a lot of your response is uncertain as well. Just a note: the words simple and simplistic do not mean the same thing. 7/10

Q2 – 10/10 – so far, so good! A great response but probably does more than it has to. Beware of time and don't put too much into these answers. Try to put what is needed to get the questions answered.

Q2 – Two full pages is way too much for 10 marks. You need to distil the question to make sure you know exactly what it wants and then only write that for your answer. You will run out of time if you write this much for a Part 1 response. A lot of your answer didn't really get to the gist of the question as you lacked a clear understanding of what a parable is. 6/10

Q2 – Again, you tackled the entire question, well done. The "followers of Jesus" part of the last question needed more substance. 7/10

Q2 Again, there is a fairly high level of vague in this answer. Your first sentence says: parables are stories that hold significant messages to be interpreted by the audience. Yes, but that could also be said of nearly every other type of story telling as well. This questions asks you to demonstrate you knowledge of parables in particular – their structure, their use as a metaphorical story, the meaning of the word parable as "comparison", the way parables use common imagery to explain complex ideas. Those are the types of things you would be expected to show in your answer. Then, how does each passage demonstrate those features? Because your definition is vague, the rest of your answer is as well. 6/10

### Question 3 (10 marks)

In the narrative of Jesus proclaiming his mission in the synagogue at Nazareth, there are ideas and themes that also appear elsewhere in the Gospel according to Luke.

Identify three of the ideas or themes evident in Jesus' proclamation (Luke 4:16-21) and, for each of the three, identify another episode where this is evident in the gospel. Briefly state what each of these three ideas or themes tells about the mission of Jesus.

Q3 – Read the passage 4:16-21. The themes of women and repentance do not jump out as the most obvious of themes from that passage. You would certainly need to explain how you found those themes in that passage. Because you have chosen dubious themes, your choice of passages also lacks substance in answering the question. 3/10

Q4a – 3/3

Q4b – 3/3 (one of the few in the class to do this bit well.)

Q4c 4/4 – again some really focussed writing with details and a connection to the original text. Well done.

Q4a Please note that the "Catholic" Church did not formally get named as such until the 4th century. So when you are refereeing to the Gospels and Luke's community point to Christians, the early Christian Church, the Lucan community or phrases like that. The rest is OK 2/3

Q4b You have way too much biography here for what the question is asking. If you are writing more than about a dozen lines for 3 or 4 marks, you are writing too much and you are rambling. Focus on

what the question is actually asking you to write and then distil your knowledge to answer just that question. Do not think you get marks by telling the assessor everything you know. The question is your focus. 2/3

Q4c – This ask you to show how the later tradition explained their interpretation of the original text. You don't mention the original text at all in this answer so you cannot do better than 2/4

#### **Question 4 (10 marks)**

Name a religious idea, belief or theme arising from the passages for special study, which was interpreted by the later tradition that you have studied.

a. Briefly explain the religious idea, belief or theme and its importance to the original community. Identify examples from the passages for special study that demonstrate this religious idea, belief or theme. (3 marks)

b. Identify by whom, in what ways and why the religious idea, belief or theme was developed in the later tradition. (3 marks)

c. Briefly outline the ways in which the later tradition explained or reconciled its later interpretation of this religious idea, belief or theme with the original text. (4 marks)

Q4c – more discussion of how the documents mentioned TF and RN are interpretations of a theme arising from the original text. 2/4

Q4c – You wrote three paragraphs (way too much for a 4 mark question.) The three marks you got were all from the last paragraph where you start to talk about interpretation of the Gospel message. ¾

Q4a – good 3/3

Q4b – good again 3/3 (one of the few in the class who did this bit well)

Q4c – very good 4/4 – (again a rarity in the class, well done.)

Q4 – Again, you are writing way too much - one page for three marks is a waste of time. Just answer the question as it is asked. Yes, you have a likelihood of good marks for what you write but you will run out of time. Your part c of Q4 was not a complete answer as you didn't mention how FT explains the interpretation of the original text (Luke) 7/10

Q4a – too much written for what was asked. Identify means to name – you went into way too much depth on each passage for just “identify”ing them. 3/3 (the problem with writing too much is you end up running out of time elsewhere.)

Q4b – too much biography and not enough on how the theme was developed by Rice's actions. 2/3

Q4c – You haven't answered the question. There is no mention of the original text (Luke) so you can't be explaining how the later tradition explained their interpretation of it. 0/4

## ESSAYS

### Question 5 (30 marks)

Explain how the theme of prophets and prophecy is developed over the whole of the Gospel of Luke.

Use at least three examples to support your answer.

Q5 – a good essay. Note the word “developed” which asks you to show how a theme grows over the Gospel. Your choice of examples should allow you to show such development. 25/30

### Question 6 (30 marks)

Discuss the significance of the theme of ‘Repentance’ and ‘Metanoia’ in the Gospel according to Luke. Support your discussion with examples drawn from across the whole gospel.

Essay – too much story retelling and not enough analysis. You seem to work on the structure of:

1st sentence: Name of story is a story about repentance.

Rest of the paragraph: tell the story.

That is not good enough for a higher mark. You need to say WHAT each story says about repentance. How do we learn about the nature of repentance through these stories? Just summarising the stories is not enough for a good grade. 16/30

### Question 7 (30 marks)

‘Both named and anonymous men and women in the Gospel according to Luke show characteristics required for discipleship.’

Using at least three examples from across the whole gospel, discuss how the evangelist presents men and women as possessing the characteristics required for discipleship.

Q7 – Pretty good use of first two examples although minor details are inaccurate. The third example (birth of Jesus and Joseph) is pushing it as what Joseph does is not really a great fit for what is needed to be a disciple as expressed in your introduction. 22/30

Q7 – a clearer definition or understanding of discipleship is needed. The essay almost takes these characters for granted as disciples and then describes what they did, assuming therefore that these aspects make them disciples. It’s a false proof.

One would think the first thing to do is to understand the word “disciple” as a learner or a follower. Mary is the only character you have chosen who actually follows Jesus in any way in the Gospel. The Good Samaritan is a character made up by Jesus so obviously doesn’t follow him – Joseph also is a tenuous choice for this essay.

Your job is to show that they have the characteristics required to be a disciple. I don’t think you have done that very clearly. 19/30

Q7 – Zechariah was not a chief priest – he was from a lower order of priests. (minor detail) You haven't chosen the best examples. Your choice of Jesus foretelling his death is not a great example of men or women possessing the characteristics of being a disciple. Yes, it might show some characteristics but you have to cover the whole topic. 19/30

## EXEGESIS

### Question 8 (30 marks)

Q8 – you got way too carried away talking about the history of temples (a lot of which was inaccurate anyway) – focus on what gives meaning to the particular passage you are studying. You have the basics of exegesis down pretty well but need to focus on fine tuning it over the coming week. 22/30

Exegesis: pretty good. You cover most of the criteria fairly well and are probably better than a lot of the other students at illustrating the meaning of particular words and phrases although that could be done in more depth. Again, keep the word Catholic out of any answer except Q4. 22/30

### Question 9 (30 marks)

Q9 – lots of minor errors (for example ch 8 is not in the journey to Jerusalem section) Your highlighted words and phrases do not help the reader understand more (see general notes.) for example, you write "Jesus' arrival on the Gentile region of the eastern shore known as Galilee. Firstly, it's wrong – the passage starts with him landing on the other side of the lake from Galilee but also you don't explain anything about Galilee to help your reader understand the passage more fully. Retelling the story using the highlighted words and phrases will never get you a good grade. Some content is good but most is covered fairly lightly. Context is good, literary forms need more clarity. 23/30

Q9 – a good half of your exegesis is retelling the story with no explanation of the terms which have been highlighted. For example, the passage says:

"country of the Geresenes, which is opposite Galilee." With the idea that you will explain to your reader the significance of Galilee in the context of the passage. Instead, you have written "The pericope is set in Geresene which lays opposite to Galilee." Ask yourself "has my reader learnt anything about the significance of Galilee by reading my exegesis?" (Hint: NO) So much of your exegesis follows that pattern of just saying what Luke says but explaining very little. 17/30

### Question 10 (30 marks)

Q10 – I am not aware of the theory that Luke and Acts were one single text – the prologue of Acts seems to contradict that idea. They are certainly one body of work but certainly two separate texts probably written years apart from one another. There is not enough in this response for more than a minimal grade 6/30