



Rewarding Learning
ADVANCED
General Certificate of Education
2019

Religious Studies

Assessment Unit A2 8
assessing
Themes in the Philosophy of Religion



ARE81

[ARE81]
WEDNESDAY 19 JUNE, MORNING

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)** Discuss the implications of the Verification Principle for religious belief. [20]
- (b)** “Religious language is different from ordinary language because it is a different language game.”
- Critically assess this view. [30]
- 2** **(a)** Outline John Hick’s Replica Theory. [20]
- (b)** Critically evaluate the claim that the concept of materialism has successfully disproven the idea of life after death. [30]
- 3** **(a)** Explain the moral argument for God’s existence in the work of Aquinas. [20]
- (b)** Critically assess the claim that morality is simply the result of social conditioning. [30]

Section B

Synoptic Assessment

Theme: Faith, Freedom and Atheism

You **must** answer this question

- 4 (a) "Religion acts as a support for the oppression of humanity."

With reference to **one** example, present a case for this statement. You must support your answer with reference to at least one other unit of study. [20]

- (b) "Atheism offers freedom and the only route to truth."

To what extent is this claim true? You must refer to other aspects of human experience in your answer. [30]

