



Rewarding Learning

**ADVANCED**  
General Certificate of Education  
2025

Centre Number

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Candidate Number

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# Religious Studies

Assessment Unit A2 1

*assessing*

Themes in the Synoptic  
Gospels



**[ARE11]**

\*ARE11\*

**FRIDAY 30 MAY, 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) In what ways can Narrative Criticism be used to understand Luke's Gospel? [20]

(b) "The fundamental weakness of Narrative Criticism is its focus on the text itself at the expense of other important considerations."

Consider critically this view. [30]

2 (a) Explain how the title Son of God should be understood. [20]

(b) "The command of Jesus to 'love your enemies' has always been unattainable and continues to have no relevance today."

Critically evaluate this claim. [30]

3 (a) Identify and consider the theological features found only in Luke's account of the crucifixion, death and burial of Jesus (Luke 23:26–56). [20]

(b) "Nothing is more important than the crucifixion and death of Jesus in the Christian faith."

How far do you agree with this view? [30]



Section B

Synoptic Assessment

Theme: Religious Texts, Authority and Interpretation

You **must** answer this question

- 4 (a) "Religious texts provide an explanation for the problem of suffering."

With reference to **one** example, present a case for this statement.  
You must support your answer with reference to at least **one** other unit  
of study.

[20]

- (b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, critically assess the view  
that suffering is the greatest test of faith for all religious believers.

[30]

























































Handwriting practice area consisting of 20 horizontal lines.

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**THIS IS THE END OF THE QUESTION PAPER**

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**DO NOT WRITE ON THIS PAGE**

For Examiner's use only	
Question Number	Marks
1	
2	
3	
4	
<b>Total Marks</b>	

Examiner Number

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