



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
June 2011

Religious Studies

RSS03

Unit C Philosophy of Religion

Thursday 26 May 2011 9.00 am to 10.15 am

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 8-page answer book.

Time allowed

- 1 hour 15 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black 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 RSS03.
- Answer **two** questions.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work that you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 90.
- In each question, the first part tests your knowledge and understanding, while the second part tests your skills of reasoning and evaluation.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Answer **two** questions.

Each question has **two** parts. Answer **both** parts of each question chosen.

Question 1 The Cosmological argument

0 1 Explain the weaknesses of the cosmological argument. *(30 marks)*

and

0 2 To what extent do the strengths of the cosmological argument outweigh its weaknesses? *(15 marks)*

Question 2 Religious experience

0 3 Examine the main characteristics of **both** visions **and** conversion experiences. *(30 marks)*

and

0 4 'All religious experiences have natural explanations.'
Assess this claim. *(15 marks)*

Question 3 Psychology and religion

0 5 Explain why Jung's understanding of religious belief may be seen as more positive than that of Freud. *(30 marks)*

and

0 6 'Religion has been successful in its response to psychology's challenges to religious belief.'
Assess this claim. *(15 marks)*

Question 4 Atheism and postmodernism

0 7 Explain the key ideas of a postmodernist view of religion. *(30 marks)*

and

0 8 'Postmodernism is an affirmation of religion rather than a denial.'
Assess this claim. *(15 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS