

General Certificate of Education
June 2008
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



PHILOSOPHY
Unit 2 Moral Philosophy or Philosophy of Religion

PLY2

Friday 23 May 2008 1.30 pm to 2.30 pm

For this paper you must have:

- an 8-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is PLY2.
- Answer **one** question.
- Do all rough work in the answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 45.
The marks for part questions are shown in brackets.
- You will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise information clearly and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Answer **one** question.

Theme: Moral Philosophy

Total for this question: 45 marks

- 1 (a) Identify and briefly describe **two** characteristics that virtuous persons are said to possess. (6 marks)
- (b) Explain and illustrate **two** criticisms of deontological ethics. (15 marks)
- (c) Assess whether any form of utilitarianism provides an adequate account of what it is to act morally. (24 marks)

Total for this question: 45 marks

- 2 (a) Briefly distinguish between emotivism and prescriptivism. (6 marks)
- (b) Explain and illustrate **one** strength of non-cognitive theories of ethics. (15 marks)
- (c) Assess the view that moral conclusions cannot be drawn from purely factual premises. (24 marks)

Theme: Philosophy of Religion

Total for this question: 45 marks

- 3 (a) Briefly explain **one** objection to Pascal's Wager. (6 marks)
- (b) Explain and illustrate **two** ways in which transcendence may be viewed as a problematic attribute of God. (15 marks)
- (c) Assess whether the existence of evil should lead us to conclude that God does not exist. (24 marks)

Total for this question: 45 marks

- 4 (a) Briefly explain **one** reason for holding the view that belief in God is basic. (6 marks)
- (b) Explain and illustrate **two** criticisms of teleological arguments for the existence of God. (15 marks)
- (c) Assess whether religious experiences can be used to demonstrate the existence of God. (24 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS