

General Certificate of Education  
January 2003  
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



**RELIGIOUS STUDIES**  
**Unit 4 An introduction to Religion and Ethics**

**RS04**

Thursday 16 January 2003      Morning Session

**In addition to this paper you will require:**  
an 8-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour 15 minutes

**Instructions**

- Use blue or black ink or ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is RS04.
- Answer **two** questions: **Question 1** and **one** other question.

**Information**

- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- Mark allocations are shown in brackets.
- You will be assessed on your ability to use an appropriate form and style of writing, to organise relevant information clearly and coherently, and to use specialist vocabulary, where appropriate. The degree of legibility of your handwriting and the level of accuracy of your spelling, punctuation and grammar will also be taken into account.

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Answer **Question 1** and **one** other question.

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**1** Read the passage and answer questions (a) to (d) which follow.

“If we apply utilitarian principles to the allocation of resources in medicine, some individuals may be unfairly denied treatment on the grounds of their old age so that more younger patients may be treated. By contrast, religions emphasise the equality of all human beings and therefore a religious approach to allocation would uphold the right of everyone to treatment, irrespective of age.”

- (a) Outline Bentham’s utilitarian principles. *(10 marks)*
- (b) Outline the key features of a utilitarian approach to the allocation of resources in medicine. *(10 marks)*
- (c) Explain how key ideas from the religion you have studied could be applied to the issue of resource allocation in medicine. *(10 marks)*
- (d) Assess the claim that under utilitarian principles “some individuals may be unfairly denied treatment on the grounds of their old age”. *(10 marks)*

**2** (a) Explain how Kant’s categorical imperative might be applied to the use of foetuses in medical research. *(20 marks)*

- (b) (i) Explain how a religious believer might approach the use of foetuses in medical research. *(10 marks)*
- (ii) Assess the claim that religious principles alone should determine how foetuses are treated. *(10 marks)*

**3** (a) Identify and explain a religious perspective on environmental issues. *(20 marks)*

- (b) Explain how a Kantian might approach issues of the use and conservation of natural resources, and assess whether this is the most important way forward for humanity faced with modern environmental dilemmas. *(20 marks)*

**END OF QUESTIONS**