



General Certificate of Secondary Education  
June 2015

**Religious Studies** **40554**  
**(Specification B)**  
**Religious Studies (Specification B)**  
**(Short Course)**

**Unit 4 Religious Philosophy and Ultimate Questions**

Tuesday 2 June 2015 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

**For this paper you must have:**

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

**Time allowed**

- 1 hour 30 minutes

**Instructions**

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 40554.
- Answer **four** questions. Each question has **five** parts.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work that you do not want to be marked.

**Information**

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 76.
- Four of these marks are for Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (**SPaG**). This will be assessed in parts 05, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30. The mark is shown below the mark allocation for each question.
- You will be awarded a mark for Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (**SPaG**) for each of the four questions that you attempt. The best of these marks will be included in your total for the paper.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
  - use good English
  - organise information clearly
  - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Answer **four** questions.

There are 18 marks for each question.

Each question has **five** parts. Answer **all five parts** of each question chosen.

There are four additional marks on the paper for Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPaG).

### Question 1 The Existence of God

Look at the photographs. They show a human eye and a thumb print.



- 0 1** Explain the Design (teleological) argument for the existence of God. **[5 marks]**
- 0 2** Give **two** reasons why some people disagree with the Design (teleological) argument. **[2 marks]**
- 0 3** 'God is the First Cause of the universe.'  
What do you think? Explain your opinion. **[3 marks]**
- 0 4** Explain briefly how morality might be used to try to prove that God exists. **[2 marks]**
- 0 5** 'Religious experiences are the best evidence for the existence of God.'  
Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. **[6 marks]**

**[SPaG: 4 marks]**

## Question 2 Revelation

Look at the photograph. It shows nature.



- 0 6** 'Nature reveals the power of God.'  
 What do you think? Explain your opinion. [3 marks]
- 0 7** Give **two** examples of special revelation. [2 marks]
- 0 8** Explain the impact revelation may have on the lives of believers.  
 You may use examples in your answer. [5 marks]
- 0 9** Explain briefly what religious believers mean when they say that God is transcendent. [2 marks]
- 1 0** 'Scripture (holy books) cannot reveal anything about God.'  
 Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. [6 marks]
- [SPaG: 4 marks]**

Turn over for the next question

Turn over ►

### Question 3 The Problems of Evil and Suffering

Look at the pictures. They show the Wheel of Samsara and the Garden of Eden.



- 1 1** Explain religious teachings about the origins of evil. **[5 marks]**
- 1 2** Explain briefly why evil is sometimes described as a psychological phenomenon. **[2 marks]**
- 1 3** 'Religious believers should not try to explain why God allows suffering.'  
What do you think? Explain your opinion. **[3 marks]**
- 1 4** Give **two** examples of man-made suffering. **[2 marks]**
- 1 5** 'All suffering is unjust.'  
Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to religious arguments in your answer. **[6 marks]**

**[SPaG: 4 marks]**

### Question 4 Immortality

Look at the picture. It shows a ghost experience.



**1 6** Explain **one** reason why ghost experiences may convince some people that there is an afterlife. [2 marks]

**1 7** Explain the beliefs and teachings of **one** religion about life after death. [5 marks]

**1 8** 'Near Death Experiences prove there is an afterlife.'  
What do you think? Explain your opinion. [3 marks]

**1 9** Explain briefly how belief in dualism affects the understanding of death. [2 marks]

**2 0** 'Atheists are right to say that there is no life after death.'  
Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to religious arguments in your answer. [6 marks]

[SPaG: 4 marks]

Turn over for the next question

Turn over ►



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**Question 5 Miracles**

Read the newspaper headline.



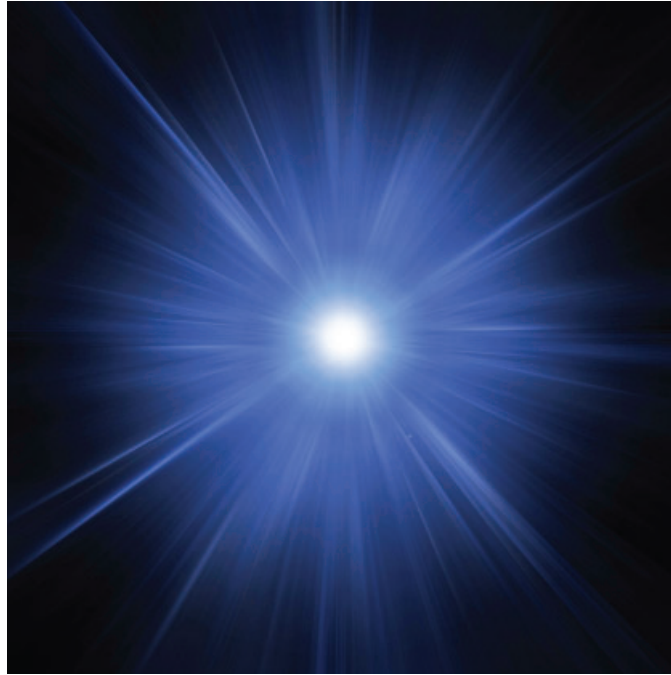
- 2 1** Explain briefly what is meant by the term 'miracle'. **[2 marks]**
- 2 2** Describe briefly **one** miracle from history. **[2 marks]**
- 2 3** 'If God performs miracles, then God is not all-loving.'  
What do you think? Explain your opinion. **[3 marks]**
- 2 4** Explain what miracles might teach religious believers about God. **[5 marks]**
- 2 5** 'Miracles are impossible.'  
Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to religious arguments in your answer. **[6 marks]**

**[SPaG: 4 marks]**

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**Question 6 Science and Religion**

Look at the picture.



- 2 | 6** Explain briefly **one** scientific theory about the origins of the universe. **[2 marks]**
- 2 | 7** Explain briefly the difference between an evolving truth and an absolute truth. **[2 marks]**
- 2 | 8** 'Religious truth is more comforting than scientific truth.'  
What do you think? Explain your opinion. **[3 marks]**
- 2 | 9** Give an account of **one** religious creation story. **[5 marks]**
- 3 | 0** 'Evolution shows that it is wrong to believe in religious creation stories.'  
Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. **[6 marks]**
- [SPaG: 4 marks]**

**END OF QUESTIONS**

**There are no questions printed on this page**

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