



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)
General Certificate of Education
2017

Religious Studies

Assessment Unit AS 4

assessing

The Christian Church in the
Roman Empire: Beginnings, Expansion
and External Pressure



AR141

[AR141]

THURSDAY 25 MAY, MORNING

TIME

1 hour 20 minutes.

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 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.

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Section A

Answer **one** question from Section A

- 1 (a) Give an account of the conversion of the Emperor Constantine explaining why this event has always provoked debate. [35]
- (b) Explore the claim that the Edict of Milan was a key turning point in the growth of the Christian Church. Justify your answer. [15]
- 2 (a) Describe the main themes in the writings of Justin Martyr with particular reference to the First and Second Apologies. [35]
- (b) Comment on the view that the writings of the Early Church Fathers were vitally important for the survival of the Church in the first two centuries. Justify your answer. [15]

Section B

Answer **one** question from Section B

- 3 (a) Describe and explain how the role of Church leaders changed and developed in the first three centuries. [35]
- (b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, comment on the claim that religious leaders are still influential figures in the twenty-first century. Justify your answer. [15]
- 4 (a) With particular reference to examples from the first three centuries, explain the various factors which caused Christians to be persecuted. [35]
- (b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, explore the view that persecution always hinders the spread of religious faith. Justify your answer. [15]

THIS IS THE END OF THE QUESTION PAPER
