



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED

General Certificate of Education

2016

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# Religious Studies

Assessment Unit A2 8

*assessing*

Islam: Law, Tradition and Practice



AR281

**[AR281]**

**FRIDAY 3 JUNE, MORNING**

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## TIME

2 hours.

## 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 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.

## Section A

Answer **two** questions from this section

- 1 (a) With reference to relevant Surahs, outline and discuss the Qur'anic teaching on the role and status of women. [30]
- (b) Critically assess the view that obedience to the Qur'an poses many challenges for Muslims in the modern world. [20]
- 2 (a) Analyse the importance and significance of rights of passage, with particular reference to birth and death rituals. [30]
- (b) "Preserving life is extremely important in the Islamic community."  
Critically evaluate this view. [20]
- 3 (a) Outline and examine the events which led to the split between Sunni and Shia Islam. [30]
- (b) Critically evaluate the claim that Sunni and Shia Islam are so different that they appear to be different religions. [20]
- 4 (a) Analyse and discuss the importance of Islamic teaching on Angels and Prophets (Risalah). [30]
- (b) Critically assess the view that a single correct interpretation of the Qur'an is not possible. [20]

## Section B

### Synoptic Assessment

#### Theme: Orthodoxy

You **must** answer this question

- 5 (a) With reference to at least **two** different areas of study, examine the major issues which have arisen from debates relating to orthodoxy. [30]
- (b) Critically assess the view that debates over orthodoxy and orthopraxy are very damaging to religious faith. You should refer to other aspects of human experience in your answer. [20]

