



GCE A level

559/01

RELIGIOUS STUDIES RS 9
Religion and Human Experience

A.M. THURSDAY, 18 June 2009

1½ hours

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

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

The use of a Bible is not permitted in this examination.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer **one** question.

Write your answers in the separate answer book provided.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

All questions carry 50 marks. The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

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

All questions should be answered in continuous prose. Quality of Written Communication will be assessed in all questions.

Answer one question.

1. Religious Authority

You must show knowledge and understanding of sacred writings as a religious authority from **at least two** different areas of study and be able to evaluate whether or not sacred writings are considered to be the most important form of authority for religious believers.

- (a) Examine the different ways in which sacred writings are used as a source of authority in religion. [30]
- (b) ‘Sacred writings are the only reliable form of religious authority for religious believers.’ Evaluate the accuracy of this statement. [20]

2. Religious Experience

You must show knowledge and understanding of a variety of forms of religious experience from **at least two** different areas of study and be able to evaluate whether or not personal religious experience is the most important factor in determining an individual’s religious commitment.

- (a) Explain and give examples of different types of religious experience. [30]
- (b) ‘An individual’s religious commitment depends mainly on personal religious experience.’ Evaluate the accuracy of this statement. [20]

3. Life, Death and Life after Death

You must show knowledge and understanding of a variety of religious beliefs about life after death from **at least two** different areas of study and be able to evaluate the effect of religious belief in life after death on behaviour before death.

- (a) Explain different beliefs that religious believers have about life after death. [30]
- (b) ‘For the religious believer, behaviour in this life is entirely determined by their belief in life after death.’ Evaluate the accuracy of this statement. [20]