

Paper Reference(s) 9RS0/01

Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

Religious Studies

Advanced

Paper 1: Philosophy of Religion

Tuesday 4 June 2019 – Morning

**Time: 2 hours plus your additional
time allowance**

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your centre number, candidate number, surname, other names and your signature in the boxes below. Check that you have the correct question paper.

Centre No.					
Candidate No.					
Surname					
Other names					
Signature					
Paper Reference	9	R	S	0	/ 0 1



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Pearson

(Turn over)

- **Use BLACK ink or ball-point pen.**
- **There are THREE sections in this question paper. Answer ALL the questions in each section.**
- **Answer the questions in the spaces provided – there may be more space than you need.**

**MATERIALS REQUIRED FOR
EXAMINATION**

Nil

**ITEMS INCLUDED WITH QUESTION
PAPERS**

Nil

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- **The total mark for this paper is 80.**
- **The marks for EACH question are shown in brackets – use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.**

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ADVICE TO CANDIDATES

- **Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.**
- **Check your answers if you have time at the end.**

(Section A begins on next page)

(Turn over)

SECTION A

Answer ALL questions. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

- 1 Explore key ideas of Cosmological Arguments for the existence of God.
(8 marks)**

**(Continue your answer on next page)
(Turn over)**

(Turn over)

- 2 Assess the view that the soul can survive the death of the body.
(12 marks)**

(Continue your answer on next page)

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15

(Total for Question 2 = 12 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 20 MARKS

(Section B begins on next page)

(Turn over)

SECTION B

Answer ALL questions. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

Read the following passage before answering the questions.

The partisan of the parable does not allow anything to count decisively against the proposition ‘The Stranger is on our side.’ This is because he has committed himself to trust the Stranger. But he of course recognizes that the Stranger’s ambiguous behaviour does count against what he believes about him. It is precisely this situation which constitutes the trial of his faith.

Hare’s lunatic who has a blik about dons doesn’t admit that anything counts against his blik. Nothing can count against blik. Also the partisan has a

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(Turn over)

reason for having in the first instance committed himself, viz. the character of the Stranger; whereas the lunatic has no reason for his blik about dons – because, of course, you can't have reasons for bliks. This means that I agree with Flew that theological utterances must be assertions. The partisan is making an assertion when he says, 'The Stranger is on our side.'

(Source: Extract adapted from 'The Philosophy of Religion' – Chapter I, 'Theology and Falsification: A Symposium', edited by Mitchell, B., Oxford University Press, 1977, Edexcel Anthology)

(Questions continue on next page)

(Turn over)

- 3 (a) Clarify Mitchell's ideas in this passage that religious claims are assertions because they do allow things to count against them.**

You must refer to the passage in your response. (10 marks)

(Continue your answer on next page)

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(Questions continue on next page)

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- (b) Analyse the strengths and weaknesses of the challenge to religious language from the verification debate. (20 marks)**

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(Total for Question 3 = 30 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 30 MARKS

(Section C begins on next page)

(Turn over)

SECTION C

Write your answer in the space provided.

- 4 Evaluate the view that the problem of suffering shows that ideas about the nature and existence of God are inconsistent.**

In your response to this question, you must include how developments in Philosophy of Religion have been influenced by ONE of the following:

- **Religion and Ethics**
- **New Testament Studies**
- **Study of Religion. (30 marks)**

(Continue your answer on next page)
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TOTAL FOR PAPER = 80 MARKS