



GCE AS/A level

552/02

RELIGIOUS STUDIES - RS 2b
An Introduction to Philosophy
of Religion

P.M. TUESDAY, 3 June 2008

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.

The cosmological and teleological arguments for the existence of God work. This is due to the fact that we live in a sensible universe. When we observe its workings we can deduce the possibility that the universe did not just happen by chance. Questions may still arise as to whether we live in an ordered universe and where the universe came from.

- (a) Describe any **one** of the arguments for the existence of God referred to in the above passage. [10]
- (b) Explain the weaknesses of the argument that you have chosen. [10]
- 2.** (a) Outline the problem of evil and describe how the Augustinian theodicy attempts to overcome it. [10]
- (b) Assess the view that the Augustinian theodicy is unacceptable in the modern world. [10]
- 3.** (a) Outline the problem of evil and describe how the Irenaean theodicy attempts to overcome it. [10]
- (b) Assess the view that the Irenaean theodicy presents more difficulties than it solves. [10]