



*Rewarding Learning*

**ADVANCED**  
General Certificate of Education  
2016

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## **Religious Studies**

Assessment Unit A2 4

*assessing*

The Continued Development of the  
Christian Church in the Roman Empire  
to 325 AD

**[AR241]**

**FRIDAY 27 MAY, MORNING**

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**MV18**

### **Time**

2 hours, plus your additional time allowance.

### **Instructions to Candidates**

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.

Answer **two** questions from Section A and answer the compulsory question in Section B.

### **Information for Candidates**

The total mark for this paper is 150.

Quality of written communication will be assessed in **all** questions. Figures in brackets printed at the end of each question 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 **two** questions from this section

- 1 (a) With particular reference to The Didache, Hippolytus and Cyprian, explain the doctrine and practice of Baptism as it developed in the first three centuries.  
[30 marks]
  
- (b) Critically assess the view that the sacraments are no longer important in the life of the Church.  
[20 marks]
  
- 2 (a) Discuss the main characteristics of Gnosticism and give reasons why the Church condemned it as a heresy.  
[30 marks]
  
- (b) Critically evaluate the view that the existence of heresy had positive benefits for the Early Church. [20 marks]

**3 (a)** Outline and consider the contribution made by Tertullian to the development of doctrine and practice in the Early Church. [30 marks]

**(b)** “Tertullian’s writings are irrelevant for the Church today.”

Critically assess this view. [20 marks]

**4 (a)** Discuss the main teachings of Arius and consider why they were seen as so threatening to the Church at that time. [30 marks]

**(b)** Critically evaluate the view that the Council of Nicaea was not totally successful. [20 marks]

## Section B

### Synoptic Assessment

#### Theme: Suffering

You **must** answer this question

- 5 (a)** With reference to at least **two** different areas of study, identify and consider how some key religious figures responded to the problem of suffering. [30 marks]
- (b)** Critically assess the view that religious faith makes suffering more bearable. You should refer to other aspects of human experience in your answer. [20 marks]







