



GCE AS/A level

1347/01

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

RS1/2 WR - Introduction to Western Religions

A.M. THURSDAY, 26 May 2011

1¹/₄ hours

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

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

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen.

Answer questions from **one** section only, **either** Section A **or** Section B.

Write your answers in the separate answer book provided.

Write the number of each question you answer both alongside your answer and on the front cover of the answer book.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Each question carries 45 marks.

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

Part (*a*) of each question tests your knowledge and understanding.

Part (*b*) of each question tests your skills of reasoning and evaluation.

You are reminded of the need for good English and orderly, clear presentation in your answers. All questions should be answered in continuous prose. Assessment will take into account the quality of written communication in all your answers.

Answer questions from one section only either Section A or Section B.

Section A: Introduction to Islam

Answer two questions.

1. (a) Examine the use of the Qur'an in worship and daily life. [30]
(b) 'The teachings of the Qur'an are more relevant in the 21st Century than ever before.'
Assess this view. [15]

2. (a) Explain the significance of the sunna and hadith of Muhammad. [30]
(b) 'There is no problem in using the actions and teachings of Muhammad as guidance for Muslim conduct today.'
Assess this view. [15]

3. (a) Explain the significance of the role of shahadah and zakah in the ummah. [30]
(b) 'Performing the pillars is the most important aspect of Islam today.'
Assess this view. [15]

4. (a) Examine the beliefs and practices of marriage in Islam. [30]
(b) 'In Islam, arranged marriages guarantee happiness.'
Assess this view. [15]

Section B: Introduction to Judaism

Answer two questions.

1. (a) Examine the role of the Torah in Judaism. [30]
(b) 'Study of the Torah is the most important practice for all Jews.'
Assess this view. [15]

2. (a) Explain Jewish understanding of the Covenant. [30]
(b) 'The Covenant is a burden rather than a blessing to Jews.'
Assess this view. [15]

3. (a) Outline the practice and beliefs of Pesach. [30]
(b) 'The emphasis on history is the most important aspect of all Jewish festivals.'
Assess this view. [15]

4. (a) Outline the importance and practices of Jewish family life. [30]
(b) 'The traditions of Jewish family life must change in the 21st Century or Judaism will die.'
Assess this view. [15]