



GCE AS/A level

1343/01

RELIGIOUS STUDIES – RS1/2 PHIL
Introduction to Philosophy of Religion

A.M. FRIDAY, 17 January 2014

1 hour 15 minutes

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 **two** questions.

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 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 two questions.

1. (a) Explain the main arguments against the cosmological argument for the existence of God. [30]
(b) Assess how far the cosmological argument is convincing. [15]

2. (a) Explain how the existence of God may be proved by teleological arguments. [30]
(b) 'Teleological arguments for God's existence are entirely discredited by scientific evidence.'
Assess this view. [15]

3. (a) Explain why the existence of evil challenges traditional beliefs about God. [30]
(b) 'Augustine's theodicy solves the problem of the existence of evil.'
Assess this view. [15]

4. (a) Examine how problems of objectivity and authenticity present a challenge to mysticism. [30]
(b) 'Religious belief is founded entirely on mystical experience.'
Assess this view. [15]

END OF PAPER