



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)
General Certificate of Education
2015

Religious Studies

Assessment Unit AS 7

assessing

An Introduction to Philosophy of Religion

MV18

[AR171]

TUESDAY 23 JUNE, AFTERNOON

TIME

1 hour 20 minutes, plus your additional time allowance.

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 at the end of each question indicate the marks awarded to each question or part question.

ADVICE TO CANDIDATES

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

Section A

Answer **one** question from Section A

- 1 (a) Describe and explain the views of dualism concerning life after death. [35 marks]
- (b) Comment on the claim that there are serious philosophical problems with belief in the afterlife. Justify your answer. [15 marks]

- 2 (a) “God is the first and final cause for everything that exists.”

With particular reference to this statement, explain the Cosmological argument. [35 marks]

- (b) Explore the view that modern science and philosophy no longer find the Cosmological argument compelling. Justify your answer. [15 marks]

Section B

Answer **one** question from Section B

- 3 (a)** With reference to mystics you have studied, describe and explain the main features of mysticism. [35 marks]
- (b)** With reference to other aspects of human experience, explore the claim that spirituality is no longer relevant. Justify your answer. [15 marks]
- 4 (a)** Give a detailed account of the teachings of Irenaeus concerning the nature and purpose of evil. [35 marks]
- (b)** With reference to other aspects of human experience, comment on the view that in a world of great evil and suffering, belief in God merely offers hope and comfort. Justify your answer. [15 marks]

