Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)
General Certificate of Education
January 2013

Religious Studies

Assessment Unit AS 4

assessing

The Christian Church in the
Roman Empire: Beginnings, Expansion
and External Pressure

[AR141]

AR141

THURSDAY 17 JANUARY, MORNING

TIME

1 hour 20 minutes.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.
Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 100.
Quality of written communication will be assessed in **all** questions.
Figures in brackets printed down the right-hand side of pages indicate the marks
awarded to each question or part question.

ADVICE TO CANDIDATES

You are advised to take account of the marks for each question or part question in allocating the
available examination time.

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Section A

Answer **one** question from Section A.

1 **(a)** Explain how the witness of the Christian martyrs influenced the spread of Christianity in the first three centuries. [35]

(b) Explore the claim that other factors were more important than martyrdom in the growth of the Early Church. Justify your answer. [15]

2 **(a)** Describe the course of the Great Persecution which began in the reign of the Emperor Diocletian and explain how it differed from previous persecutions. [35]

(b) Explore the claim that this persecution never had any chance of success. Justify your answer. [15]

Section B

Answer **one** question from Section B.

3 **(a)** Describe the main features of Justin Martyr's defence of Christianity. [35]

(b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, comment on the claim that such writings are always relevant to the religious believer. Justify your answer. [15]

4 **(a)** Explain the ways in which Church Government developed during the first three centuries. [35]

(b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, comment on the view that various patterns of religious leadership are effective. Justify your answer. [15]