

General Certificate of Education
January 2007
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



RELIGIOUS STUDIES
Unit 6 An introduction to Religion and Science

RS06

Wednesday 17 January 2007 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 RS06.
- 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 will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise information clearly and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

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

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

‘Investigation of the world can reveal that its various parts are arranged in an orderly way. Many of these parts are seen to have a purpose. William Paley argued for the existence of a designer of this apparent order and purpose in the world.’

(a) Outline the design argument for the existence of God, as presented by Paley. *(10 marks)*

(b) Explain how science has challenged the design argument. *(10 marks)*

2 (a) Outline **one** religious understanding of ‘creation’ and **one** scientific view of the origin of the universe. *(15 marks)*

(b) (i) Explain how a religious understanding of ‘creation’ could be seen to contradict scientific views of the origin of the universe.

(ii) Assess the claim that religious understandings of ‘creation’ do not necessarily conflict with scientific views of the origin of the universe. *(25 marks)*

3 (a) Explain Hume’s challenge to a belief in miracles. *(15 marks)*

(b) ‘A miracle is an amazing coincidence of religious significance.’

Explain this definition, and assess how far this definition answers any challenges to belief in miracles. *(25 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS