

X265/13/01

NATIONAL
QUALIFICATIONS
2013

MONDAY, 3 JUNE
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 does evolutionary biology undermine design arguments for the existence of God?

Your answer **may** include:

- a description of design arguments
- a description of evolutionary theory
- analysis and evaluation of the impact of evolution on design arguments
- personal and reasoned conclusions throughout. **(30)**

2. “The atheist’s grounds for disbelief are stronger than the theist’s grounds for belief.”

Do you agree?

Your answer **may** include:

- a description of the atheist position on the existence of God
- a description of the theist position on the existence of God
- an analysis and evaluation of their respective arguments
- personal and reasoned conclusions throughout. **(30)**

SECTION B

Religious Experience

1. How convincing are secular explanations for religious experience?

Your answer **may** include:

- a description of what is meant by religious experiences
- analysis of different secular explanations for religious experiences
- evaluation of these secular explanations
- personal and reasoned conclusions throughout. **(30)**

2. Can religious experience be defined?

Your answer **may** include:

- a description of attempts to describe religious experience
- an analysis of attempts to define religious experience
- an evaluation of the success of these definitions
- personal and reasoned conclusions throughout. **(30)**

SECTION C

Marks

Medical Ethics

1. Is buying and selling organs morally acceptable?

Your answer **may** include:

- a description of the current position on the sale and purchase of organs
- a description of the moral issues related to the sale and purchase of organs
- an analysis and evaluation of the arguments on both sides of the debate
- personal and reasoned conclusions throughout.

(30)

2. Do you agree that the right to voluntary euthanasia is a mark of a caring society?

Your answer **may** include:

- a description of the moral issues related to voluntary euthanasia
- a description of the moral issues related to the alternatives to voluntary euthanasia
- an analysis and evaluation of the arguments on both sides of the debate
- personal and reasoned conclusions throughout.

(30)

[END OF QUESTION PAPER]

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