



Rewarding Learning
ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)
General Certificate of Education
2019

Religious Studies

Assessment Unit AS 8
assessing
An Introduction to the Philosophy of Religion



SRE81

[SRE81]

FRIDAY 31 MAY, MORNING

TIME

1 hour 20 minutes.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.
Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 100.
Quality of written communication will be assessed in **all** questions.
Figures in brackets printed down the right-hand side of pages indicate the marks awarded to each question or part question.

ADVICE TO CANDIDATES

You are advised to take account of the marks for each part question in allocating the available examination time.

Section A

Answer **one** question from Section A

- 1 (a) “The Cosmological Argument has had a number of reformulations.”

With particular reference to this statement, examine the Cosmological Argument. [25]

- (b) To what extent has this argument been successful? Justify your answer. [25]

- 2 (a) Examine the main features of Teresa of Avila’s writings concerning religious experience. [25]

- (b) “Religious claims based solely on personal and subjective experience are unlikely to be true.”

With reference to this claim, evaluate the view that religious experience points to the existence of the Divine. Justify your answer. [25]

Section B

Answer **one** question from Section B

- 3 (a)** “In the Bible, miracles are viewed as acts of divine intervention in human affairs.”
With particular reference to this quotation, discuss the Christian view of miracles. [25]
- (b)** With reference to other aspects of human experience, assess the view that miraculous claims should always be treated with suspicion. Justify your answer. [25]
- 4 (a)** Explain the relevance of the Free Will defence argument to the problem of evil. [25]
- (b)** With reference to other aspects of human experience, comment on the claim that the existence of evil reveals a God who is either evil or non-existent. Justify your answer. [25]

