



GCE A level

1348/07

RELIGIOUS STUDIES – RS3 WR
Studies in Western Religions

A.M. THURSDAY, 6 June 2013

1¾ hours

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

In addition to this examination paper, you will need a 12 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 50 marks.

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each 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: Studies in Islam

Answer two questions.

1. (a) Explain what is known about the history of the formation of the Qur'an. [30]
(b) 'The Qur'an is the complete and final revelation of Allah.'
Assess this view. [20]

2. (a) Explain how key historical events have caused division between Sunni and Shi'a Muslims. [30]
(b) 'The similarities between Sunni and Shi'a Islam are more significant than the differences.'
Evaluate this view. [20]

3. (a) Examine Muslim understandings of the importance of family life. [30]
(b) 'The role given to women in Muslim family life means that men and women cannot be considered equals today.'
Assess this view. [20]

4. (a) Examine Western perceptions of Islam. [30]
(b) 'The media's presentation of Islam in the West fuels the growth of fundamentalist Islam.'
Evaluate this view. [20]

Section B: Studies in Judaism

Answer two questions.

1. (a) Examine the beliefs and practices of Kabbalah. [30]
(b) 'The Zohar has no place in the traditional study of the Torah.'
Assess this view. [20]

2. (a) Examine how Judaism is practised in the home. [30]
(b) 'The practice of Judaism in the home is essential for the survival of Judaism.'
Evaluate this view. [20]

3. (a) Examine different Jewish views on strict obedience to the Torah. [30]
(b) 'It is the strict regulations about Shabbat observance that make it difficult for Jews to assimilate to secular Britain.'
Assess this view. [20]

4. (a) Examine the key factors that led to the emergence of the Zionist movement. [30]
(b) 'A person cannot belong to the Jewish faith without being a Zionist.'
Evaluate this view. [20]