



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)
General Certificate of Education
2024

Centre Number

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Candidate Number

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Religious Studies

Assessment Unit AS 8

assessing

An Introduction to the
Philosophy of Religion

MV18

[SRE81]

FRIDAY 7 JUNE, MORNING

Time

1 hour 20 minutes, plus your additional time allowance.

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 on blank pages.

Complete in black ink only.

Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

Information for Candidates

The total mark for this paper is 100.

Figures in brackets printed at the end of each question 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.

Section A

Answer **one** question from Section A

1 (a) Describe the main features of the free will defence argument. [25 marks]

(b) “Process theodicy is the least convincing answer to the problem of evil for religious believers.”

Assess this claim. Justify your answer. [25 marks]

2 (a) “It is not possible to trust witnesses’ testimony concerning miracles.”

In light of this statement, explain why atheism rejects miracles. [25 marks]

(b) Evaluate the view that Aquinas still provides the best explanation of miracles for religious believers. Justify your answer. [25 marks]

Section B

Answer **one** question from Section B

- 3 (a)** Explain the challenges to the Cosmological Argument for the existence of God. [25 marks]
- (b)** “Even in a secular age, people still turn to God in times of crisis.”

With reference to other aspects of human experience, assess this claim.

Justify your answer. [25 marks]

- 4 (a)** Give an account of Hick’s understanding of religious pluralism. [25 marks]
- (b)** With reference to other aspects of human experience, evaluate the view that religious faith always challenges human reasoning. Justify your answer. [25 marks]

This is the end of the question paper

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Question Number	Marks
1	
2	
3	
4	
Total Marks	

Examiner Number

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