



GCE AS/A level

1341/01

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

**RS1/2 CS - Introduction to Religion in
Contemporary Society**

A.M. MONDAY, 7 June 2010

1 ¹/₄ hours

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

In addition to this examination paper, you will need an 8 page answer book.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer **two** questions.

Write your answers in the separate answer book provided.

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

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

All questions carry 45 marks.

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

Part (*a*) of each question tests your knowledge and understanding.

Part (*b*) of each question tests your skills of reasoning and evaluation.

You are reminded of the need for good English and orderly, clear presentation in your answers.

All questions should be answered in continuous prose. Assessment will take into account the quality of written communication in all your answers.

Answer **two** questions.

1. (a) Explain the religious **and** moral arguments against the use of animals in experimentation. [30]
 (b) 'Animal experimentation is a very good thing because of the medical advances it makes possible.'
 Assess this view with reference to religion. [15]

2. (a) Explain how religious belief and practice is portrayed in *The Simpsons*. [30]
 (b) '*The Simpsons* does not give an accurate portrayal of religious beliefs and practices.'
 Assess this view. [15]

3. **Either:** Fundamentalism
 (a) Explain why fundamentalism is sometimes regarded as a religious response to secularisation. [30]
 (b) 'Fundamentalism has more strengths than weaknesses.'
 Assess this view. [15]

- Or:** New Religious Movements
 (a) Explain why new religious movements are sometimes regarded as a religious response to secularisation. [30]
 (b) 'New religious movements have risen due to people feeling disadvantaged and deprived in today's world.'
 Assess this view. [15]

4. (a) Examine Freud's view of religious belief. [30]
 (b) 'Freud completely misunderstood religious belief.'
 To what extent is this an accurate statement? [15]