

General Certificate of Education
January 2005
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



RELIGIOUS STUDIES **RS01**
Unit 1 An introduction to Religion and Human Experience

Monday 17 January 2005 Morning Session

In addition to this paper you will require:
an 8-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour

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 RS01.
- Answer **two** questions: **Question 1** and **one** other question.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 60.
- 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 **Question 1** and **one** other question.

1 Read the passage and answer questions (a) and (b) which follow.

“Believers study their scriptures, looking within them for spiritual truths. What they find are passages that may be interpreted in a variety of ways; for example, some passages of scripture may be interpreted symbolically. Religious experiences are also open to interpretation; for example, a vision can mean one thing to one believer and something very different to another.”

(a) “Passages of scripture may be interpreted symbolically.”

Explain what this means.

(10 marks)

(b) Explain why “a vision can mean one thing to one believer and something very different to another.”

(10 marks)

2 (a) State and explain **two** definitions of religious experience.

(15 marks)

(b) Explain the role of religious experience as an inspiration for faith, and assess the view that religious experience has little authority in religion today.

(25 marks)

3 (a) Explain the use of scriptures as both a guide and inspiration for religious practice.

(15 marks)

(b) Explain the other sources of religious practice found in religion today, and assess the view that the scriptures are the most important source of religious practice.

(25 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS