

General Certificate of Education
June 2004
Advanced Level Examination



RELIGIOUS STUDIES
Unit 11 Studies in the Philosophy of Religion

RS11

Wednesday 16 June 2004 Morning Session

In addition to this paper you will require:
a 12-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use blue or black ink or ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is RS11.
- Answer **two** questions.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 100.
- Mark allocations are shown in brackets.
- You will be assessed on your ability to use an appropriate form and style of writing, to organise relevant information clearly and coherently, and to use specialist vocabulary, where appropriate. The degree of legibility of your handwriting and the level of accuracy of your spelling, punctuation and grammar will also be taken into account.

Answer **two** questions.

- 1 (a) Outline **both** the cosmological argument as presented by the Kalam tradition **and** the ontological argument as presented by Anselm. (20 marks)
- (b) “There is *a posteriori* and *a priori* reasoning. There are inductive and deductive arguments.”
- Explain the type of reasoning and argument used in the ontological argument, and assess how far the argument proves the existence of God. (30 marks)
- 2 (a) Explain how natural evil may be seen as a challenge to belief in God and how the Irenaean theodicy deals with this challenge. (20 marks)
- (b) Explain how the Augustinian theodicy deals with the problem of natural evil, and assess how far the Irenaean and Augustinian theodicies succeed in dealing with this problem. (30 marks)
- 3 (a) Examine the main features of near-death experiences. (20 marks)
- (b) Explain the issues that arise in attempting to authenticate near-death experiences, and assess the claim that near-death experiences can never be authenticated. (30 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS