

General Certificate of Education
June 2005
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



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

Thursday 9 June 2005 Afternoon Session

In addition to this paper you will require:
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: **Question 1** and **one** other question.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 60.
- Mark allocations are shown in brackets.
- You will be assessed on your ability to use an appropriate form and style of writing, to organise relevant information clearly and coherently, and to use specialist vocabulary, where appropriate. The degree of legibility of your handwriting and the level of accuracy of your spelling, punctuation and grammar will also be taken into account.

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

1 Read the passage and answer questions (a) and (b) which follow.

“Religions teach that their scriptures have been inspired or revealed and that it is this fact which gives them their authority. It is also obvious that, for many believers, the scriptures are an inspiration for faith and practice.”

(a) Summarise the teachings of **one** religion about the inspiration or revelation of its scriptures. *(10 marks)*

(b) Explain how the scriptures may be an inspiration for both faith and practice. *(10 marks)*

2 (a) Explain the main characteristics of the following type of religious experience: conversion. *(15 marks)*

(b) Summarise the main features of a mystical experience, and assess the view that mystical experience has little authority for believers today. *(25 marks)*

3 (a) Explain what it means to say that scripture may be interpreted either literally or symbolically. *(15 marks)*

(b) Explain how scriptures may be used as a source of authority in religion, and assess the view that the scriptures provide believers with a complete guide to life. *(25 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS