



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED
General Certificate of Education
2013

Religious Studies
Assessment Unit A2 4

assessing

The Continued Development of the
Christian Church in the Roman Empire
to 325 AD

[AR241]

FRIDAY 24 MAY, AFTERNOON



AR241

TIME

2 hours.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the answer booklet provided.
Answer **two** questions from Section A and answer the compulsory question in Section B.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 150.
Quality of written communication will be assessed in **all** questions.
Figures in brackets printed down the right-hand side of pages indicate the marks awarded to each question or part question.

ADVICE TO CANDIDATES

You are advised to take account of the marks for each question or part question in allocating the available examination time.

Section A

Answer **two** questions from this section

- 1 (a) With reference to relevant sources, examine the teaching of the Early Church on sin and repentance. [30]
- (b) "The Church no longer has the power to impose effective sanctions on its members." Critically assess this statement. [20]
- 2 (a) With reference to relevant sources, outline and explain the origins and main characteristics of Gnosticism. [30]
- (b) Critically evaluate the claim that the challenge of heresy made the Church grow stronger. [20]
- 3 (a) Outline and consider how the writings of any major Christian writer you have studied contributed to the development of the Early Church. [30]
- (b) Critically assess the view that the study of early Christian literature has value for the Church in any age. [20]
- 4 (a) Identify and explain the main causes of the Arian controversy. [30]
- (b) Critically assess the view that the Council of Nicaea was a turning point in the history of the Christian Church. [20]

Section B

Synoptic Assessment

Theme: Suffering

You **must** answer this question

- 5 (a) With reference to at least **two** different areas of study, consider the contribution of some key people to the problem of suffering. [30]
- (b) Critically evaluate the view that the religious believer should always accept suffering as the will of God. You should refer to other aspects of human experience in your answer. [20]

