

Paper Reference(s) 9RS0/01
Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

Religious Studies
Advanced
PAPER 1: Philosophy of Religion

Monday 12 June 2023 – Morning

Sources Booklet
For use with Section B

In the boxes below, write your name, centre number and candidate number.

Surname					
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INSTRUCTIONS

You will need the information in this booklet to answer the questions in **SECTION B**.

Read the information carefully.

You must **NOT** write your answers in this booklet.

Only your answers given in the Question Paper will be marked.

**THIS BOOKLET MUST BE RETURNED WITH THE
QUESTION PAPER AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.**

Perhaps the most important proposed solution of the problem of evil is that evil is not to be ascribed to God at all, but to the independent actions of human beings, supposed to have been endowed by God with freedom of the will. This solution may be combined with the preceding one: first order evil (e.g., pain) may be justified as a logically necessary component in second order good (e.g., sympathy) while second order evil (e.g., cruelty) is not justified, but is so ascribed to human beings that God cannot be held responsible for it... The free will solution also involves the preceding solution at a higher level. To explain why a wholly good God gave men free will although it would lead to some important evils, it must be argued that it is better on the whole that men should act freely, and sometimes err, than that they should be innocent automata, acting rightly in a wholly determined way.

Source information

(Source: Extract from Evil and Omnipotence, Mackie, J.L., in The Philosophy of Religion, edited by Mitchell, B., Oxford, OUP, 1977, Edexcel Anthology)