



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 6

*assessing*

Islam in a Contemporary  
Context



**[ARE61]**

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**TUESDAY 10 JUNE, AFTERNOON**

### 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)** Clarify the importance of **either** Tawhid **or** prophets for Muslims. [20]
- (b)** “The challenges of today’s world regarding beliefs and morality make it impossible for Muslims to submit to the will of Allah.”
- Critically assess this view. [30]
- 2 (a)** Outline the struggles the Four Rightly Guided Caliphs faced after the death of Muhammad. [20]
- (b)** “The conflict between Sunni and Shi’a is more about leadership and power than anything else.”
- To what extent do you agree with this claim? [30]
- 3 (a)** Clarify how the Qur’an improved the status of women in relation to marriage and divorce. [20]
- (b)** “Islam accepts a woman’s right to choose when it comes to reproductive issues.”
- Consider critically this view. [30]



Section B

Synoptic Assessment

Theme: Conflict, Freedom of Belief and Orthodoxy

You **must** answer this question

- 4 (a) “Freedom of religious belief is a problem for religious communities.”

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) “Reformation and change are seen as a threat by religious believers.”

To what extent do you agree with this claim?

You must refer to other aspects of human experience in your answer.

[30]

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

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

Examiner Number

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