



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED

General Certificate of Education

# Religious Studies

Assessment Unit A2 1

*assessing*

Themes in the Synoptic Gospels



ARE11

[ARE11]

Assessment

**Assessment Level of Control:**

Tick the relevant box (✓)

**TIME**

2 hours.

Controlled Conditions	
Other	

## INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.  
Answer **two** questions from Section A and the compulsory question in Section B.

## INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 150.  
Quality of written communication will be assessed in **all** questions.  
Figures in brackets printed down the right-hand side of the pages indicate the marks awarded to each question or part question.

## ADVICE TO CANDIDATES

You are advised to take account of the marks for each part question in allocating the available examination time.

## Section A

Answer **two** questions from this section

- 1 (a) With reference to **two** textual examples, clarify why the Synoptic Gospels are similar and yet different. [20]
- (b) Critically evaluate the view that the priority of Mark is an unsatisfactory solution to the synoptic problem. [30]
- 2 (a) Analyse the origins of the title Son of God. [20]
- (b) “The Messianic titles of Jesus have no relevance for modern Christians.”  
Critically assess this claim. [30]
- 3 (a) “The crucifixion and death of Jesus reflect the theological purpose of the evangelist.”  
With reference to **either** Matthew **or** Mark’s account, present a case for this statement. [20]
- (b) “Jesus’ death was an unavoidable feature of God’s plan.”  
Critically assess the validity of this claim. [30]

## Section B

### Synoptic Assessment

#### Theme: Religious Texts, Authority and Interpretation

You **must** answer this question

- 4 (a) “Much can be learned from religious texts about leadership in faith communities.”

With reference to **one** example, analyse this statement. You must support your answer with reference to at least one other unit of study. [20]

- (b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, critically evaluate the suggestion that faith communities are not well served by their religious leaders. [30]

Permission to reproduce all copyright material has been applied for.  
In some cases, efforts to contact copyright holders may have been unsuccessful and CCEA  
will be happy to rectify any omissions of acknowledgement in future if notified.