

General Certificate of Education
June 2005
Advanced Level Examination



RELIGIOUS STUDIES
Unit 11 Studies in the Philosophy of Religion

RS11

Wednesday 22 June 2005 Morning Session

In addition to this paper you will require:

a 12-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

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 RS11.
- Answer **two** questions.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 100.
- 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 **two** questions.

- 1** (a) Outline the cosmological argument for the existence of God as presented by Aquinas and by the Kalam tradition. *(20 marks)*
- (b) Explain the strengths of the cosmological argument, and assess the view that the cosmological argument shows that it is reasonable to believe in God. *(30 marks)*
- 2** (a) Explain what is meant by evil and summarise the explanation for the existence of evil found in process thought. *(20 marks)*
- (b) Explain the role of free will in the Augustinian theodicy, and assess the view that free will is a satisfactory explanation for the existence of evil in God's world. *(30 marks)*
- 3** (a) Identify and explain the defining characteristics of a mystical experience. *(20 marks)*
- (b) "The only thing that is religious about mystical experiences is the way in which some people interpret them."
- Explain this statement, and assess how far you agree with it. *(30 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS