What does the **RGS standard** look like in RE?

Year group: 8

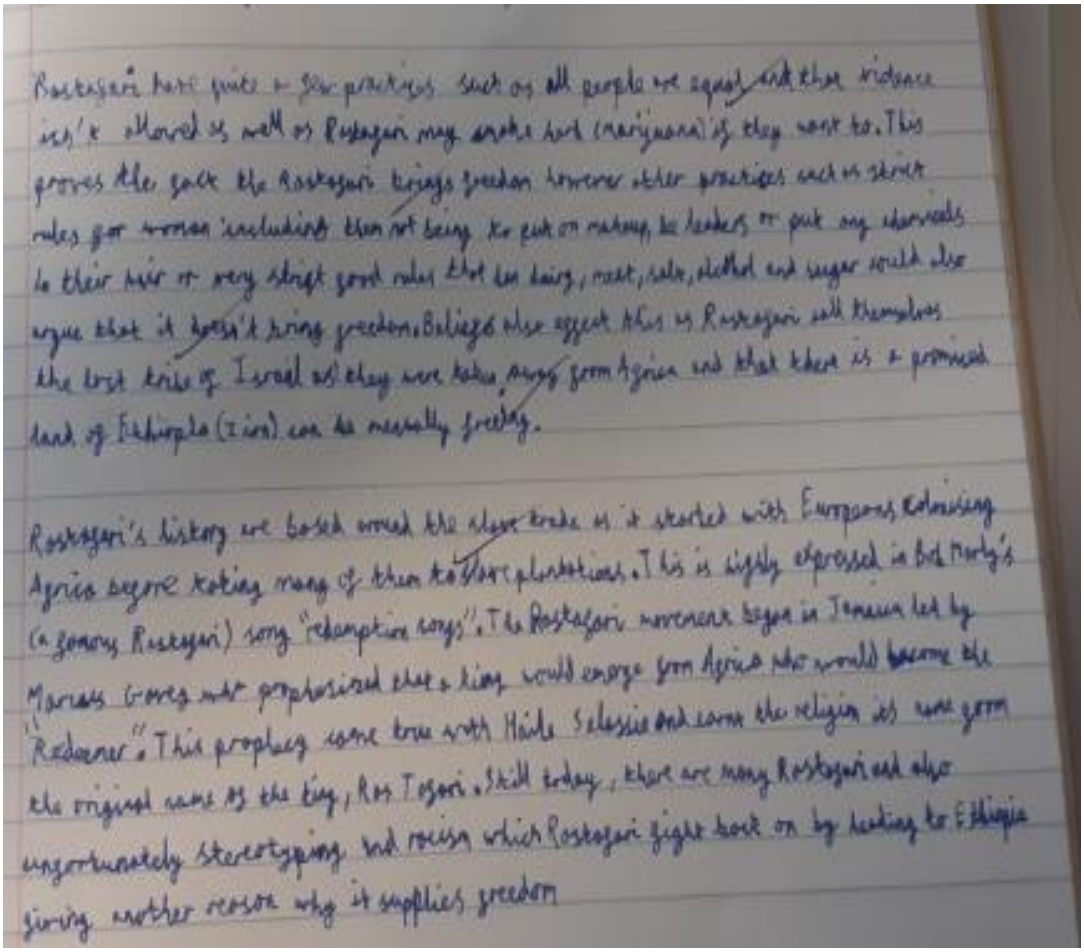
Task: ***Does Rastafari bring freedom to its followers?***

Great detail about Rasta practices and how they may be related to the title question.

Great knowledge of Rasta beliefs and the history of the faith related to "mental freedom"

Knowledge of the history of slavery (also studied in Yr 8 History) and how that informs expressions of religious commitment

Understanding of how Rasta beliefs and practices may apply to the case study of modern day racism



Rastafari have quite a few practices such as all people are equal and their instance isn't allowed as well as Rastafari may smoke herb (marijuana) if they want to. This proves the fact the Rastafari brings freedom however other practices such as strict rules for women including them not being to put on makeup to leaders or put any chemicals to their hair or very strict food rules that are daily, meat, salt, alcohol and sugar would also argue that it doesn't bring freedom. Believers also accept this as Rastafari tell themselves the lost tribe of Israel as they were taken away from Africa and that there is a promised land of Ethiopia (Zion) can be mentally freeing.

Rastafari's history are based around the slave trade as it started with Europeans colonising Africa before taking many of them to their plantations. This is highly expressed in Bob Marley's (a famous Rastafari) song "redemption songs". The Rastafari movement began in Jamaica led by Marcus Garvey who prophesised that a king would emerge from Africa who would become the "Redeemer". This prophecy came true with Haile Selassie and came the religion as were from the original name of the king, Ras Tafari. Still today, there are many Rastafari and also unfortunately stereotyping and racism which Rastafari fight back on by looking to Ethiopia giving another reason why it supplies freedom