

General Certificate of Education
January 2006
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



RELIGIOUS STUDIES **RS01**
Unit 1 An introduction to Religion and Human Experience

Tuesday 17 January 2006 9.00 am to 10.00 am

For this paper you must have:

- an 8-page answer book

Time allowed: 1 hour

Instructions

- Use blue or black ink or 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 RS01.
- Answer **two** questions.
Answer **Question 1** and **one** other question.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 60.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- 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 answers.

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

1 Read this passage and answer parts (a) and (b) which follow.

‘Some believers claim to have had a revelation experience. They also claim that the experience is a good source of authority for the truths that were revealed to them. Others disagree. They do not accept that revelation experiences can be trusted as a source of authority.’

(a) Explain the distinctive features of a revelation experience. *(10 marks)*

(b) Explain why some people may **not** trust revelation experiences as a source of authority. *(10 marks)*

2 (a) Explain the nature and role of scripture as a source of authority. *(15 marks)*

(b) Explain **three** reasons why the authority of scripture may be challenged, and assess the view that religious leaders are more important than scripture as a source of authority in religion today. *(25 marks)*

3 (a) Explain the distinctive features of a mystical experience. *(15 marks)*

(b) Explain how religious experience may inspire faith, and assess the view that religious experience is an essential part of a believer’s life. *(25 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS