

General Certificate of Education
June 2004
Advanced Level Examination



RELIGIOUS STUDIES **RS12**
Unit 12 Studies in Religion and Human Experience

Wednesday 30 June 2004 Afternoon Session

In addition to this paper you will require:

- a 12-page answer book.
- the use of additional materials and texts is **not** permitted.

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 RS12.
- Answer **one** question.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- 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 **one** question.

Religious Experience

- 1 “I have had a religious experience; you must listen carefully to my message.”
- (a) Explain how one might set out to verify a claim like this. *(20 marks)*
- (b) Explain how any religion(s) can be said to be founded upon a similar claim, and assess how important religious experience is for religious people today. *(30 marks)*
- 2 (a) Explain the different types of religious experience. *(20 marks)*
- (b) Examine the different ‘tests’ which can be applied to a claim that a person has been involved in a religious experience, and assess how valuable such ‘tests’ are when determining whether the person has had a religious experience. *(30 marks)*

Religious Authority

- 3 (a) Examine the different types of authority within religion. *(20 marks)*
- (b) Examine the different challenges to religious authority, and assess how successful these challenges have been. *(30 marks)*
- 4 (a) Explain the sources upon which religious authority is based. *(20 marks)*
- (b) Examine examples of religious challenges to secular authority, and assess how successful religion is when it presents challenges to secular authority. *(30 marks)*

Life, Death and Beyond

- 5 (a) Explain religious ideas about **both** the nature of human life **and** the value of human life. *(20 marks)*
- (b) Explain how religion considers there to be a relationship between life on earth and life after death, and assess the significance of ideas about life after death for people today. *(30 marks)*
- 6 (a) Explain the symbolism of life and death found in religion. *(20 marks)*
- (b) Examine some of the concepts of spiritual life on earth held by religion, and assess the value of these concepts for people today. *(30 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS