

General Certificate of Education
January 2008
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



RELIGIOUS STUDIES **RS01**
Unit 1 An introduction to Religion and Human Experience

Wednesday 16 January 2008 9.00 am to 10.00 am

For this paper you must have:

- an 8-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour

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 RS01.
- Answer **two** questions.
Answer **Question 1** and **one** other question.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 60.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- You will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise information clearly and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

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

1 Read this passage and answer parts (a) and (b) which follow.

‘Almost everyone agrees that religious experience and scripture are very important in religion, but not everyone agrees about how and why they are important. This is partly because there are different views about the definition of religious experience and different views about the nature of scripture.’

(a) State and explain **one** definition of religious experience. *(10 marks)*

(b) Summarise the beliefs found in **one** religion about the nature of scripture. *(10 marks)*

2 (a) Explain the distinctive features of the following form of religious experience: conversion. *(15 marks)*

(b) Explain the role of religious experience as a source of authority in religion, and assess the view that religious experience cannot be trusted as a source of authority in religion today. *(25 marks)*

3 (a) Explain the role of scripture in religion. *(15 marks)*

(b) ‘Passages of scripture may be interpreted in different ways.’

Explain this statement, and assess the view that, because scripture can be interpreted in different ways, it divides believers rather than unites them. *(25 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS