



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED

General Certificate of Education

2016

Religious Studies

Assessment Unit A2 5

assessing

A study of the development and impact
of the Celtic Church in the
5th, 6th and 7th centuries



AR251

[AR251]

FRIDAY 27 MAY, MORNING

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) Outline and examine the problems associated with the dating and geography of the historical Patrick. [30]
- (b) Critically assess the view that in spite of the historical difficulties surrounding Patrick, his standing as the founder of Christianity in Ireland has not diminished. [20]
- 2 (a) "Hagiographical writings are collections of visions, prophecies and miracles associated with a saint."
Explain and consider this statement with particular reference to Adomnán's **Life of Colmcille**. [30]
- (b) Critically assess the value and importance of hagiographical writings. [20]
- 3 (a) Identify and consider the contribution of the two Rules of Columbanus to the development of monasticism. [30]
- (b) "Monastic discipline of the type advocated by Columbanus is irrelevant for people today."
Critically assess this view. [20]
- 4 (a) With particular reference to the available evidence, analyse and discuss the validity of the claims of Armagh. [30]
- (b) Critically assess the view that disputes over authority and leadership continue to damage the Church. [20]

Section B

Synoptic Assessment

Theme: Holiness

You **must** answer this question

- 5 (a) With reference to at least **two** different areas of study, outline and examine the major issues in relation to the idea of holiness. [30]
- (b) Critically assess the view that holiness is only achieved through personal faith in God. You should refer to other aspects of human experience in your answer. [20]

