

X265/701

NATIONAL
QUALIFICATIONS
2010

MONDAY, 31 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

Philosophy of Religion

1. Evaluate the claim that the use of analogy is the fundamental flaw in the Design Argument for the existence of God.

Your answer **may** include:

- a clear description of the Design Argument
- an explanation of the use of analogy
- analysis and evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of the use of analogy
- personal and reasoned conclusions throughout.

(30)

2. “Cosmological arguments for the existence of God are more convincing than the atheist arguments against the existence of God.”

Do you agree with this statement?

Your answer **may** include:

- a clear description of the atheist’s position
- an explanation of the Cosmological Argument
- an analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of each
- personal and reasoned conclusions throughout.

(30)

SECTION B

Religious Experience

1. Do the research findings in the field of religious experience conflict with religious faith?

Your answer **may** include:

- clear descriptions of studies of religious experience together with their conclusions
- a comparison of the research findings
- an evaluation of them in relation to faith perspectives on religious experience
- personal and reasoned conclusions throughout.

(30)

2. “Secular explanations of religious experience are more convincing than explanations from a faith perspective.”

Do you agree with this statement?

Your answer **may** include:

- clear descriptions of secular interpretations of religious experience
- clear descriptions of interpretations of religious experience from a faith perspective
- analysis and evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of both
- personal and reasoned conclusions throughout.

(30)

SECTION C

Medical Ethics

1. “In some circumstances abortion is the lesser of two evils.”

Discuss this statement with reference to religious and secular views.

Your answer **may** include:

- a clear description of the issues related to abortion
- an analysis and evaluation of religious viewpoints
- an analysis and evaluation of secular viewpoints
- personal and reasoned conclusions throughout.

(30)

2. “When considering the prolongation and ending of human life, the quality of a person’s life must be the primary concern.”

Discuss with reference to religious and secular viewpoints.

Your answer **may** include:

- a clear description of situations when this argument might arise
- an analysis and evaluation of religious viewpoints
- an analysis and evaluation of secular viewpoints
- personal and reasoned conclusions throughout.

(30)

[END OF QUESTION PAPER]

[BLANK PAGE]