Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)
General Certificate of Education
2014

Religious Studies

Assessment Unit AS 4

assessing

The Christian Church in the
Roman Empire: Beginnings, Expansion
and External Pressure

[AR141]

MONDAY 16 JUNE, AFTERNOON

AR141

TIME

1 hour 20 minutes.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.
Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 100.
Quality of written communication will be assessed in **all** questions.
Figures in brackets printed down the right-hand side of pages indicate the marks
awarded to each question or part question.

ADVICE TO CANDIDATES

You are advised to take account of the marks for each question or part question in allocating the
available examination time.

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Section A

Answer **one** question from Section A

1 **(a)** Describe and explain the contents of Pliny's letter to Trajan and Trajan's reply. [35]

(b) Explore the claim that this correspondence clearly reflects the Roman attitude towards Christians at this time. Justify your answer. [15]

2 **(a)** Describe the main themes in the writings of Justin Martyr, with particular reference to the Dialogue with Trypho. [35]

(b) Comment on the claim that Justin's writings provide a valuable, but limited source of information about the Church at that time. Justify your answer. [15]

Section B

Answer **one** question from Section B

3 **(a)** Explain how the doctrine of Apostolic Succession developed over the first three centuries. [35]

(b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, comment on the view that the authority of religious leaders has always been a difficult issue. Justify your answer. [15]

4 **(a)** Describe the conversion of the Emperor Constantine and the impact of this event for the Christian Church. [35]

(b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, explore the view that religion and politics should always be considered as separate issues. Justify your answer. [15]