



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED

General Certificate of Education

2016

---

# Religious Studies

Assessment Unit A2 4

*assessing*

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



AR241

**[AR241]**

**FRIDAY 27 MAY, MORNING**

---

## 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 particular reference to The Didache, Hippolytus and Cyprian, explain the doctrine and practice of Baptism as it developed in the first three centuries. [30]
- (b) Critically assess the view that the sacraments are no longer important in the life of the Church. [20]
- 2 (a) Discuss the main characteristics of Gnosticism and give reasons why the Church condemned it as a heresy. [30]
- (b) Critically evaluate the view that the existence of heresy had positive benefits for the Early Church. [20]
- 3 (a) Outline and consider the contribution made by Tertullian to the development of doctrine and practice in the Early Church. [30]
- (b) "Tertullian's writings are irrelevant for the Church today."  
Critically assess this view. [20]
- 4 (a) Discuss the main teachings of Arius and consider why they were seen as so threatening to the Church at that time. [30]
- (b) Critically evaluate the view that the Council of Nicaea was not totally successful. [20]

## Section B

### Synoptic Assessment

#### Theme: Suffering

You **must** answer this question

- 5 (a) With reference to at least **two** different areas of study, identify and consider how some key religious figures responded to the problem of suffering. [30]
- (b) Critically assess the view that religious faith makes suffering more bearable. You should refer to other aspects of human experience in your answer. [20]

