



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Level Examination
June 2013

Religious Studies

RST4A

**Unit 4A Life, Death and Beyond OR
Perceptions of Ultimate Reality OR
Religious Experience**

Friday 14 June 2013 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-page answer book.

Time allowed

- 1 hour 30 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 RST4A.
- Choose **one** section only
 - Section A Life, Death and Beyond page 2
 - Section B Perceptions of Ultimate Reality page 3
 - Section C Religious Experience page 4
- Answer **one** question.
Each question has **two** parts.
- 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 75.
- 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.

Section A LIFE, DEATH AND BEYOND

Answer **one** question.

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

Question 1

0 1 Examine religious and secular perspectives on the nature of human life. (45 marks)

and

0 2 'Religious perspectives on human life are far more positive than secular perspectives.'
Discuss how far you agree. (30 marks)

Question 2

0 3 Examine religious and non-religious ideas about, and attitudes to, death. (45 marks)

and

0 4 'A belief in life after death is both unreasonable and irrelevant.'
Discuss how far you agree. (30 marks)

Section B PERCEPTIONS OF ULTIMATE REALITY

Answer **one** question.

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

Question 3

0	5
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Examine differing understandings of the relationship between God/Ultimate Reality and:

- the physical world
- the human situation.

(45 marks)

and

0	6
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'A study of the physical world cannot give an adequate understanding of God/Ultimate Reality.'

Discuss how far you agree.

(30 marks)

Question 4

0	7
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Examine ways in which religious language expresses ideas about God/Ultimate Reality.

(45 marks)

and

0	8
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'Understanding God/Ultimate Reality depends on religious experience, not on words.'

Discuss how far you agree.

(30 marks)

Turn over for Section C

Turn over ►

Section C RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE

Answer **one** question.

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

Question 5

0 9 Examine how the following types of religious experience may be identified:

- visions
- mystical experiences. *(45 marks)*

and

1 0 'Religious experience cannot be verified.'

Discuss how far you agree. *(30 marks)*

Question 6

1 1 Examine the role of religious experience in:

- the foundation of **one or more** religion(s)
- the lives of believers today. *(45 marks)*

and

1 2 'People cannot know that they have experienced God/Ultimate Reality.'

Discuss how far you agree. *(30 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS