



**GCE A level**

1349/01

**RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

**RS4 HE Studies in Religion and Human Experience**

A.M. THURSDAY, 17 June 2010

1<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> hours

### **ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

In addition to this examination paper, you will need a 12-page answer book.

### **INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Answer **one** question.

Write your answers in the separate answer book provided.

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

### **INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

Each question carries 75 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 one question.*

### 1. Religious Authority

You must explain, exemplify and comment on the nature of **three** differing types of religious authority and be able to evaluate whether the role of religious authority has been lost in the contemporary world.

(a) Examine in detail the nature of **three** different types of religious authority. [45]

(b) 'Religious authority has no relevance in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.'

Evaluate the validity of this assertion. [30]

### 2. Religious Experience

You must explain, exemplify and comment on the nature of **three** differing types of religious experience and be able to evaluate the authenticity of an experience as religious.

(a) Examine in detail the nature of **three** different types of religious experience. [45]

(b) 'Religious experiences are nothing more than natural experiences that have been misinterpreted by the religious believer.'

Evaluate the validity of this assertion. [30]

### 3. Life, Death and Life after Death

You must explain, exemplify and comment on **three** differing religious beliefs about the nature of life after death and be able to evaluate whether religious beliefs about life after death have any relevance in the contemporary world.

(a) Examine in detail **three** different religious beliefs about the nature of life after death. [45]

(b) 'Religious beliefs about life after death no longer matter in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.'

Evaluate the validity of this assertion. [30]