



GCE A LEVEL

A120U20-1



MONDAY, 12 OCTOBER 2020 – MORNING

RELIGIOUS STUDIES – A level component 2
Philosophy of Religion

2 hours

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

A WJEC pink 16-page answer booklet.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen. Do not use pencil or gel pen. Do not use correction fluid.

Answer **two** questions.

Write your answers in the separate answer booklet provided following the instructions on the front of the answer booklet.

Write the number of each question you answer both alongside your answer and on the front cover of the answer booklet.

Write the question number in the two boxes in the left hand margin at the start of each answer, e.g.

0	1
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Leave at least two line spaces between each answer.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Each question carries 50 marks.

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each part-question.

You are reminded of the need to:

- reflect on, select and apply specified knowledge.
- understand, interpret and evaluate critically religious concepts, texts and other sources.
- account for the influence of social, religious and historical factors on the developments in the study of religions and belief.
- identify, investigate and critically analyse questions, arguments, ideas and issues arising from within this component, including the views of scholars and academics.
- identify and analyse the nature of connections between the components you have studied.
- construct well-informed and reasoned arguments substantiated by relevant evidence.
- present responses to questions which are clear and coherent.
- engage in debate in a way that recognises the right of others to hold a different view.
- use specialist language and terminology appropriately.

Component 2 – Philosophy of Religion

Part a) of each question tests your knowledge and understanding of religion and belief.

Part b) of each question tests your skills of analysis and evaluation, with regards to aspects of and approaches to religion and belief.

Section A

*Answer **one** question from this section.*

Either,

- | | |
|---|---|
| 0 | 1 |
|---|---|
- a) Examine the teleological arguments for the existence of God as presented by Aquinas **and** Paley. [20]
- b) 'Teleological arguments for God's existence are still persuasive in the 21st century.'
Evaluate this view. [30]

Or,

- | | |
|---|---|
| 0 | 2 |
|---|---|
- a) Explain how ontological arguments may be challenged with reference to Gaunilo **and** Kant. [20]
- b) 'A *priori* arguments can never prove God's existence.'
Evaluate this view. [30]

Section B

Answer one question from this section.

Either,

- | | |
|---|---|
| 0 | 3 |
|---|---|
- a) Examine the four characteristics of mystical experience as presented by William James. [20]
- b) 'Mystical experiences are not adequately defined by James' four characteristics.' Evaluate this view. [30]

Or,

- | | |
|---|---|
| 0 | 4 |
|---|---|
- a) Explain how religious language can be understood as a language game. [20]
- b) 'The strengths of language games outweigh the weaknesses.' Evaluate this view. [30]

Or,

- | | |
|---|---|
| 0 | 5 |
|---|---|
- a) Explain the different understandings of miracles given by Holland **and** Swinburne. [20]
- b) 'Different definitions of miracles are contradictory.' Evaluate this view. [30]

END OF PAPER