



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED
General Certificate of Education
2024

Centre Number

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Candidate Number

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Religious Studies

Assessment Unit A2 8

assessing

Themes in the
Philosophy of Religion



[ARE81]

ARE81

MONDAY 24 JUNE, MORNING

TIME

2 hours.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the spaces provided at the top of this page.

You must answer the questions in the spaces provided.

Do not write outside the boxed area on each page or on blank pages.

Complete in black ink only. **Do not write with a gel pen.**

Answer **two** questions from Section A and the compulsory question in Section B.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 150.

Figures in brackets printed down the right-hand side of pages indicate the marks awarded to each question or part question.

Quality of written communication will be assessed in **all** questions.

ADVICE TO CANDIDATES

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

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Section A

Answer **two** questions from this section

- 1 (a) Discuss Logical Positivism's critique of religious language. [20]
- (b) Critically assess the claim that religious language and scientific language are very different language forms. [30]
- 2 (a) In what ways does Plato's analogy of the cave support a dualist view of life after death? [20]
- (b) "The central problem of the concept of life after death is the continuation of personal identity."
Critically evaluate this statement. [30]
- 3 (a) Outline Richard Dawkins' rejection of religious morality. [20]
- (b) Critically assess the claim that Rachels' view of morality is more convincing than that of any other writer. [30]



Section B

Synoptic Assessment

Theme: Faith, Freedom and Atheism

You **must** answer this question

- 4 (a) “God must be rejected for humanity to be free.”

Present a case for this statement. You must support your answer with reference to at least **one** other unit of study. [20]

- (b) “Humanist principles are at the centre of religion.”

Critically evaluate this view. You must refer to other aspects of human experience in your answer. [30]





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For Examiner's use only	
Question Number	Marks
1	
2	
3	
4	

Total Marks	
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Examiner Number

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