



*Rewarding Learning*

**ADVANCED**

General Certificate of Education

2018

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# Religious Studies

Assessment Unit A2 8

*assessing*

Themes in the Philosophy of Religion



ARE81

**[ARE81]**

**WEDNESDAY 20 JUNE, 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 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 part question in allocating the available examination time.

## Section A

Answer **two** questions from this section

- 1 (a) Explain the challenges that the theory of evolution poses for the Creation Narratives in Genesis. [20]  
  
(b) Critically assess the claim that it is impossible to reconcile scientific and religious world views. [30]
  
- 2 (a) Discuss the place of God in Kant's understanding of the Categorical Imperative. [20]  
  
(b) "If God is dead, then everything is permitted."  
  
Critically evaluate this claim and consider the extent to which morality is possible in the absence of God. [30]
  
- 3 (a) "The notion of life after death is illogical."  
  
With reference to this claim, identify and consider the views of materialism on life after death. [20]  
  
(b) Critically assess John Hick's argument in support of resurrection. [30]

## Section B

### Synoptic Assessment

#### Theme: Faith, Freedom and Atheism

You **must** answer this question

- 4 (a) Discuss how **one** of the principles of Humanism can be shared by religious believers. You must support your answer with reference to at least one other unit of study. [20]

- (b) “The secular world fails to recognise that religious belief is a natural part of what it is to be human.”

Critically assess 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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