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General Certificate of Education

2015

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# Religious Studies

Assessment Unit A2 4

*assessing*

The Continued Development of the  
Christian Church in the Roman Empire  
to 325 AD



AR241

**[AR241]**

**TUESDAY 19 MAY, MORNING**

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## TIME

2 hours.

## INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.  
Answer **two** questions from Section A and answer the compulsory question in Section B.

## INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 150.

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

Figures in brackets printed down the right-hand side of pages 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 **two** questions from this section

- 1 (a) With particular reference to Justin Martyr and Hippolytus, discuss the development of the doctrine and practice of the Eucharist during the first three centuries. [30]
- (b) “The Eucharist, is without doubt, the most important focus of Christian worship.”  
Critically evaluate this statement. [20]
- 2 (a) Outline and discuss the content of Irenaeus’ polemic against heresy. [30]
- (b) Critically evaluate the claim that Marcionism posed a greater threat to the Early Church than any other heresy. [20]
- 3 (a) Analyse and explain the contribution which Origen made to the development of theology in the Christian Church. [30]
- (b) With particular reference to his Biblical writings, critically assess the view that the writings of Origen still have much to teach the Church today. [20]
- 4 (a) Analyse and discuss the issues which resulted in Constantine calling the Council of Nicaea. [30]
- (b) Critically evaluate the claim that the decisions of the Council significantly shaped the future of the Christian Church. [20]

**Section B**

**Synoptic Assessment**

**Theme: Suffering**

You **must** answer this question

- 5 (a)** With reference to at least **two** different areas of study, outline and examine some major issues which emerge from the problem of suffering. [30]
- (b)** Critically assess the view that it is difficult to believe in a God who permits so much suffering. You should refer to other aspects of human experience in your answer. [20]

