



GCE A level

1349/01

RELIGIOUS STUDIES – RS4 HE

Studies in Religion and Human Experience

P.M. WEDNESDAY, 17 June 2015

1 hour 45 minutes plus your additional time allowance

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

In addition to this examination paper, you will need a 12 page answer book.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink, black ball-point pen or your usual method.

Answer ONE question.

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 75 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 ONE question.

1. RELIGIOUS AUTHORITY

You must show knowledge and understanding of how religious leaders AND sacred writings are used as a source of religious authority and be able to evaluate whether religious leaders OR sacred writings are considered to be the most important form of authority for religious believers.

- (a) Explain the variety of different ways in which religious leaders AND sacred writings are used as sources of authority in religion. [45]**

- (b) 'Religious leaders are more important than sacred writings for religious believers.' Evaluate this statement. [30]**

2. RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE

You must show knowledge and understanding of distinctive features of religious experience and be able to evaluate alternative explanations of experiences claimed as religious.

- (a) Examine a variety of distinctive features of religious experience. [45]**
- (b) 'Religious experiences are totally different from natural experiences.'
Evaluate this statement. [30]**

3. LIFE, DEATH AND LIFE AFTER DEATH

You must show knowledge and understanding of religious beliefs about the nature and purpose of life and be able to evaluate whether religious beliefs about life are important in society today.

- (a) Explain a variety of religious beliefs about the nature and purpose of life. [45]**
- (b) 'Religious beliefs about life have no significance.'
Evaluate this statement. [30]**

END OF PAPER