

Please check the examination details below before entering your candidate information

Candidate surname					Other names				
Centre Number					Candidate Number				
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**Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE**

**Monday 10 June 2024**

Morning (Time: 2 hours)

Paper reference **9RS0/01**

**Religious Studies**

**Advanced**

**PAPER 1: Philosophy of Religion**

**You do not need any other materials.**

Total Marks

## Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- 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.*

## Information

- 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.*

## Advice

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

Turn over ►

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## SECTION A

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

- 1 Explore the key features of *a posteriori* arguments.

(8)

(Total for Question 1 = 8 marks)

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2 Assess the strengths of the process theodicy.

(12)



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(Total for Question 2 = 12 marks)

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**TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 20 MARKS**



## SECTION B

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

Read the following passage before answering the questions.

**Copleston:** Take the proposition “if there is a contingent being then there is a Necessary Being.” I consider that that proposition hypothetically expressed is a necessary proposition. If you are going to call every necessary proposition an analytic proposition, then – in order to avoid a dispute in terminology – I would agree to call it analytic, though I don’t consider it a tautological proposition. But the proposition is a necessary proposition only on the supposition that there is a contingent being. That there is a contingent being actually existing has to be discovered by experience, and the proposition that there is a contingent being is certainly not an analytic proposition, though once you know, I should maintain, that there is a contingent being, it follows of necessity that there is a Necessary Being.

**Russell:** The difficulty of this argument is that I don’t admit the idea of a Necessary Being and I don’t admit that there is any particular meaning in calling other beings “contingent.”

(Source: extract from *A Debate on the Existence of God* – A Debate between Bertrand Russell and Father Frederick C Copleston, 1948, taken from: <http://www.biblicalcatholic.com/apologetics/p20.htm>, Edexcel Anthology)

- 3 (a) Clarify the ideas illustrated in this passage about contingent and necessary beings.

*You must refer to the passage in your response.*

(10)

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(b) Analyse the claim that the Cosmological Argument fails to prove the existence of God.

(20)



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(Total for Question 3 = 30 marks)

**TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 30 MARKS**



**SECTION C****Write your answer in the space provided.**

- 4** Evaluate the claim that religious language is meaningless.

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 a Religion.

(30)

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(Total for Question 4 = 30 marks)

**TOTAL FOR SECTION C = 30 MARKS**  
**TOTAL FOR PAPER = 80 MARKS**



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