

New
Specification



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)
General Certificate of Education
2009

Religious Studies
Assessment Unit AS 7
assessing
An Introduction to Philosophy of Religion
[AR171]



THURSDAY 18 JUNE, MORNING

TIME

1 hour 20 minutes.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the answer booklet provided.
Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 100.
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.

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Section A

Answer **one** question from Section A

- 1 (a) Give an account of the key features of the Cosmological argument for the existence of God. [35]
- (b) Explore the claim that the 'proofs' for the existence of God fail to convince the unbeliever. Justify your answer. [15]
- 2 (a) Explain the contribution of Augustine to the debate on evil and suffering. [35]
- (b) Comment on the claim that evil and suffering presents a major challenge to the religious believer. Justify your answer. [15]

Section B

Answer **one** question from Section B

- 3 (a) Describe the main features of Hume's critique of miracles. [35]
- (b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, explore the claim that miracles are a sign of hope for humanity. Justify your answer. [15]
- 4 (a) Give an account of the nature and main types of religious experience. [35]
- (b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, explore the importance and relevance of religious experience for humankind. Justify your answer. [15]

