



GCE AS/A LEVEL – NEW

2120UB0-1



S17-2120UB0-1

RELIGIOUS STUDIES – AS unit 1

Option B

An Introduction to the Study of Islam

THURSDAY, 18 MAY 2017 – MORNING

1 hour 15 minutes

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

A WJEC pink 16-page answer booklet.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen.

Answer **two** questions.

Write your answers in the separate answer booklet provided.

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

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Each question carries 30 marks.

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each part-question.

You are reminded of the need to:

- reflect on, select and apply specified knowledge.
- understand, interpret and evaluate critically religious concepts, texts and other sources.
- identify, investigate and critically analyse questions, arguments, ideas and issues arising from within this unit.
- construct well informed and reasoned arguments substantiated by relevant evidence.
- engage in debate in a way that recognises the right of others to hold a different view.
- present responses to questions which are clear and coherent.
- use specialist language and terminology appropriately.
- use spelling, punctuation and grammar appropriately.

UNIT 1 – An Introduction to the Study of Religion

Option B – An Introduction to the Study of Islam

Part (a) of each question tests your knowledge and understanding of religion and belief.

Part (b) of each question tests your skills of analysis and evaluation, with regards to aspects of and approaches to religion and belief.

Section A

*Answer **one** question from this section.*

Either,

1. (a) Explain the importance of the shahadah for Islam. [15]
- (b) 'Public declaration of the shahadah is more important than the private faith it represents.'
Evaluate this view. [15]

Or,

2. (a) Outline Islamic teachings about angels. [15]
- (b) 'Belief in angels is not really essential for Muslims today.'
Evaluate this view. [15]

Section B

*Answer **one** question from this section.*

Either,

3. (a) Explain the significance of the Hijrah for the development of Islam. [15]
- (b) 'The basic tenets of Islam were first introduced in Madinah.'
Evaluate this view. [15]

Or,

4. (a) Examine the meaning of various practices associated with Hajj in Islam. [15]
- (b) 'Hajj has more meaning for the individual than the community.'
Evaluate this view. [15]

Or,

5. (a) Explain ways in which Ashura is celebrated by Shi'a Muslims. [15]
- (b) 'The emphasis given to suffering at Ashura is too strong.'
Evaluate this view. [15]

END OF PAPER