

553/01

**RELIGIOUS STUDIES RS 3a**

**An Introduction to Religion and Ethics**

A.M. TUESDAY, 17 January 2006

(1 hour)

**ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

In addition to this examination paper, you will need an 8 page answer book.

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Answer **Question 1** and **one** other question.

Write your answers in the separate answer book provided.

**INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

All questions carry 20 marks. The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.

All questions should be answered in continuous prose. Quality of Written Communication will be assessed in all questions.

*Answer Question 1 and one other question.*

1.

A surgeon is allocated the time and resources to perform an extra transplant operation. Two of her seriously ill patients would benefit from an immediate transplant. One is a middle-aged, unmarried research scientist working on a cure for cancer. The other is a single mother with two children.

- (a) Use Bentham's hedonic calculus to decide which of the above two patients should have the transplant operation. [10]
- (b) Explain why the surgeon, if she had a deep religious faith, might have doubts about applying the principles of Utilitarianism to this situation. [10]
2. (a) Explain Aquinas' moral theory of Natural Law. [10]
- (b) 'The moral theory of Natural Law provides religious believers with sound guidance on sexual ethics.'  
Assess this view. [10]
3. (a) Explain how the principles of Situation Ethics might be applied to the issue of sex before marriage. [10]
- (b) Determine how far Situation Ethics is consistent with a religious approach to moral decision-making. [10]