

Name _____ Class _____ School _____

Maria Gomez: Assessment task

You will need the source sheet to help you answer these questions and have spent some time in class looking at Maria's story

1. Look at source 1 (The cross) and read source 2 (The quote from Jesus). Remember the class work we did on the Maria Gomez Cross. Try to explain the connection between the two sources.

(Hint: To get a level 5 you will need to explain the impact of beliefs on individuals and communities)

2. If you had been a close friend of Maria's what would you have advised her to do? (hint: *There is no right of wrong answer here you need to express your own views on the challenges of belonging to a religion*)

3. Do you think this cross is a good way to remember what Maria did?
(hint: *Again there is no right or wrong answer here its what you think, try to give some reasons for what you say and try to think of the good things and the not so good things, have a really good look at Source 1*).

4. Do you think Maria was right to do what she did? (hint: *Your views again but try to put yourself in Maria's position*)

5. Maria was inspired by her faith to stand up for what is right. What, or who, inspires you to do what you think is right? Try to give examples and explain.

Commentary: Mark Scheme

To do this task students will need to have spent a lesson looking at the story of Maria Cristina Gomez. This is covered well in This is RE book 1 page 38-41. It is also quite likely that they will have seen the cross before as it is quite common to find it in Primary schools (especially Church ones). Information about this cross is widely available.

It is vital that the students are clear about the level descriptors of the syllabus before they start. Please use this task as appropriate for peer assessment. We want to give as greater scope as possible to see what students can do.

I have tried to write a mark scheme (below) to guide you but please remember it is only a guide. The marks are based on what I imagine students will do. Until we get some to actually do it we won't know what problems there will be.

Please feel free to adapt the format of the assessment sheet to suit your schools and individual classes' needs, but please keep the same questions. We will review them at the moderation meeting, so comments on what works and what doesn't will also be useful.

Question 1

This is a basic AT1 question.

For level 3 I would expect students to make a link between the two sources 'Jesus said he would set the oppressed free..Maria was trying to do this...because of what she believed she got killed...the people made this cross to remember what she did'

For level 4 I would expect a more detailed linking between the quote and what Maria did probably describing how she tried to set people free through her teaching and how being able to read gave people more power, there should be some recognition that her faith gave her the courage to do this...however this will be undeveloped. They may make some comment about the symbolism on the cross.

For level 5 here we really need an explanation of Marias motives 'Because Jesus taught this she believed she must follow his teachings, she knew

that it might be dangerous but her faith made her do this and gave her the courage to stand up to the authorities..Jesus was on the side of the oppressed she knew she had to be as well. They may also identify the Christian symbolism on the cross ie her outstretched arms like Jesus when he was crucified.

For level 6 as above an explanation of her motives but some recognition that through the activities of his followers Jesus teachings are impacting on the whole community not just individuals, possibly also that this isn't the only way that Christians may respond to Jesus teachings.

Many of these points may be made in later answers that is fine

Question 2

This question is designed to get an AT2 response with some expression of the challenges of belonging to a religion. But they may also use this question to make some AT1 statements about the impact of religion on believer's lives. This may be particularly true of lower level responses.

At level 3 I would expect something like. 'you have to do this Maria as you are a Christian I am proud of you for standing up for you religion.'

At level 4 the idea of how you would be influencing others might come in balanced by some comments about how dangerous it might be and some suggestions of alternative action 'you could stop for a while or do it in secret etc'

At Level 5 there should be some idea about your duty as a believer and how your example could really make a difference but maybe there are other ways you could help.

At level 6 there would still be a real respect for what she is doing, and how your faith gives you the courage to risk your life but maybe a balance of criticism that your religion is leading you to risk your life and that you can't expect all Christians to respond this way.

Question 3

This is really looking at the range of forms of religious expression strand.

AT1 level 3 response will concentrate on how colourful the cross is and how it is a good way to remember but some people might not understand it. For a level 4 response some description of the meaning of the cross is needed. i.e. its shows the story of Maria with one or two examples. For a level 5 response I would hope for some linking of the symbolism of Maria sacrifice with that of Jesus on the cross, also some should pick up on the use of this visual cross in a non-literate society. For level 6 you may get some valid critical comments and ideally some comment about how the cross might become a symbol of identity for the oppressed people of El Salvador, or an inspiration to other oppressed people.

Question 4

This is really a revisit of question two but in a more direct way. The levels for question 2 should be applied again but I am hoping this question will bring a more evaluative even critical response from students.

Question 5

This an opened ended AT 2 question, I suspect some may find it difficult to answer. Low level response may not score at all and you may get a lot of 'I really look up to my Mum or I would like to be more like Beyonce' however in here we could hope for some real gems.

For a level 3 there needs to be a link between I admire so and so and because of that I do something

For a level 4 response there needs to be a description of why the so and so is so inspiring and a description of why the action taken relates to that person.

For level a level 5 response some reflection on how difficult it is to follow the inspiring person or how they could do more. You may get some more evaluative comments coming in around here about how you should be influenced by individuals. These sort of comments may be expanded at level 6, perhaps going into comments about how following certain people blindly may get you killed etc or what happens when the person you look up to does something wrong.