



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED  
General Certificate of Education  
2012

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**Religious Studies**  
Assessment Unit A2 6

*assessing*

Ethics and Society

[AR261]

MONDAY 28 MAY, MORNING

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**TIME**

2 hours.

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Write your Candidate Number and Centre 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) Present the arguments for and discuss the nature of the relativist approach to ethics. [30]
- (b) Critically assess the view that morality must be rooted in religion. [20]
- 2 (a) With particular reference to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, explain and consider the nature of human rights. [30]
- (b) Critically assess the claim that moral decision making cannot be dictated by the interests of minority groups. [20]
- 3 (a) Analyse the moral issues that are central to the ecological debate. [30]
- (b) Critically evaluate the view that religious teaching has an invaluable contribution to make to the ecological debate. [20]
- 4 “The concept of Just War is both justified and necessary.”
- (a) Comment on this statement. [30]
- (b) Critically assess the claim that in war there are no innocents. [20]

## Section B

### Synoptic Assessment

#### Theme: Religion and State

You **must** answer this question.

- 5 (a) With reference to at least **two** different areas of study, identify and consider some major questions raised by the relationship between religion and the state. [30]
- (b) Critically evaluate the view that the state must accept that religion provides the ultimate ethical and moral guide for society. You should refer to other aspects of human experience in your answer. [20]

