



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)  
General Certificate of Education  
2017

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# Religious Studies

Assessment Unit AS 8  
*assessing*  
An Introduction to the Study of Islam



AR181

[AR181]  
FRIDAY 2 JUNE, MORNING

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## 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) With reference to Muhammad's experiences in Mecca, describe how he was prepared for life as a prophet and leader. [35]
- (b) Comment on the claim that as the prophet of Islam, Muhammad was well received wherever he went. Justify your answer. [15]
- 2 (a) Explain how the Qur'an was compiled and the significance of this sacred text for the Muslim community. [35]
- (b) "The language and structure of the Qur'an make it difficult to put its teachings into practice."  
Comment on this claim. Justify your answer. [15]

## Section B

Answer **one** question from Section B

- 3 (a) Explain the role and significance of the Imam in the Muslim community. [35]
- (b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, explore the view that religious buildings are essential to faith communities. Justify your answer. [15]
- 4 (a) Explain the importance of religious duty in Islam with reference to the pillars of Zakat (Almsgiving) and Sawm (Fasting). [35]
- (b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, comment on the claim that religious faith and practice always leads to suffering. Justify your answer. [15]

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

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