



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED

General Certificate of Education

Religious Studies

Assessment Unit A2 8

assessing

Themes in the Philosophy of Religion



ARE81

[ARE81]

Assessment

TIME

2 hours.

Assessment Level of Control:

Tick the relevant box (✓)

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 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) Analyse how the evidence for Intelligent Design points to an Intelligent Designer. [20]
- (b) “Modern science makes the Biblical Creation Narratives irrelevant.”
Critically assess this view. [30]
- 2 (a) Examine the concept of dualism in Plato’s Analogy of the Cave. [20]
- (b) Critically evaluate the claim that there is no evidence to support belief in an afterlife. [30]
- 3 (a) Explain James Rachels’ opposition to religious morality. [20]
- (b) “The influence of religious morality has always been positive.”
With particular reference to the views of Richard Dawkins, critically assess this claim. [30]

Section B

Synoptic Assessment

Theme: Faith, Freedom and Atheism

You **must** answer this question

- 4 (a) "Human beings are condemned to be free."

Examine this statement. You must support your answer with reference to at least one other unit of study. [20]

- (b) "The great weakness of religion is that it is world evading."

Critically assess this view. You must refer to other aspects of human experience in your answer. [30]

