Christianity **PILGRIMAGE & FESTIVALS** Practices

Which of the following is a way to celebrate Christmas? 1. A) Lighting the paschal candle B) A sunrise service C) Midnight Mass D) A Passion play [2 marks] 2. Give two reasons why a Christian may go on a pilgrimage. To spend time praying to God/ learning about him/ to step away from normal life and concentrate on God and their relationship/ to grow as a Christian group/ for healing (Lourdes)/ to see where Jesus lived (Israel) [4 marks] 3. Explain two contrasting examples of pilgrimage. Lourdes> in France> for healing Iona> in Scotland> a 'thin place'> to get closer to God Israel> the Holy Land> to be where Jesus was and gain a deeper understanding of the stories of the Bible. [5 marks] 4. Explain two contrasting examples of how Christians celebrate Easter. Attend a church service worship God, learn about his death and resurrection and what it means. Light the Paschal candle> a symbol of Jesus' light in the world Eating eggs> hollow eggs> empty tomb. Normal eggs> new life. Watching a Passion Play> see the story of the crucifixion played out> to learn about

Jesus' death

PILGRIMAGE & FESTIVALS Christianity Practices

5. 'Christmas is the most important Christian festival.'

[12 marks]

Some Christians agree:

Celebration of the incarnation of Christ> God come to earth in human form> all the reasons for the importance of the incarnation (e.g. Shows how much God loves us). Great themes at Christmas: gift-giving, Jesus the light of the world.

Some Christians disagree:

Celebration of the resurrection> The power of God> the holiness of Jesus> Victory of good over evil, life over death, God over Satan. Shows that Jesus is still alive today and can be worshipped and prayed to. The resurrection shows that Jesus' teaching can be trusted. Christmas is over commercialised today and most people don't think about Jesus at Christmas but presents and parties.

POTENTIAL WEAK ARGUMENT: Christmas over commercialised> so is Easter...?