

General Certificate of Education
June 2005
Advanced Level Examination



RELIGIOUS STUDIES **RS12**
Unit 12 Studies in Religion and Human Experience

Wednesday 29 June 2005 Afternoon Session

In addition to this paper you will require:

- a 12-page answer book.
- The use of additional materials and texts is **not** permitted.

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 RS12.
- Answer **one** question.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- 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 **one** question.

Religious Experience

- 1 (a) Examine the different descriptions and definitions of religious experience that scholars have provided. *(20 marks)*
- (b) (i) Choose **one** religion and explain what importance it gives to claims of religious experience.
- (ii) Assess the value of religious experience for religious and non-religious people today. *(30 marks)*
- 2 (a) Examine ways in which a religious experience might be verified. *(20 marks)*
- (b) (i) Examine the relationship some people see between faith and religious experience.
- (ii) Assess the influence religious experience has had upon religious practice and teaching about moral behaviour. *(30 marks)*

Religious Authority

- 3 (a) “Religion relies upon authority.”
- Examine this statement with reference to one or more religion(s) you have studied. *(20 marks)*
- (b) “All religious authority is ultimately human.”
- Explain what this statement means, and assess how far it is true. *(30 marks)*
- 4 (a) “Religious authority is challenged on every front, both from within a tradition and from outside.”
- Examine evidence for this claim. *(20 marks)*
- (b) Explain how religion challenges secular authority, and assess how successful these religious challenges are. *(30 marks)*

Life, Death and Beyond

5 (a) Examine different religious beliefs about death and beyond. *(20 marks)*

(b) “The way people live is affected by ideas about death and beyond.”

Explain the meaning of this statement, and assess how far it is true for people today. *(30 marks)*

6 (a) Examine religious perspectives on the nature of human life. *(20 marks)*

(b) (i) Explain what is meant by ‘concepts of spiritual life’.

(ii) “Life is just a preparation for death.”

Assess this claim. *(30 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

THERE ARE NO QUESTIONS PRINTED ON THIS PAGE