Religious Studies RSS03

Unit C Philosophy of Religion

Monday 7 June 2010 9.00 am to 10.15 am

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.

RSS03

Answer **two** questions.

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

Question 1 The cosmological argument

| 0 | 1 | Explain the cosmological argument with particular reference to:

- the rejection of infinite regress, **and**
- God as the necessary being. *(30 marks)*

and

| 0 | 2 | Assess how far the cosmological argument proves that God exists. *(15 marks)*

Question 2 Religious experience

| 0 | 3 | Examine how religious experience might be challenged by philosophy **and** by science.
(30 marks)

and

| 0 | 4 | How successful are these challenges? *(15 marks)*

Question 3 Psychology and religion

| 0 | 5 | Examine Freud's view of religious belief. *(30 marks)*

and

| 0 | 6 | 'There is a strong relationship between religion and unbalanced mental health.'

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

Question 4 Atheism and postmodernism

| 0 | 7 | Examine reasons which have been suggested for the rise of atheism. *(30 marks)*

and

| 0 | 8 | 'Religion has responded successfully to the challenge of atheism.'

Assess this claim. *(15 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS