



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
June 2009

Religious Studies

RSS03

Unit C Philosophy of Religion

Specimen paper for examinations in June 2010 onwards

This question paper uses the new numbering system and new AQA answer book

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 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 RSS03.
- 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, the first part tests your knowledge and understanding, while the second part 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.

Answer **two** questions.

Each question has **two** parts. Answer **both** parts of each question chosen.

Question 1 The cosmological argument

0 1 Explain Aquinas' cosmological argument. *(30 marks)*

AND

0 2 Assess how far Aquinas' cosmological argument shows that it is reasonable to believe in God. *(15 marks)*

Question 2 Religious experience

0 3 Examine the variety of forms of religious experience. *(30 marks)*

AND

0 4 'Only those who have had a religious experience can fully understand what a religious experience is.'

Assess this claim. *(15 marks)*

Question 3 Psychology and religion

0 5 Explain how psychology may challenge religious belief. *(30 marks)*

AND

0 6 'Religion has been successful in responding to the challenges of psychology.'

To what extent do you agree? *(15 marks)*

Question 4 Atheism and postmodernism

0 7 Explain **each** of the following terms: positive atheism, negative atheism, agnosticism. *(30 marks)*

AND

0 6 To what extent is religion in retreat in the modern world? *(15 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS