

X265/13/01

NATIONAL
QUALIFICATIONS
2015

FRIDAY, 8 MAY
1.00 PM – 3.00 PM

RELIGIOUS, MORAL
AND PHILOSOPHICAL
STUDIES
ADVANCED HIGHER

Candidates should answer **two** questions:

one from Section A—Philosophy of Religion, and

one from the optional units, either Section B—Religious Experience or Section C—Medical Ethics.

Each **section** should be answered in a **separate** answer booklet.

30 marks are assigned to each question.



SECTION A

Marks

Philosophy of Religion

1. To what extent have modern scientific theories of cosmology strengthened First Cause arguments for the existence of God?

Your answer **may** include:

- a description of First Cause arguments and modern scientific theories of cosmology
- analysis and evaluation of the impact of these theories of cosmology on First Cause arguments
- personal and reasoned conclusions throughout.

(30)

2. “The existence of order, purpose and regularity in the world is evidence of a divine designer.”

To what extent do design arguments establish the existence of God?

Your answer **may** include:

- a description of design arguments for the existence of God
- analysis and evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of these arguments
- personal and reasoned conclusions throughout.

(30)

SECTION B

Religious Experience

3. “To be religious, individuals must have had a religious experience.”

How far do you agree?

Your answer **may** include:

- definitions of religious experience
- analysis of the link between religious experience and religious faith
- evaluation of the statement
- personal and reasoned conclusions throughout.

(30)

4. To what extent does sociology provide the most convincing secular challenge to religious experience?

Your answer **may** include:

- a definition of religious experience
- analysis and evaluation of sociological explanations for religious experience
- analysis and evaluation of whether other secular fields provide more convincing explanations
- personal and reasoned conclusions throughout.

(30)

SECTION C

Marks

Medical Ethics

5. “IVF should be permitted in all circumstances.”

How far do you agree?

Your answer **may** include:

- a description of the moral issues related to possible uses of IVF
- analysis of religious and moral issues raised by the statement
- evaluation of the responses to the religious and moral issues raised by the statement
- personal and reasoned conclusions throughout.

(30)

6. “Legalising euthanasia in the UK would create more problems than it solves.”

How far do you agree?

Your answer **may** include:

- a description of the laws related to end of life decisions in the UK
- analysis of the religious and moral issues that might arise from legalising euthanasia
- evaluation of the possible religious and moral issues arising from the statement
- personal and reasoned conclusions throughout.

(30)

[END OF QUESTION PAPER]

[BLANK PAGE]

DO NOT WRITE ON THIS PAGE