



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
June 2012

Religious Studies

RSS08

Unit H Religion and Contemporary Society

Wednesday 16 May 2012 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 RSS08.
- 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 Changing patterns of religious practice in the UK during the 20th century

0 | 1 Examine the changing patterns of membership within Christianity in the UK during the 20th century. *(30 marks)*

and

0 | 2 'These changing patterns of membership are due to changes in society rather than to changes in belief.'

Assess this claim. *(15 marks)*

Question 2 Expressions of religion within society

0 | 3 Examine the authority of the various types of religious leaders today. *(30 marks)*

and

0 | 4 'Religious leaders are the most important source of authority for religious believers today.'

How far do you agree? *(15 marks)*

Question 3 Issues of identity and belonging

0 | 5 Examine the times and facilities needed for the practice of religion in the UK today. You may refer to one or more religion(s) in your answer. *(30 marks)*

and

0 | 6 'It is not reasonable for all religious groups to expect that there should be times and facilities for the practice of their religion.'

How far do you agree? *(15 marks)*

Question 4 An introduction to New Religious Movements (NRMs)

0 | 7 Examine the nature of New Religious Movements (NRMs). *(30 marks)*

and

0 | 8 'New Religious Movements are only ever short-lived.'

Assess this claim. *(15 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS