



**General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Subsidiary/Advanced**

553/01

**RELIGIOUS STUDIES RS 3α  
An Introduction to Religion  
and Ethics**

A.M. WEDNESDAY, 16 January 2008  
(1 hour)

**ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

In addition to this examination paper, you will need an 8 page answer book.

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Answer **Question 1** and **one** other question.

Write your answers in the separate answer book provided.

**INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

All questions carry 20 marks. The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.

All questions should be answered in continuous prose. Quality of Written Communication will be assessed in all questions.

Answer **Question 1** and **one other question**.

1.

A religious leader made a speech in which he attacked relativism. He said: "Being an 'adult' means having a faith which does not follow the waves of today's fashions."  
He was saying that, when making moral choices, religious believers should follow the absolutist approach taken by Natural Law, which provides its followers with God-given guidance.

- (a) Outline the major features of Aquinas' *Natural Law* theory. [10]
- (b) Explain the strengths and weaknesses of Natural Law as an ethical theory. [10]
2. (a) Outline the Utilitarian arguments **both** for homosexual sex **and** against homosexual sex. [10]
- (b) 'Utilitarianism provides an excellent basis for making moral decisions about sex.' Assess this view. [10]
3. (a) Explain the views of **one** major world religion on divorce. [10]
- (b) 'Divorce is always wrong.' Assess this view. [10]