



General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Subsidiary Examination  
January 2009

## Religious Studies

## RSS04

Unit D Religion, Philosophy and Science

Thursday 15 January 2009 1.30 pm to 2.45 pm

**For this paper you must have:**

- an 8-page answer book.

**Time allowed**

- 1 hour 15 minutes

**Instructions**

- Use black ink or black 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 RSS04.
- Answer **two** questions.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work that you do not want to be marked.

**Information**

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 90.
- In each question, part (a) tests your knowledge and understanding, while part (b) tests your skills of reasoning and evaluation.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
  - use good English
  - organise information clearly
  - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

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Answer **two** questions.

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- 1** (a) Explain the arguments of David Hume against miracles. *(30 marks)*
- (b) Assess the view that miracles undermine religious belief in God. *(15 marks)*
- 2** (a) Explain scientific theories about the nature and origin of the universe. *(30 marks)*
- (b) To what extent do scientific theories about the nature and origin of the universe conflict with religious beliefs about creation? *(15 marks)*
- 3** (a) Explain the main features of the design argument for the existence of God. *(30 marks)*
- (b) ‘Science makes the design argument irrelevant.’
- Assess this claim. *(15 marks)*
- 4** (a) Explain how the development of quantum mechanics has changed the way some scientists view reality. *(30 marks)*
- (b) ‘The science of quantum mechanics makes religious belief more credible.’
- Assess this view. *(15 marks)*

**END OF QUESTIONS**