

Write your name here

Surname	Other names
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Centre Number

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Candidate Number

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**Edexcel GCE**

**Religious Studies**

**Advanced**

**Unit 4: Implications – The Study of Philosophy of Religion**

Thursday 17 June 2010 – Morning <b>Time: 1 hour 15 minutes</b>	Paper Reference <b>6RS04/1A</b>
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**You do not need any other materials.**

Total Marks

### Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Read the passage carefully.
- Answer **BOTH** part (a) and part (b) of the question.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided  
– *there may be more space than you need.*

### Information

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets  
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*
- Quality of written communication will be taken into account in the marking of all your responses.  
– *you should take particular care with your spelling, punctuation and grammar, as well as the clarity of expression, on these questions.*

### Advice

- The assessment of your answers will be based on your knowledge and understanding of the topic in question (for 60% of the marks) and your evaluative skills (for 40% of the marks).

Turn over ►

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## Philosophy of Religion

'Why all this talk about arguing from religious experience?' 'If you really experience God you don't have to argue, you *know* he's real, and that's all there is to it.' So if we are trying to do justice to the varieties of religious experience, we must take seriously this particular type, the sense of knowledge arising from inner conviction.

It is a risky business, of course, to claim to know something and to act as though one knows for sure, if one can't give much in the way of reasons for one's claim ... To have no doubts at all about one's beliefs may sometimes be more a symptom of insanity or arrogant irresponsibility than of sound thinking. Yet believers, aware of all of these risks, may still feel they have a right to say they know because they experience God's reality for themselves.

(Source: Donovan, P. Can we know God by experience?  
In Davies, B. (ed) *Philosophy of Religion: a guide and anthology*, Oxford University Press, 2000, p113)

1. (a) Examine the argument and/or interpretation in the passage. (30)
- (b) Do you agree with the idea(s) expressed? Justify your point of view and discuss its implications for understanding religion and human experience. (20)

(Total 50 marks)

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**TOTAL FOR PAPER 1A: 50 MARKS**

**Start your answer on page 3.**



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Lined writing area for student responses.

**TOTAL FOR PAPER 1A: 50 MARKS**

**END**

