



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)
General Certificate of Education
2014

Religious Studies

Assessment Unit AS 8

assessing

An Introduction to the Study of Islam

[AR181]

MONDAY 23 JUNE, AFTERNOON



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) Explain the reasons for the rapid spread of Islam in the first two centuries. [35]
- (b) Explore the view that Muhammad was able to bring changes to Arabia because Allah called him to be his prophet. Justify your answer. [15]
- 2 (a) Explain the process of the compilation of the Qur'an, commenting in particular on its final structure. [35]
- (b) Comment on the claim that the language of the Qur'an makes it difficult to use in worship. Justify your answer. [15]

Section B

Answer **one** question from Section B

- 3 (a) Describe and explain the Pillar of Sawm (fasting) and the festival of Eid ul Fitr. [35]
- (b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, explore the view that religious rituals help believers to think more about God and other people. Justify your answer. [15]
- 4 (a) Describe and explain key events in Muhammad's life, from his childhood to the Hijra (migration). [35]
- (b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, comment on the claim that religious leaders should expect to be challenged. Justify your answer. [15]

