

# GCSE

## Revision Guide

Route A

Component 1:

Philosophical and ethical  
issues in the modern world

1. Issues of relationships
2. Issues of life and death
3. Issues of good and evil
4. Issues of human rights

Name:

# Relationships



# Key concepts

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<b>Adultery</b>	Voluntary sexual intercourse between a married person and a person who is not their spouse
<b>Divorce</b>	To legally end a marriage
<b>Cohabitation</b>	To live together in a sexual relationship without being married or in a civil partnership
<b>Commitment</b>	A sense of dedication or obligation to someone or something else
<b>Contraception</b>	Methods used to prevent a women becoming pregnant during or following sexual intercourse
<b>Gender equality</b>	People of all genders enjoying the same rights and opportunities in all aspects of their lives
<b>Responsibilities</b>	Actions/duties you are expected to carry out
<b>Roles</b>	Position, status or function of a person in society, as well as the characteristics and social behaviour



YOU **MUST, MUST, MUST** LEARN THESE AS THEY WILL BE THE FOCUS OF YOUR a) QUESTIONS FOR THIS UNIT

## 1. What is the family?

Foundation of all human activity and where shared values and norms of society are lived out.



## 2. What are the different types of family?

**Nuclear family** = the most common family consists of 2 parents and 1 or more children living in the same house



**Extended family** = a number of different generations living in the same house (children, parents, grandparents, cousins)



**Reconstituted family** = divorced parents remarrying or cohabiting and creating new families with step brothers and sisters

**Single parent family** = 1 parent raising one or more children alone. This type of family has risen as divorce rates increase



**Childless family** = a couple who are unable or decide not to have children. Same sex couples are more frequently childless couple although this is changing

### Different views on the roles of men and women in the family

Both partners in a family may have a responsibility for raising children, looking after other relatives, maintaining (tidying) the home, earning money to support the home

Should provide a nurturing environment for each other and any children

Should be involved in the education of children if they have them and should act as role models to them

#### Traditional views of the role of men and women in the family

**Islam and Christianity** have both held very **traditional** views about men and women in the family.

The man provides wealth for the family and the woman is responsible for the home.

These are 'patriarchal views' because the man is seen as the leader of the family

Traditional views sometimes saw women as property or 'subjects' of the man of the household

This is shown through the **Hadith** by Sahih Bukhari which states that Muhammad said that **'a man is the guardian of his family and is responsible for his subjects; a woman is guardian of her husband's home and of his children and is responsible for them.... Surely everyone of you is a guardian and responsible for his charges.'**

This could also show a modern view if only the last sentence is read





## Families in the 21st century

### What's changed?

- Women are seen as partners and equals
- More women work
- More men stay at home and raise children; this number has doubled to 229,000 since 1993
- The law is also changing to allow men and women to share parental leave

### How are family and religion linked:

Children see religion as part of normal life

Families pass on religious teachings like 10 commandments etc

Taught to respect family and parents

It's the place where religion is taught

Parents will show them how to read their holy texts

Parents will take their children to worship

Children will learn about and celebrate festivals



Humanists and many atheists believe that children should not be raised religiously and instead should be able to make their own choice about religion.

Some see religious upbringing as brainwashing

### Religion as a worldwide family

For Christians and Muslims religion provides a global family  
**Christians** are 'people of God' wherever they're from and **Muslims** belong to the worldwide ummah



For Muslims, Jews and Christians the family is the basic unit of society. Without it society will fall apart. They usually believe that the nuclear family is the best type with support from extended families.

Pope Francis says that family is the 'essential cell of society and the Church.' He also says that mothers play a vital role in 'passing on the faith' as do young people who he sees as the 'face of the Church's future



# Relationships: the nature and purpose of marriage

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## Christian attitudes to marriage

- It is a sacrament
- It is a gift from God and is 'ordained by God'
- It should be seen as a life long commitment
- It is the best place to raise children
- The vows reflect the special significance of marriage
- Jesus affirms the importance of marriage in the Gospels
- In Genesis man and woman are created by God for one another
- The couple become one and it is seen as the most important human relationship they will have

## Muslims attitudes to marriage

- Marriage is a gift from God
- The Quran says it is the basis for family life
- All Muslims are encouraged to marry
- Marriage should be for life but divorce is permitted
- Married couples should love, support and care for one another



## Humanist attitudes to marriage

- It is a significant ceremony that allows couples to show their commitment to one another
- Ceremonies are non-religious



## The Christian ceremony

### Key details of a Church of England wedding:

- ◇ Performed in a church
- ◇ Vicar welcomes the bride and groom and the congregation
- ◇ Couple exchange their **vows** (these reflect Christian values) include supporting each other through good times and bad, good health and ill, and making a life long commitment that ends upon the death of either person.
- ◇ Exchange rings which symbolise the eternal nature of the marriage **sacrament**.
- ◇ The couple pledge themselves physically and spiritually to each other
- ◇ The vicar pronounces them man and wife and then will give a sermon
- ◇ There are hymns and prayers offered
- ◇ The couple must sign the register and be witnessed by the registrar in order for the wedding to be legal

### Differences among Christians

Orthodox Christians are crowned. The crown represent the power of the Holy Spirit

Non-conformist Churches have no altar and are less formal with more emphasis on Bible reading and hymns

Try to learn the vows and their meaning.  
Use pages 8 and 9 of the text book

### Key details of a Muslim wedding:

- ◆ The nikah is a simple ceremony that allows the couple to show their commitment to each other  
It might take place in a mosque or in the bride's home
- ◆ The wali (woman's guardian) offers the bride to the groom
- ◆ Must be witnessed by two adults who are good Muslims
- ◆ There is a payment of mahr (dowry/marriage gift) by the groom to the bride
- ◆ Marriage contract signed by both parties the nikah must have the consent of both parties
- ◆ Sermon given to bless the wedding takes place with blessings for the couple, the local Muslim community and the ummah
- ◆ Vows are not necessary but are sometimes exchanged the bride will promise to be honest, obedient and faithful and the groom faithful and honest
- ◆ A wedding banquet called a walima is usually given by the groom to allow family and friends to celebrate with the bride and groom

A separate civil ceremony must be held in order for the wedding to be considered legal

## The Muslim ceremony

### Some Twelver Shia Muslims and temporary unannounced marriage. Known as Nikah Mut'ah

Originates from the time of Muhammad when fighters would be away from home for long periods of time.

This arrangement allowed for them to take wives when they were away

These marriages are for a fixed period of time, they involve both parties signing a contract which specifies the length of the marriage and any rules for the marriage in terms of behaviour.

The man may give the woman a gift (dowry)

Some Shias use this in order to be able to date and mix freely with members of the opposite sex. Without this they would be unable to under Shari'ah law. It is justified in some passages of the Qur'an and a hadith

Some Sunnis and other Shias do not accept it because they believe that the 2nd caliph outlawed the practice.

Some see it as a way around sex before marriage which they think is wrong under Shari'ah law

### Examiner's model answers!

C) From two different religions or two religious traditions, explain attitudes to marriage (8)

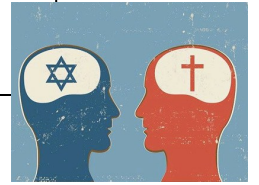
**Example of one PEED paragraph. You need to include another PEED paragraph to achieve what the question is asking of you.**

All Christians see marriage as especially important as it is the foundation for family life and therefore society. For many Christians marriage is a life long commitment. This teaching comes from the wedding vows, such as "till death do us part". This means that marriage is significant as it is an eternal promise that should not be ended. This is emphasised by the symbolism of the wedding rings showing everlasting love that is a gift from God. Christians also regard marriage as a sacred duty that should be carried out. This would affect the life of a Christian as they know that marriage should be for life so would be against adultery and divorce as this would break the promise made to God. It also affects Christians as it gives them a stable relationship to start a family and have sexual relationships, following God's teaching of "Go forth and be fruitful".

Remember for a part c:

Point, evidence, explanation and development.

## Issues raised as a result of inter-faith marriage



### Main issues raised as a result of interfaith marriage:

- Orthodox Church will only marry baptised Christians
- If a catholic marries a non-Catholic they must promise to raise their children as Catholic
- where you will be able to get married (some overcome this by having a civil ceremony and then a religious blessing rather than a religious wedding ceremony)
- Different religions and traditions might have different expectations around gender roles
  - Following dietary rules
- Communities and families may reject the marriage and the couple
  - Which religion should the children be
  - Beliefs about death and the afterlife
  - Which festivals should be celebrated
- Different beliefs about contraception, abortion etc



By Radio Pastor Perry F. Rockwood

## Cohabitation

### Christian attitudes

- Liberal Anglicans allow cohabitation but believe that it should be in preparation for married life
- Catholics disagree with cohabitation and also disagree with pre marital sex because sex is sacred
- Some Baptist churches may even refuse to marry couples who cohabit

### What is cohabitation

It is where a couple live together as part of a sexual relationship without being



married

### Muslim attitudes

- Cohabitation is always wrong for Muslims because pre-marital sex is also wrong

Exam watch

### A) What is meant by the term cohabitation (2)

Cohabitation is where a couple live together in a **sexual relationship** without being married or in a civil partnership

If you do not include that it is in a sexual relationship you will not get full marks

## Adultery

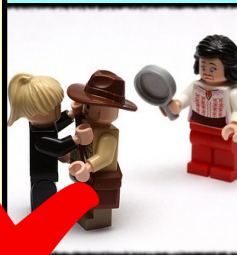
Voluntary sexual intercourse between a married person and someone who is not their marriage partner

Most people, whether religious or otherwise disapprove of adultery on moral grounds



### Christian views on adultery

- Adultery is **ALWAYS** wrong as once married sex should only be with your marriage partner
- It is forbidden in the 10 commandments
- Adultery harms the family unit
- Adultery breaks the sacred sacrament of marriage



### Muslim views on adultery

- It is forbidden in the Qur'an
  - It is seen as theft
- Marriage is a life long commitment adultery breaks this trust
- Adultery may break any vows made
- Adultery damages society and the ummah

## DIVORCE

To legally end a marriage

### Catholics

- No religious divorce is permitted
- Marriage is a sacrament that can't be broken
- If they divorce legally they cannot receive Holy Communion at the Eucharist
- They use Mark 10 :9 to show that marriage cannot be broken by humans *'what God has put together, let no one separate.'*

Catholics may get an **annulment** which means the marriage is not valid. This is only applicable in the following cases:

- The couple have not had sex
- The marriage should not have taken place for some reason (underage, not of sound mind at the time, forced into it)

### Anglican

- Liberal Anglicans allow divorce but would expect the couple to try to reconcile first
- They may see it as the lesser of two evils if the couple are unhappy
- Do not like re-marriage—would rather it happened in a non-Church setting if it does happen

### Non-conformist i.e. Methodist

- Discourage divorce
- Will re-marry divorced people if the couple are suitably committed
- Ministers do not have to perform re-marriage ceremonies



### Muslim attitudes to divorce

- Muslims are **not against divorce** but would expect a couple to try and work out their issues first
- To divorce the husband must declare the intention 3 times to a witness. The couple must then separate for 3 months where they live in the same house but do not have sex. After this time an imam will give them a religious divorce
- The Qur'an explains what should happen in divorce (**see sources of wisdom**)

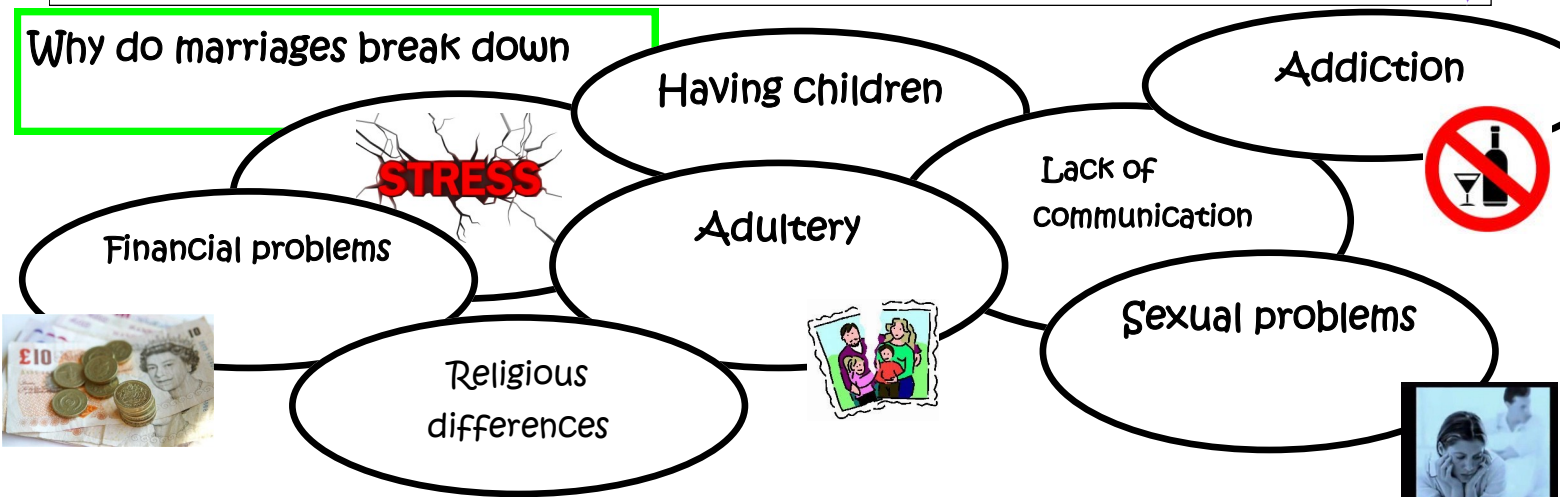


**Humanists** are not opposed to divorce but do think that if there are children the couple should first try to resolve their differences.

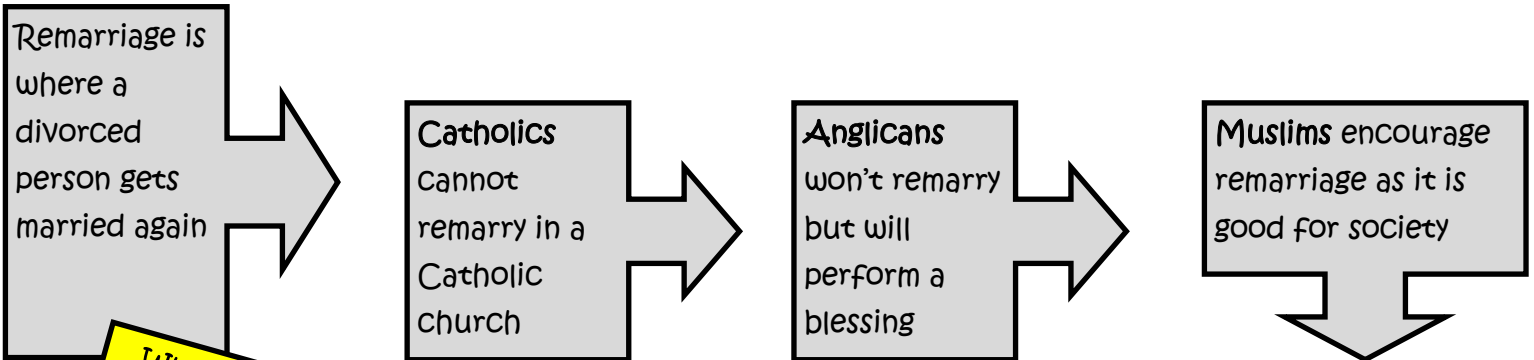
They believe that people should be able to enjoy life so if divorce is the only option then it is acceptable



## Why do marriages break down



## What are different attitudes to remarriage?



What about arranged marriages?

In Muslim families parents will sometimes **arrange marriages**. This is because men and women should not mix unless married so the parents use their knowledge of people in the community to make a recommendation

No-one should ever be forced into marriage though.

## EXAM WATCH

### B) Describe how families are important in a faith community (5)

All religious groups see family as important for example, for Christians they believe that in *Genesis* God says that he wanted them to have families. This comes from the quote in the Bible "go forth and multiply". This means in order to spread the Christian faith they should have children and reproduce so that it continues to grow and spread. This view is supported by **Pope Francis** who said that family is the 'essential cell of society' and that both mothers and young people play a big role in keeping the catholic religion alive. This would affect the life of a Christian as family is so important to them as they are able to teach and share their religion with their children and see it as their duty to spread the religion of Christianity.

## Religion and the purpose of sex

Overview

- All religions think **sex is important** and as a **gift from God**
- It allows the human race to continue
- It is also a way for a couple to express their love and affection to each other
- They all see **promiscuity** (having multiple casual partners) as bad because it abuses the gift God has given us
- Fidelity (being faithful) is important because sex can result in children and children should be raised in a committed relationship and should ideally be married

Purpose of sex

- Used to be for **procreation** (creating new life)
- Contraception has meant that people can have sex for pleasure without the risk of getting pregnant
- Contraception has led to changing views on the purpose of sex

Christian attitudes to sex

Sex is a **gift from God** and is **holy and sacred**

Should take within a **marriage**

**Promiscuity** (casual sex) **devalues the act of sex** and abuses God's gift

Promiscuity may result in **unwanted children**. Christians believe children should be the product of a loving and stable relationship

Muslim attitudes to sex

Sex is a **gift from God** and is **holy and sacred**

Should take within a **marriage**

Couples should **meet each others sexual needs**. Sex is a **form of worship**  
**Sex outside of marriage is wrong**, the Qur'an states that you should not *'approach unlawful sexual intercourse. Indeed it is ever an immorality, and is evil as a way.'* Qur'an 17:32

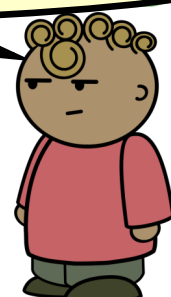
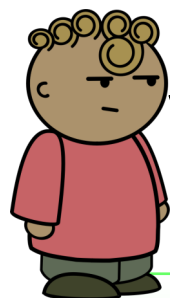
Sex outside marriage may lead to promiscuity and so is always wrong

## What is chastity?

- The idea of not having sex until married
- **Christians and Muslims** believe people should practice chastity until married
- In America, the **Silver Ring Thing** wear a silver ring on their 'wedding finger' to show they will remain chaste (not have sex) until they are married

## What is celibacy?

- When a person decides to **never have a sexual relationship or marry**
- **Catholic priests, monks and nuns** all take a **vow of celibacy** and devote their lives to God and worship
- **Muslims do not** believe that people should be celibate as all people should aim to get married





## Christians and contraception

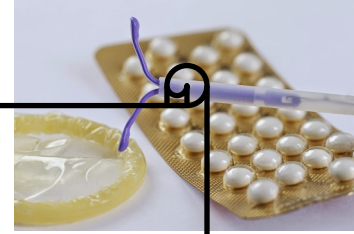
### Catholic church

Official teaching forbids the use of contraception

Many Catholics will follow their conscience and use contraception to avoid having children or prevent STIs

#### Thomas Aquinas and Natural Moral Law

- ◇ The Catholic Church use the philosophy of Aquinas to show that contraception is wrong
- ◇ Natural Moral law states that what is natural is right.
- ◇ He claimed that protecting innocent life, having children (procreation), educating children, living together in society and worshipping God are natural to humans (he called these the Primary Precepts)
- ◇ Anything that prevents the Primary Precepts is unnatural and therefore wrong
- ◇ Contraception prevents procreation and is therefore wrong These rules are called the Secondary Precepts



### Most Protestants

- ◇ Most Protestants accept contraception
- ◇ It can be used to limit family size
- ◇ It can be used to enjoy the gift of sex without the fear of unwanted pregnancy
- ◇ They believe God allowed us to create contraception so we should use it instead of following Natural Law
- ◇ Can be used to stop the spread of STIs (Sexually Transmitted Infections)

The Qur'an does not mention it but contraception was used at the time of Muhammad

### Muslims and contraception

Most agree as long as:

- It doesn't harm the body
- Both the man and woman agree to use it

Can be used to limit family size  
Muslims do not believe in permanent forms like sterilisation

### Humanist view on contraception

Good as it helps us enjoy sex  
Science should help us lead better lives  
Contraception helps with this



**EXAM WATCH**

## B) With reference to one religion you have studied, explain their attitudes to sex (5)

Christians have many different views about sex. For all Christians sex is a gift from God, and should be used for procreation. This comes from the quote "be fruitful and multiply". This means that it is sacred a holy and should be valued. This means that they do not agree with promiscuity because they think that it devalues the act of sex and could even lead to an unwanted pregnancy. Many Christians and Catholics in particular, believe that sex should only happen within a committed relationship. They believe that sex outside of marriage is always wrong. This would affect the life of a Christians as this means that Catholics can never use contraception and should always see sex as a way of creating new life.

### Changes in attitudes to same sex relationships

- \* Sexual relationships are not just between a man and a woman anymore
- \* Homosexuality was only decriminalised in 1967
- \* Civil partnership Act allowed same sex couples to gain the same legal rights and responsibilities as married couples
- \* The marriage Act allowed same sex marriages in England and Wales
- \* Same sex marriage is still controversial for religious and non-religious people



#### Catholic Church

- \* **Do not allow it**
- \* **Goes against Natural Law** (same sex couples cannot procreate in the traditional way)
- \* Sexual relationships should **only happen between a man and a woman**
- \* **Pope Francis reinforced this** view and said that we should recognise that marriage between a man and woman and relationship between the same sexes were different. He claims this recognises the differences between

#### Other Christians

- \* **Some agree and some disagree**
- \* Some use **Leviticus** to show it is wrong as it claims 2 men having sex is wrong
- \* Some also use **1 Timothy** as this says that 'practising homosexuality' is 'contrary to sound doctrine'
- \* Some Liberal Christians **agree with same sex relationships**
- \* Liberal Anglicans say that Jesus taught us to 'love our neighbours' and so **we should love homosexuals** and allow them to have satisfying relationships

#### Muslims

- \* **Forbid homosexual relationships** and marriage
- \* Sex should only take place between a **man and a woman**
- \* Sex should take place in a marriage and marriages are only between men and women
- \* In the **Qur'an** it says that **men should not approach other men with desire** and this shows them that it is wrong



#### Humanists

- \* **Personal choice**
- \* If a person wishes to have a same sex marriage to be happy it is

**that's humanism!**

# Relationships: Issues of equality—gender prejudice and discrimination

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## How have attitudes toward gender equality changed?

- ⇒ YES!
- ⇒ Gender equality aims to reduce and remove discrimination and prejudice based on gender
- ⇒ The 2010 Equalities Act simplified previous law and made it illegal to discriminate against people based on a range of characteristics including sex

### Evangelical Protestant

Churches believe men should go out to work and women raise the children and only men should preach in church because...

1. Jesus was a man and only had male disciples.
2. Adam was created first so men were given more rights than women.
3. It was Eve who was led astray by Satan.
- 4.1 Timothy suggests that women should not have authority over men

Catholics believe that men and women have equal roles in the family, however they do not believe women can be priest because....

1. The priest represents Jesus and Jesus was a man
2. Catholics believe that women can have different, equally important roles in the Church, as nuns helping to lead worship



### More modern Protestant Christians and Liberal Anglicans

accept that men and women have equal rights at home and in religion because...

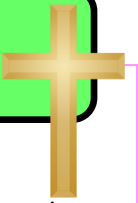
1. Genesis 1 says that men and women were created at the same time and so have equal status.
2. Paul in Galatians 3:27-29 taught "there is neither male nor female... you are all one in Jesus" so men and women should be equal
3. Jesus treated women as equals, teaching them, healing them and it was a woman who stayed with him during his crucifixion.
4. There is some evidence that there were women priests in the early church. The fact that they needed to be banned shows women must have been preaching at some level
5. Anglicans now allow women to be the priests



### Muslim views on gender equality in worship and authority:

- ⇒ Qur'an 4.1 shows that Allah created people as equals and from the same soul
- ⇒ Qur'an 40:40 says that true believers can be male or female
- ⇒ The Qur'an suggest that in matters like divorce men should have authority over women
- ⇒ Usually only men take the role of imam
- ⇒ Some Sunni mosques allow women to lead prayers for women but they must stand among the congregation rather than at the front
- ⇒ Men and women are usually separate in worship, in fact women are often encouraged to worship at home
- ⇒ Men and women are often seen as having equally important, but different roles within Islam

Read and summarise the main meanings. **These are important** and you need to know the **main ideas** or be able to **quote from it and explain it**



**Mark 10: 6-8 6 (on marriage)**

But at the beginning of creation God 'made them male and female.' 7 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, 8 and the two will become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh.

**Mark 10:9 9 (on marriage and divorce)**

Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate

**Leviticus 20:13 (on homosexuality)**

13 If a man has sexual relations with a man as one does with a woman, both of them have done what is detestable. They are to be put to death; their blood will be on their own heads.

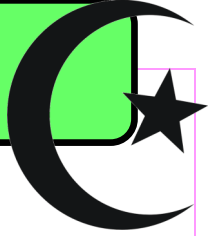
**10 commandments - "do not commit adultery"**

**Genesis - "Go forth and multiply / be fruitful"**

**Wedding vows - "Till death do us part"**

**"There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."**

Read and summarise the main meanings. **These are important** and you need to know the **main ideas** or be able to **quote from it and explain it**



**Qur'an** - And do not approach unlawful sexual intercourse.

**Qur'an** - Whoever does an evil deed will not be recompensed except by the like thereof; but whoever does righteousness, whether male or female, while he is a believer - those will enter Paradise, being given provision therein without account.

**Qur'an 30:21 (on marriage)**

And of His signs is that He created for you from yourselves mates that you may find tranquillity in them; and He placed between you affection and mercy. Indeed in that are signs for a people who give thought.

**Qur'an (on divorce)** - "Of all things, divorce is the most hated by Allah"

1. Make flash cards for the key terms at the beginning of the unit
2. Design a poster/ collage to explain the different types of families
3. Write an account of the different Christian views on sexual relationships
4. Create a comic strip that shows what happens in the Christian and Muslims wedding ceremonies
5. Explain what is meant by Natural Law
6. Describe why marriage outside of religious tradition can be controversial .
7. From two different religions or two religious traditions, explain different views about divorce (8)
8. From two different religions or two religious traditions, explain different views about sexual relationships (8)
9. 'Women are less important than men in religion' (15)

'Evaluate this view showing you have considered more than one point of view.'

In your answer you must refer to religion and belief

10. 'Marriage is a life long commitment that can never be broken' (15)

'Evaluate this view showing you have considered more than one point of view.'

In your answer you must refer to religion and belief



# Life and death



**Remember:**

**In this topic you must refer to non-religious views such as Humanism.**



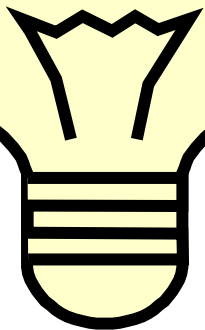
<b>Afterlife</b>	Belief in life after death; the belief that existence continues after physical death
<b>Environmental sustainability</b>	Ensuring that natural resources are used but protected so that all people, animals and plant life can live well now and in the future
<b>Euthanasia</b>	The act of killing or permitting the death of a person who is suffering from a serious illness
<b>Evolution</b>	The process by which different creatures are believed to have developed from earlier less complex forms during the history of the
<b>Abortion</b>	The ending of a pregnancy so that it does not result in the birth of a child
<b>Quality of life</b>	The extent to which life is meaningful and pleasurable/enjoyable
<b>Sanctity of life</b>	The belief that life is precious, or sacred and god given. For many religious believers,
<b>The soul</b>	The spiritual aspect of a being, which some religions believe connects a person to God. It is also seen as non-physical and as living on after physical death in an afterlife



YOU MUST, MUST, MUST LEARN THESE AS THEY WILL BE THE FOCUS OF YOUR α) QUESTIONS FOR THIS UNIT



Evidence for the Big Bang is called **Red Shift Effect**.



### The Big Bang theory

Scientists such as the late Professor Stephen Hawking explain the origins of the universe with the **Big Bang theory**. They say that about 15 million years ago the universe began from a 'singularity' which expanded at a rapid rate. As the matter then flew apart, the solar system was formed. The gasses on the earth's surface caused the first life forms to begin, amoeba. The genetic structure of each of these life forms began to change and mutate. Only mutations that are suited to the conditions of the environment will survive and reproduce. Over millions of years new life forms evolved leading to humans about 2.5 million years ago.

The universe continues to expand and this expansion is further proof that it began with a single event, the Big Bang

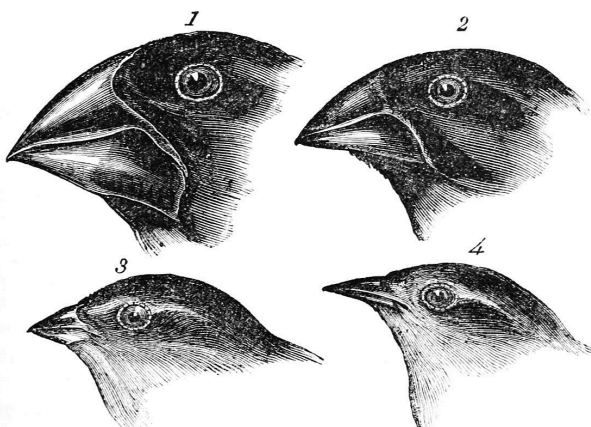
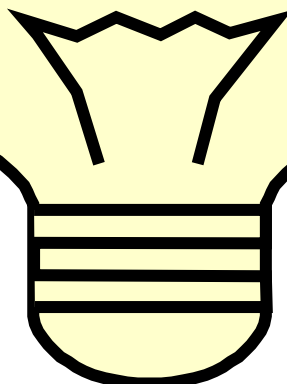
### Charles Darwin's theory of evolution

Darwin's research showed how creatures evolved over a long period of time. His work showed that those creatures with advantageous features that allowed them to breed and survive lived on.

His work was conducted in the Galapagos Islands and focussed on birds and the differences between species and the development of their beaks. The different shapes had evolved to enable them to access the food sources on the island.

This idea became known as 'survival of the fittest.'

Evidence for Evolution comes from **fossils** of fossil life developing from simple to complex over the years.



1. Geospiza magnirostris.  
3. Geospiza parvula.

2. Geospiza fortis.  
4. Certhidea olivacea.

# Life and death: Christian and Muslim responses to the Big Bang

21

## Liberal Christians

Scientific explanations are true, but they do not mean God doesn't exist. The Big Bang had to happen at exactly the right moment, within exactly the right conditions. This could only have happened with God's help. The stories in *Genesis* are myths and aren't literally true.



## Evangelical Protestants

Science is wrong and the bible is right. God created the world in 7 days and the evidence of the Big Bang and evolution can be explained by the story of Noah and the flood which would have changed rock formations. There are 2 ideas about this. 'Young earth creationism' suggests the earth is only 10,000 years old, whereas 'old earth creationism' says creation took place millions of years ago and that the time frame is a metaphor.



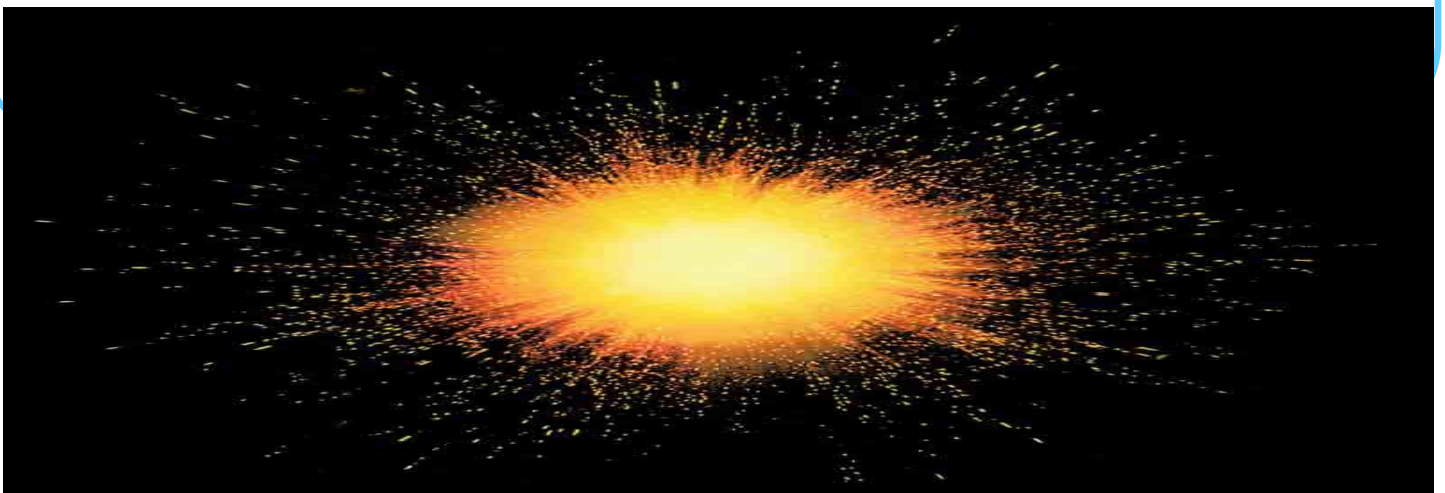
## Catholics

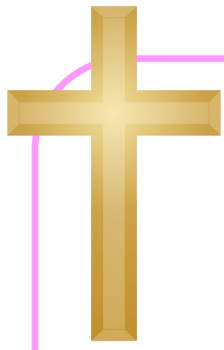
Both science and the Bible are correct, because some parts of the Bible fit with science. If God created the world in 7 days, each day could have actually been millions or billions of years. When God said 'let there be light', this could be referring to the Big Bang

## Muslim responses to the Big Bang

**Most Muslims** see any ideas that contradict the belief that Allah is responsible for the world as sinful.

However, **some Muslims** see no conflict with this at all and believe that it is their duty to use scientific discovery to understand more about the world that Allah has given us





### Genesis 1

This explains how God created the universe out of nothing 'ex nihilo' in 6 days. Man was created on the 6th with the 7th as a day of rest (Sabbath)

### Genesis 2

In Genesis 2 it says that Adam was created from dust and earth **before** the animals and placed in the Garden of Eden. Eve was created for him and formed out of one of Adam's ribs



Some Christians believe these are **literal** accounts whereas others believe that are **non-literal** and are open to interpretation

### Evangelical Christians

Believe that the science must be wrong because the Bible is 'god breathed' and is literally true. They believe in either:

- Young earth creationism—world is 10,000 years old
- Old earth creationism—creation took place millions of years ago

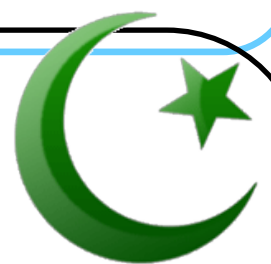
### Liberal Christians

The Bible stories are myths and contain contradictions which show they should not be read literally. They believe the Bible writers did not have access to scientific knowledge and so write for their own time. Liberal Christians accept evolution but see God as responsible and look at it in two different ways:

- Theistic guided evolution—God intervened and guided the process of evolution
- Natural evolution—God put in place the laws to govern the process of evolution which then took place naturally over millions of years

### Muslim attitudes to the creation of the world

- Qur'an teaches that **God is the Creator and Sustainer** of all life
- Muslims believe that the world/universe were created over 6 long periods of time
- Adam was formed out of clay and Eve and him were made from the same soul
- Because Muslims believe that the Qur'an is the direct word of God, most Muslims reject the Darwin's theory of evolution and are creationists.
- Muslims tend to believe in old earth creationism
- Some Muslims are against the idea of evolution as they say it is often linked with atheism which is seen as a bad thing
- However **some Muslims** don't see any conflict in being a Muslim and believing in scientific theories like evolution
- They believe that we should learn as much as we can through science about the universe and Allah has allowed us to do this
- Dr Hasan who is an imam and a scientist claims that '**the book of Nature and the Book of God can be aligned**' meaning that science and religion can work together to understand the world





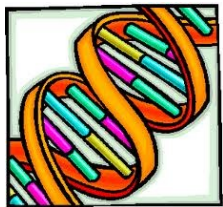
The argument from design was made famous by a philosopher called William Paley. He argued the world that we live in is so well designed that it must have had a designer. Paley said the only thing powerful enough to have designed the whole universe so perfectly would be God, because God is **omnipotent**. Therefore, God exists.



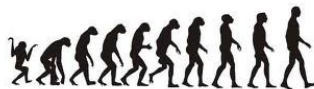
## THE DESIGN ARGUMENT

If you found a watch and looked at how many tiny parts fit together to make it, work you would decide that it was designed by a watchmaker. William Paley said this is like the universe. There are lots of things in the natural world that could be seen as well designed, e.g. the human eye. If the watch must have a watch maker then the world must have a world maker. This world maker is God.

Evidence of design in the world:



DNA

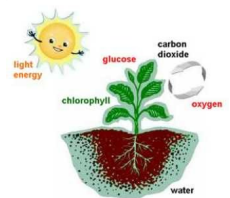


Evolution



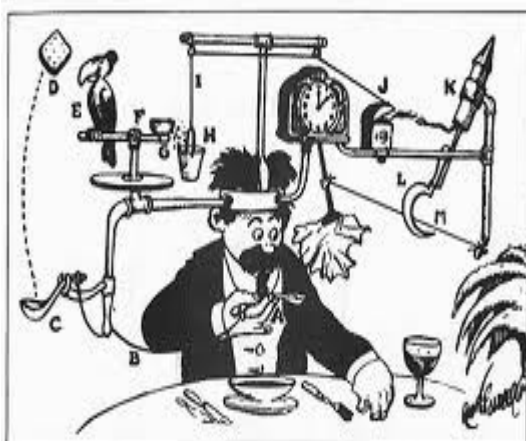
Beauty

Photosynthesis



The design argument has become popular among some theists (people who believe in God) again. It is now often referred to as **Intelligent Design**. Intelligent design is the idea that some features of life are best explained by an intelligent source than just a random process like evolution. **Michael Behe** supports intelligent design and says that just like a mouse trap, which needs all of its component parts to work, many features of life also require this. He claims that the building blocks for life were designed by God and then set into motion through evolution. **Richard Dawkins**, is an atheist philosopher who claims that whilst there may be the illusion of design, but if the world is designed then who designed the designer? He claims that evolution alone is the best explanation and that it needs no help from God.

Self-Operating Napkin



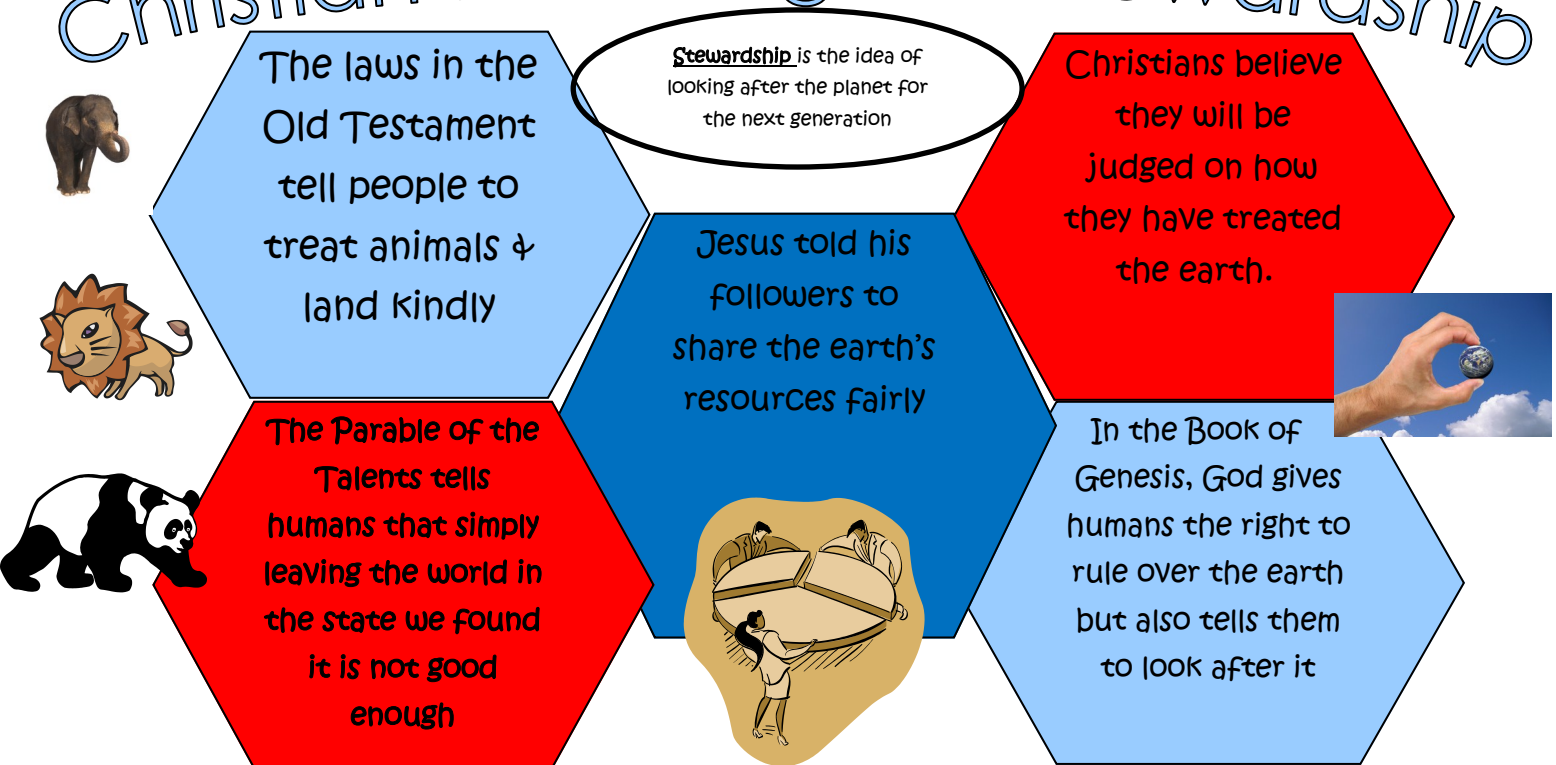
## The causation argument

**Causation** is where one thing causes another, like a chain of dominoes. **Cause and effect** can be seen in the world that we live in- nothing appears from nowhere, everything is caused to happen by something before it. A philosopher called **St Thomas Aquinas** was famous for arguing that the world we live in could not have come from nowhere, but like everything else, needed a cause. He felt the only thing powerful enough to bring a whole universe into existence was God.

Some people disagree with the causation argument because:

1. If everything in the world has a cause, then what caused God? God must too need a cause.
2. Not everything has a start and finish, maybe the universe goes back until infinity and there was no cause.

# Christian teachings on stewardship



## How Christian beliefs about stewardship lead them to be effective global citizens

They should try to reduce pollution & preserve resources for future generations.

They may try to help people living in LEDCs through charity work

Green Christians may support the work of environmental groups

They should judge how faithful they are being to their religion by how good their stewardship is.

Top tip: Remember that Christianity has two quite different views about stewardship:

### DOMINION OVER THE EARTH

They believe that man has dominion over the earth, which means human can and should treat animals and the earth as they wish as they are ultimately in charge. It is usually **Evangelical Christians** that believe this because in **Genesis :28** it says that humans should 'rule over' the earth

### STEWARDS OF THE EARTH

They believe that man has a responsibility to look after the earth and ensure that we are constantly striving to protect and look after animals and also the natural resources that we have been given. **Liberal Christians** are more likely to want to be stewards in order to 'love their neighbour' and to 'cultivate and care for' the Garden of Eden as stated in **Genesis 2**

## What does Islam say about stewardship

The Qur'an says that Adam (and by implication the rest of us) was created as Allah's **Khalifah** (steward) to rule the earth

Muslims believe in Tawhid (unity) meaning that because Allah is One, everything He creates is One too – everything depends on everything else, so if we harm the environment, we are harming ourselves.

They believe that **life is a test** & part of the test is how we treat the environment. They believe they will be **judged** on how they treat it

If the earth is a gift from God then we should treat it with respect



They believe that there is an order and balance '**fitrah**' to the universe and that using the earth's resources fairly will maintain this balance

Muhammad once told a story about a prostitute who, on a hot day bought a dog a bowl of water. Muhammad said that because she had been kind that all of her sins would be forgiven by Allah



## What Islamic beliefs mean for attitudes to the environment

They should try to reduce pollution & preserve resources for future generations.

They may try to help people living in LEDCs

They may support the work of environmental groups



They should judge how faithful they are being to their religion by how good their Stewardship is.

What do Humanists think about stewardship and being a global citizen?

Humanists use **reason** to understand the world and our responsibilities towards it. They believe that it is **logical** for us to use the earth's resources responsibly in order to ensure the continuation of the species. Some may also look to philosophers like **Peter Singer** who claim that we are **speciesist** (the idea that one species is better than another) by promoting our own species over animal species. He claims that it is **wrong to see human life as the most important or sacred** and that animal life has just as much value







Read and summarise the main meanings. **These are important** and you need to know the main ideas or be able to quote from it and explain it

## Genesis

The Beginning 1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. 3 And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

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26 Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." 27 So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

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God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

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"God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

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Psalm 8:6 - You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet.

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Read and summarise the main meanings. **These are important** and you need to know the main ideas or be able to quote from it and explain it

### Qur'an

Is not He who created the heavens and the earth able to create the likes of them? Yes, [it is so]; and He is the Knowing Creator.

### Qur'an

He has made you His ruling agents in the earth

### Qur'an

The earth has been created a place of worship, pure and clean

### Qur'an

Indeed, your Lord is Allah who created the heavens and the earth in six days and then established himself above the throne. He covers the night with the day, [another night] chasing it rapidly; and [He created] the sun, moon, and the stars, subjected by His command. Unquestionably, His is the creation and the command; blessed is Allah, Lord of the worlds.

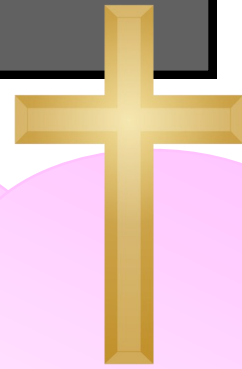
# Life and death. What do Christians and Muslims believe about the sanctity of life ?

28

The sanctity of life is the idea that human life in particular is special and sacred.

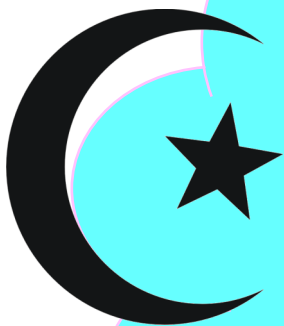
## Christian views on the sanctity of life

- \* Christians believe that they are made in God's image and that God cares about them as individual
- \* For Christians who read the Bible literally it means that all humans bear God's image and are therefore sacred
- \* All Christians believe that **life is in some way sacred** and valuable
- \* Many believe that **ONLY God has the right to take away life**
- \* **Quakers do not believe in the death penalty or war because of this**
- \* **Catholics have very strict views** about this in areas life contraception, IVF, abortion and euthanasia
- \* **Jesus showed life was valuable** by healing many people such as lepers, blind people and even raising people like Jairus' daughter from the dead



## Muslim views on the sanctity of life

- \* Muslims believe that **all life is created by God** and only he should take it away
- \* **Murder is prohibited** in the Qur'an
- \* Muslims believe that **God has a plan for every soul** and that each person is 'planted as a seed in your mother's womb.'
- \* In the Qur'an it states that **if anyone takes one life it is as if he had murdered the whole of mankind**
- \* The Qur'an also says that people ought not to kill their children out of poverty and desperation and that Allah will provide for them



## What do Humanists believe about the sanctity of life?

- ♦ Humanists believe that **human life does have a special value** however they do not think that this comes from a divine creator God.
- ♦ They believe that human life is special because **we only get one life** and we have a responsibility to live it well
- ♦ They also believe that we **have a duty to make ourselves and others happy** and therefore we should live in accordance with whatever makes others and ourselves live and fulfilled and enjoyable life.
- ♦ For humanists **life isn't seen as sacred or holy** but instead is seen as **worthy of respect**

## 1. What is quality of life?

It is the idea that life is still meaningful and pleasurable. Some people would say that our quality of life is more important than the sanctity of life.



## 2. How can we measure quality of life?

It is a difficult philosophical problem and unclear because:

1. We all feel pain differently
2. Some argue that if you are not conscious then it may be right to allow you to die
3. For others, they might claim that if you are in great pain you have the right to end your life
4. Some argue that if you lose the ability to perform basic tasks like going to the toilet /cleaning oneself that you no longer have a good quality of life
5. Some would argue that if we know that a child will have a poor quality of life then the parents have a right to terminate the pregnancy to avoid the child suffering



## EXAM WATCH!!!

### b) Explain how a belief in life being sacred might affect religious believers. [5]

One Christian teaching about life being sacred comes from the idea of sanctity of life and life being a gift from God.

This comes from the quote "So God created man in his own image. Male & female he created them".

This means that human life holds a special value as it was created by God and in his image. Therefore, human value is seen as more sacred than animals as it is a reflection of God.

This teaching would affect a Christian's life as they would respect and cherish all human life. It may mean that they avoid things like abortion and euthanasia as they go against sanctity of life. This is because only God can take life and he is the one who created it.

## Why is abortion so controversial?

Some people believe that life begins at conception and therefore abortion is murder

Others believe that it starts when the foetus can be felt moving by the mother

Others believe that it starts when the baby could survive without help outside of the

Others believe it starts when the baby is born

It is because there is no agreement on when life begins that abortion is a very controversial topic.

People also argue about **rights**. Some say that the unborn child has the right to life, whereas others think the mother has more rights. Some say the father should have a say too

## Different beliefs about abortion

### Christian attitudes to abortion



#### Most Christians:

- Goes against the 10 commandments which says 'thou shalt not kill.'
- Goes against the sanctity of life
- Humans are created in the image of God. We should not abort human life
- The Bible says we are known to God before we are formed in the womb. (Jeremiah) This means killing a life God has planned

#### Catholics

- **Wrong** because it goes against Natural Law
- **Wrong** because life begins at conception and is special and sacred from then
- **Wrong** because the Church has taught from the 2nd Century that killing an embryo is wrong

#### Church of England

- ♦ **Acceptable** sometimes i.e. if the mother's life is at risk
- ♦ **Acceptable** sometimes as the lesser of two evils
- ♦ **Acceptable** in order to show compassion, but other options should always be explored first

### Muslim attitudes to abortion

#### Most Muslims:

- See abortion as haram (forbidden)
- Goes against the sanctity of life
- Forbidden to have an abortion for economic reasons (if you don't have enough money as the Qur'an says that Allah will provide for them)

#### Some Muslims:

- Allow abortions up to 16 weeks others up to 7 weeks—this is because there is disagreement about when the foetus becomes a person
- Before 120 days the mother's rights are more important. After 120 days the foetus and mother are equal as the soul has then entered the body
- Allow abortion to save the mother's life as the lesser of 2 evils



### Humanist attitudes to

- Humanists will generally weigh up the evidence and think about the long term consequences
- Generally believe the mother should have the right to choose
- Humanists have campaigned in different parts of the world to legalise abortion

#### Examiner's top tips!

Remember that Humanists are **NOT** religious so do not include them in your C question answers

There are different types of Euthanasia. All of them are controversial and many people argue about whether we should allow it or not

## EUTHANASIA



Euthanasia comes from the Greek word for 'quiet death' and is usually meant to mean a pain free death for a person suffering from a serious illness.

Euthanasia is illegal in Britain

## Different types of euthanasia

Why might people want to end their lives?

May have an incurable disease

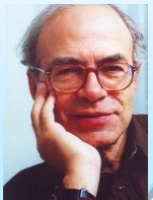
May feel they have no quality of life due to illness

May wish to have control over the way they die

May wish to end serious pain

### The philosopher's view

Peter Singer believes that **quality of life** is more important than **sanctity of life**. He believes that euthanasia should be legal. He thinks argues that if there is no hope of recovery it is better to end that life. Also, if a person of sound mind wishes to end their own



## What are Christian, Muslims and Humanist views on euthanasia?

Most Christians believe Euthanasia is **NOT acceptable** because:

- It goes against the sanctity of life principle
- Murder is against the 10 commandments
- Life is a gift from God killing it is wrong
- We should show compassion to the sick not kill them and hospices can help with this
  - Jesus healed he didn't kill

Some liberal Christians believe that euthanasia **IS acceptable** because:

- There is clear medical evidence that the person won't recover
- It is acting like Jesus and doing the most loving thing

Most Muslims are against euthanasia because:

- The Qur'an tells them that all life is made by God so killing is a sin
  - It is considered as haram (forbidden)
- We should be compassionate towards the sick which doesn't involve killing them
- Euthanasia interferes with God's plan

Some Muslims **AGREE with passive euthanasia** because:

- Muslim lawyers have said it is acceptable where there is no chance of recovery

Humanists and the 'Dignity in Dying' movement believe that euthanasia **should be legal and:**

- They lobby government to try and get the law changed on euthanasia
- They provide advice for people seeking assisted suicide
- Want people to be able to have the choice
- Believe that quality of life is the most important because they don't believe in the sanctity of life

**CAMPAIGN FOR DIGNITY IN DYING.**



**D) 'Euthanasia is murder and should not be legalised'**

Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view.

(You must refer to **religion and non religious belief** in your answer)

Religious people are likely to agree with this statement for a range of reasons, however people like Humanists and might disagree with it. Firstly, Catholic Christians would disagree with because it goes against Natural Law. One of Aquinas's primary precepts is to protect life so by euthanizing people we are going against this idea which is unnatural and therefore wrong. In addition to this, they would argue that it goes against the sanctity of life which states that all life is precious, god given and that only God has the right to give and take life. In Genesis we are told that God created all life in his image so it must be wrong to destroy his creation in this way. The points above demonstrate that for Catholics euthanasia is a sin and therefore unacceptable. This is a strong argument as one of the ten commandments is "Thou shall not kill", meaning helping someone to die is an unacceptable sin.

Many Muslims would agree with Catholics because they also believe in the sanctity of life and so see killing as wrong and sinful. This comes from the Sunni Muslim belief in Al-Qadr which means fate, this means that they think that God has a plan for everyone, by allowing euthanasia you are playing God and this is seen as a great sin. This means that there is a purpose to suffering. Furthermore, in the Qur'an it states that if a person kills one other human it is as if they had killed the whole of mankind, whereas if they save one person they have saved the whole of mankind. This would affect the life of a Muslims as it shows that instead of killing seriously ill people Muslims would show them compassion and care to avoid the need for euthanasia.

However, there are groups that would disagree with the points above such as Humanists. They don't believe in God and therefore don't believe in the sanctity of life principle. Instead they would agree with philosophers like Peter Singer who claim that quality of life is more important. On this basis they argue that euthanasia should be legal as it is kinder to allow someone in great pain to die than to suffer. The Dignity in Dying movement is a Humanist movement that try to persuade the government that euthanasia should be legal because they think people should have the right to die as well as live. This view shows that for some, euthanasia is seen as an act of kindness rather than killing.

In conclusion, there isn't a clear consensus on whether euthanasia should be legal or even whether it can be considered murder which means that it is unlikely at this stage to be legalised as there is so much religious opposition to it. As an atheist, I agree with the Humanist perspective and believe that this is the strongest argument. I believe that everyone should be given a choice and if they are suffering with unbearable pain they should be allowed to choose to die with dignity. I believe this is the most compassionate view that would enable someone to end their poor quality life.





<b>Dualists</b>	Believe that there is both a physical body and also a spiritual soul. People who are dualists believe that the soul is the true part of human and that it will live on forever in some form
<b>Materialists</b>	Believe that there is only physical matter. They don't believe in a soul or spirit

What are the different Christian views about the soul?



- The soul is the **spiritual and eternal part** of a human being
- Genesis 2:7 says god **breathed life into Adam** which is thought to mean, given him a soul
- We are **connected to God** through our soul
- The process of the soul entering the body is called **ensoulment**—**Aquinas** thought this happened while the baby was developing in the womb, **others** believe it happens at conception

Some Christians are **DUALISTS** because they believe that the soul will live on in heaven after the death of the body

Some Christians are non-dualists, they believe that the body and soul will be reunited in heaven. They believe that you will get a glorified spiritual body when we are all raised on Judgement Day. **This view is given by St Paul in Corinthians**

What do **Muslims** believe about the soul?

- We have been given a soul 'ruh' and a physical body by God
- Each soul is imprinted with a belief in God called 'fitrah,' which leads us to submit to God
- The true nature of our soul is to live as a Muslim and submit to God
- Muslims also believe that God breathed life into Adam and Eve
- Many Muslims believe that ensoulment takes place 120 days after conception

- Humanists tend to be materialists and therefore reject the idea that we have a soul
- Humanists favour finding scientific evidence instead of religious claims
- Humanists believe that no part of us is able to live on and that after death we will decompose

What do **Humanists** believe about the soul?

# Life and death. What do Christians believe about judgement and heaven and hell

Make sure you understand and know this

What do Christians believe about judgement?

God is the Divine Judge who will decide who will be rewarded with eternal life or punished

Those who believe in Jesus and live a good life will go to heaven, the others to hell

The Parable of the Sheep and the Goats explains how Christians should live in order to get to heaven



## Christian beliefs about heaven and hell

Not many description of heaven in the Bible

Most believe you go to heaven if you have lived the right life

Many believe that God and the angels are located there

Evangelical Christians believe it is a physical place

Catholics believe it is a spiritual dimension

All believe hell is a place of suffering

Some believe it is a literal place of torment and fire

Others believe the torment comes from a separation from God's presence

HELL AND HEAVEN



## Life and death. What do Muslims believe about judgement and heaven and hell

### What do Muslims believe about judgement?

Akhirah is one of the 6 beliefs of Sunni Islam and shows that they believe that on death you will live again

There will be a Day of Judgement sounded by the trumpet of Izrafil. Souls wait in barzakh until then

On the Day of Judgement a Book of Deeds will be given to each person. If the good outweighs the bad they will go to heaven

### The coming of the Madhi

Muslims believe the Madhi (guided one) will come as the saviour of the world on the Day of Judgement.

Sunnis believe he will appear with Isa (Jesus)

Shias believe his identity will be revealed as the Hidden (12th) Imam

## Muslim beliefs about heaven and hell

### Janna (heaven)



Janna is a place of **happiness** and **paradise**. Once accepted they will cross the **Bridge of As-Sirat**. Heaven is for those who have lived faithful lives, been moral and those who have died protecting Gods name and for their faith.

Many believe **we suffer on earth to test our faith** and help us gain entry to heaven; if we pass we are faithful like Ibrahim and the other great prophets  
Heaven is a **place of reward** as



### Jahannam (hell)

Many see this as a literal **place of torment** and suffering. The damned will face terrible torture and the pain of separation from God with no hope of return  
Some believe those who sin deserve to have **eternal punishment**

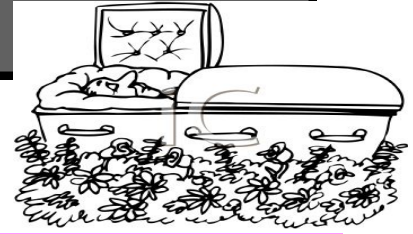
**Some believe that hell is not forever** and as God forgives, those who repent will be pardoned eventually



# Life and death: how do funeral rites reflect beliefs about life after death

36

## Christian funerals



What happens	What is it and how does it reflect belief in the afterlife
Last rites	It is a <b>Catholic practice</b> and involves prayers for the dying person, they may be allowed to ask god for <b>forgiveness</b> . The priest may also give them Holy <b>Communion</b> . This helps to ease them into the afterlife in peace having asked God for forgiveness
Coffin carried to the front of the church. <b>Candles</b> lit and the minister will say ' <b>I am the resurrection and the life.</b> '	The <b>candles represent Jesus</b> as the ' <b>light of the world</b> ' Jesus' words remind the congregation that those who believe will be resurrected and spend eternity with God
<b>Psalm 23 'The Lord is My Shepherd'</b> is often read	This shows that <b>God will accompany the dead</b> to the afterlife but also <b>comfort those who mourn for the dead</b>
The person is buried using the words ' <b>ashes to ashes, dust to dust.</b> '	This represents the idea that we return to the earth from which God made us. Traditionally cremation was not allowed as Christians believed the body needed to be intact in order to be resurrected on Judgement Day.



## Muslim funerals

What happens?	What is it and how does it reflect belief in the afterlife
When close to death the dying person will say ' <b>God, help me through the hardship and agony of death.</b> ' They will also say the <b>shahada</b>	These were the final words spoken by the Prophets Muhammad. Those around the dying person will respond by saying ' <b>In God we belong and to God we return.</b> ' It emphasises to all that on death we return to God
Funerals take place <b>within 24 hours</b> . The body is washed, usually by relatives, and wrapped in a white shawl.	The washing connects the living with the death and is a duty for Muslims. The <b>white shawl represents purity</b> and the idea that we are all <b>equal before God</b>
Bodies are buried <b>facing Makkah</b> and <b>cremations are not allowed</b>	Facing the holiest city of Islam and being whole means you will be able to be raised on the Day of Judgement
At the graveside the <b>Al-Fatihah</b> is recited When the body is lowered into the grave <b>words from the Qur'an</b> are spoken	The <b>Al Fatihah</b> is the opening Surah of the Qur'an emphasises the <b>greatness of Allah</b> and the Muslims are reminded that <b>we were created from earth but upon death we will be raised again</b>
Muslims <b>don't usually have headstones</b>	This shows that they are <b>all equal in death</b>



# Life and death: how do funeral rites reflect beliefs about life after death

37

## HUMANIST Ceremonies

Remembrance of the life of the person who has died

Reflection on the contribution they have made in their life

Non-religious music and readings  
Moments of quiet reflection

Many people in Britain claim to be atheists and therefore do not wish to have a religious funeral

Humanist ceremonies are usually less formal than religious ceremonies and may include the following:



Lighting candles

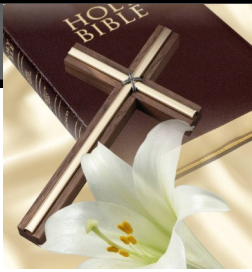


A **eulogy** (speech about why they were special)

### C) From two different religions or two religious traditions, explain attitudes about life after death (8)

1. Christians believe that there will be an afterlife which consists of heaven or hell. This comes from various stories in the Bible; Jesus said 'I am the resurrection and the life.' In addition to this they are told in the Bible that if they believe in Jesus and also live a **good life** that on the Day of Judgement they will be raised and go to heaven. St Paul supports this view in Corinthians where he says that when we are resurrected we have a glorious resurrection body. This means that Christians have a soul that will live on when they die. This would affect a Christians life as they know their actions in this life will affect the judgement they receive on their afterlife.
2. Muslims also believe in an afterlife which is known as Akhirah; it is also one of the 6 beliefs of Sunni Islam and therefore very important. Muslims are told in the Qur'an that in order to enter Janna (heaven) one must have led a good life because on the Day of Judgement we will all be handed a Book of Deeds which documents all of our actions. This comes from the quote "Allah is acquainted with what you do". This means if the good outweighs the bad we go to heaven, however if the bad outweighs the good, we go to Jahannam (hell). Muslims want to avoid hell as it is a place of physical torment for eternity. This would affect a Muslims life as they try to ensure they follow the teachings and guidance of Allah so they will be rewarded with paradise.





Read and summarise the main meanings. **These are important** and you need to know the main ideas or be able to quote from it and explain it

**Genesis 1:31** - 31 God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

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**Jeremiah 1:5** - 5 Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.

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Don't you know that your body is God's temple, and His spirit lives in you.

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**John 11:24-27** - 25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; 26and whoever lives by believing in me will never die.

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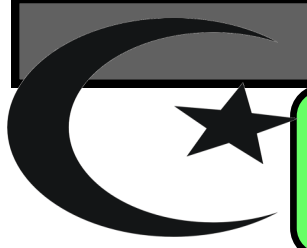
**1 Corinthians 15:42-44**

42 So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; 43 it is sown in dishonour, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; 44 it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.

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Read and summarise the main meanings. **These are important** and you need to know the main ideas or be able to quote from it and explain it

**Qur'an 5:32**

Because of that, We decreed upon the children of Israel that whoever kills a soul unless for a soul or for corruption [done] in the land - it is as if he had slain mankind entirely.

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**Qur'an- "Allah is acquainted with what you do"**

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**Qur'an 6:151 - do not kill your children out of poverty; We will provide for you and them.**

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**Qur'an - "It is He Allah who created you from a single soul"**

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**Qur'an 46:33 - And the evil consequences of what they did will appear to them, and they will be enveloped by what they used to ridicule.**

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**Qur'an 3:16 - Those who say "O Lord, indeed we have believed, so forgive us our sins and protect us from the punishment of the Fire."**

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**Quran: "Do not take life that Allah has made sacred - except in just cause" This is good to use in your evaluation of a part d question!**

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1. What do the following words mean? i) afterlife, ii) environmental sustainability, iii) euthanasia, iv) the soul
2. Design a poster/ collage/mind map to show either different ideas about abortion within Christianity or between Christianity and Islam. Show the similarities and differences between them too.
3. Explain the main ideas that Christians (and Muslims) have about how the world began.
4. Create a comic strip that shows views on the afterlife.
5. Describe what happens at a Christian funeral.
6. Describe what happens at a Muslim funeral (5)
7. c) From two different religions or two religious traditions, explain attitudes to life after death (8)
8. c) From two different religions or two religious traditions, explain attitudes to euthanasia (8)
9. 'The world was not created in 7 days.' Come up with arguments for and against this statement.
10. 'Abortion is killing and should be illegal.' Come up with arguments for and against this statement.



# Good and evil



<b>Good</b>	That which is considered morally right, beneficial and to our advantage
<b>Evil</b>	That which is considered extremely immoral, wicked and wrong
<b>Forgiveness</b>	Is to pardon a person for wrong doing; it is also giving up resentment and the desire to seek revenge against someone who has wronged you
<b>Free will</b>	The ability to make choices voluntarily and independently. The belief that nothing is predetermined
<b>Justice</b>	Means fairness; where everyone has equal provisions and opportunity
<b>Morality</b>	Standards determining which actions are right or wrong
<b>Punishment</b>	A penalty given to someone for a crime they have committed or something they have done wrong
<b>Sin</b>	Is a deliberate immoral action which breaks a religious or moral law
<b>Suffering</b>	Is pain of distress caused by injury, illness or loss. Suffering can be physical, emotional and psychological or spiritual

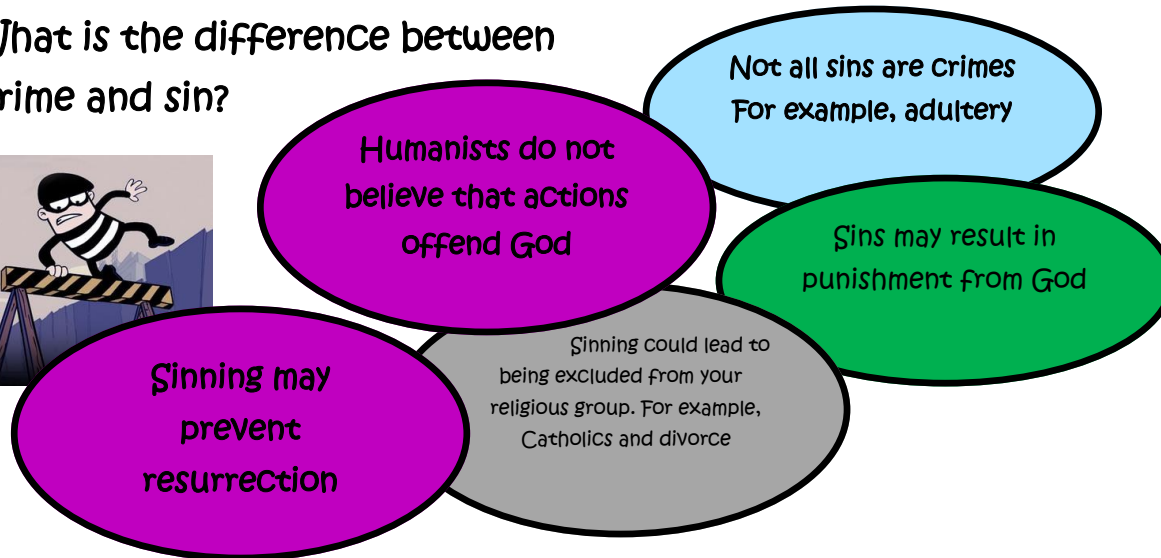


YOU MUST, MUST, MUST LEARN THESE AS THEY WILL BE THE FOCUS OF YOUR  
a) QUESTIONS FOR THIS UNIT

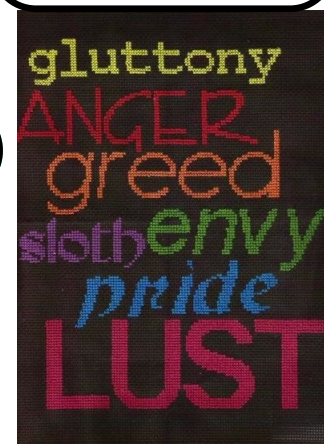


An act is generally considered to be wrong if it goes against accepted moral, religious or ethical rules/laws. For example, we have laws about not killing, there are also lots of religious teachings about not harming life, it also seems to be common sense and would cause huge amounts of guilt and sorrow. Therefore, when someone kills someone else it is usually seen as wrong





## What is the difference between crime and sin?



The 7 deadly sins were considered the worst type of sin and should be avoided wherever possible



## Different approaches to judging what's right or wrong

Idea	What is it?	Example
<b>Relative morality</b> 	This is a type of morality that will depend on the situation. Someone who holds a relative view of morality will say that the same action could be good or evil depending on the situation or the consequences	A person might argue that stealing a loaf of bread to feed your starving family is not wrong even though it is breaking the law. They would say the consequence, which would mean a family going hungry, justifies the action  <u>Utilitarian</u> and people who follow <u>Situation Ethics</u> are examples of people who believe <u>morality is relative</u>
<b>Absolute morality</b>	This is a type of morality where things are either right or wrong and this view never changes. 	Religious rules like the 10 commandments are examples of absolute morality. The Quakers believe you should never use violence and this is an absolutist view
<b>Conscience</b> 	Your conscience is the voice in your head which will often help you make a moral decision	St Paul said that the conscience should be final thing we consult when making a moral decision. This shows it is important
<b>Virtues</b> 	These are characteristics that are seen to be good and moral. The philosopher Aristotle said that to be a truly good person we need to practice being virtuous	Virtuous characteristics are things like charity, temperance, kindness and patience. Practising kindness and giving to charity regularly will remind us that others are less fortunate and hopefully stop us from sinning.

# Why do we need laws?

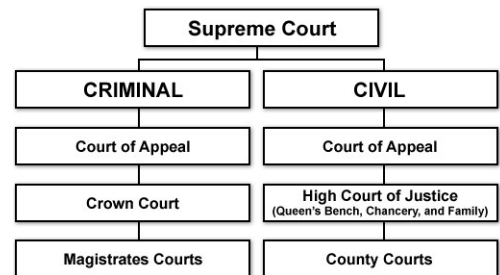
Humans live in groups & all groups need rules so that we all know what to expect from each other e.g. which side of the road to drive on.



We need rules so that people can do business with each other & work for each other without fear of being cheated.

We need rules to protect the weak from the strong

In an advanced civilization laws are needed just to organize everything that happens.



# What are the main causes of crime?



Poor parenting may lead to young people thinking that violence and abuse

Main causes of crime

Mental health issues

Drug and alcohol addiction

Peer pressure (gangs)

Violence in the media normalises it

Unemployment

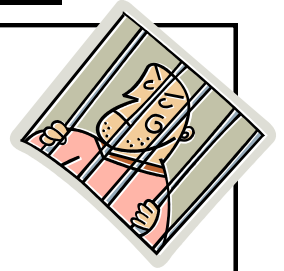




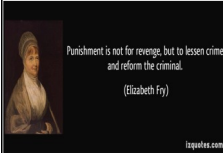

**GANGS**



## IMPORTANT NOTE!

It is easy to misunderstand this & write about methods of punishment rather than the aims - by aims of punishment we are talking about what punishment is for, not how it is carried out.



Theory	Meaning	Arguments for	Arguments against
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retribution</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using harsh punishments to make criminals pay for their crime</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It means the criminal suffers as much as the victim of crime &amp; so it's fair</li> <li>It fits with the meaning of the word "punish"</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two wrongs don't make a right</li> <li>It may leave the criminal even more dangerous &amp; embittered than they were before</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deterrence</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using harsh punishments to put people off the idea of committing crimes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Common sense tells us that a person will be less likely to commit a crime if they know they will be severely punished if caught</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In the USA, the homicide rate is high even though there is the death penalty for murder</li> <li>People often think they will get away with their crime</li> <li>People often do not think calmly &amp; clearly about committing a crime</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reformation</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using forms of punishment which will teach the criminals to become better members of society</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It will prevent reoffending</li> <li>A lot of crimes are due to bad upbringing, drug addiction &amp; lack of education</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It can seem unfair that criminals are getting opportunities that law-abiding people don't get</li> <li>Some criminals are unable to change how they act.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protection</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using punishment to protect the rest of society from dangerous criminals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*If someone is dead or in prison they can't commit more crimes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prisons are expensive &amp; more will have to be built if people have long sentences.</li> </ul>



## Good and evil: Christian and Muslim attitudes to justice and punishment

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### christian attitudes to justice and punishment

Christians believe in **forgiveness** not **revenge** so reject retribution

The Bible says **'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness.'**

Jesus **forgave** those who betrayed him so Christians should also do this. This is why they support **restorative justice** programmes

Jesus taught **compassion**. Many Christians are involved in prison reform to treat prisoners

Christians should try to **correct the causes of crime** like poverty and injustice

Christians believe prison should help the person **reform**. Some have become prison chaplains

'But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness is like a never-failing stream' Amos 5:24



### muslim attitudes to justice and punishment



Forgiveness should be balanced with the need to protect society (the ummah)

It is part of their role as Khalifahs to rule the world fairly. Therefore, punishment is required for justice to work

They consider Shari'ah Law is the fairest way to do this. Shari'ah punishment are designed as deterrents. For example, having a hand cut off for stealing

Only God can forgive. Punishment is designed to enforce law and order

Muslim do hope that those punished repent, reform and ask for forgiveness as this will help improve society

Qur'an – "Stand out firmly for justice"

Qur'an often calls Allah "most merciful and most just"

In the Shari'ah law everyone is treated equally (does this include women, non-Muslims, gay people?)

'Indeed God orders justice and good conduct...and forbids bad conduct.' Qur'an 16:90



# Good and evil: the treatment of prisoners, prison reform and the work of Prison Chaplains

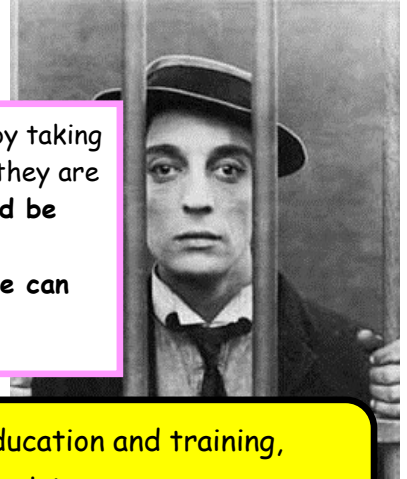
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How should prisoners be treated?

Some people think that prison should be a **place of isolation and punishment** and that prisoners should have few if any privileges. For example, they do not think they should have access to TVs or computers as these are luxuries

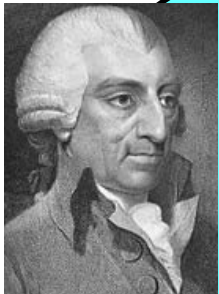
Others believe that prisoners deserve to be **treated in a humane way** and that by taking away their freedom and basic ability to make everyday choices about their lives, they are being punished sufficiently. These people will generally believe that **prisons should be places of rehabilitation and reform**.

They would argue that prison is very expensive so **if we help people to change we can stop them reoffending** and also save the country money



**Services offered to prisoners in UK prisons in modern Britain include:** education and training, counselling, drug and alcohol rehabilitation schemes and access to Prison Chaplains

## who were the prison reformers?



**John Howard (Calvinist)**

Inspected prisons in the late 1800s and found them to be diseased, dirty and corrupt. He asked for government to make changes to basic sanitation, separating men and women and increasing staffing



**Elizabeth Fry (Quaker)**

Visited Newgate prison in 1813 and then dedicated much time to fighting to improve conditions. She passionately believed that prisons should be place of reform and rehabilitation. She is famous for teaching female prisoners to read and write



## What is a Prison Chaplain?

A Prison Chaplain is someone who is **usually a priest, minister, imam, rabbi** but is **not always religious**. They are often attached to non-religious institutions like hospitals, universities and prisons  
They **offer prisoners pastoral support and care**



- ♦ **Provide spiritual and personal counselling** to prisoners with often complex needs
- ♦ **Help manage the fear, guilt and loneliness** that prison life involve
- ♦ **Help prisoners re-enter society** when released
- ♦ **Will also work with the prisoner's family** as they are sometimes the victims of the crime
- ♦ **Humanists provide a non-religious service** including counselling, discussion groups etc for those without religious belief

## What do Prison Chaplains do?





## Good and evil: what is the Death Penalty and what are Christian attitudes towards it

Capital Punishment is the **death penalty** - killing someone as a punishment. In this country it was a punishment for a number of crimes, but in the past hundred or so years was almost exclusively used to punish murder. In 1970 it was abolished. A lot of people would like it to be reintroduced, but all the main political parties think this is a bad idea.

### Liberal Christian attitudes to the death penalty

#### Most liberal Christians:

- Believe **only God** has the right to give or take life and so disagree with the death penalty
- Support the 5th commandment '**Thou shalt not kill.**'
- Believe you should be like **Jesus** and show **compassion and forgiveness**. For example, Jesus forgave the adulterous woman rather than allowing her to be stoned to death
- Believe we should **forgive as Jesus did on the cross**
- Believe in **reform not execution**
- Believe we should '**turn the other cheek.**'
- Believe we should **love our enemies not condemn them to death**
- Believe we should **follow the Golden Rule**
- Believe that you should not '**repay evil with evil.**' Romans 12: 17-18

**Quakers:** —a Christian liberal denomination that have actively campaigned against the death penalty

They believe all human life is valuable and made in the image of God

They believe punishments should reform prisoners and you can't be reformed when you are dead!

### Conservative Christian attitudes to the death penalty

#### Some conservative Christians:

- Believe in the Old Testament idea of an 'eye for an eye.'
- Believe that 'whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed.' (Genesis 9:6)
- Some claim that as the death penalty is in the Old Testament God must have wanted us to use it
- Some say that if you break the 5th commandment your life should be taken away

**Catholics**—are conservative Christians who accept the death penalty for serious crimes where the law is 100% sure that identity of the criminal is correct and that it is the only way to keep society safe from harm  
However, Pope John Paul did say that non-lethal methods of punishment were more 'in keeping with the concrete conditions of the common good and...the dignity of the human person.'

## Good and evil: Muslim and Humanist attitudes to the death penalty

### Some Muslims agree with the death penalty because:

They see it as a **fitting punishment** for the most serious crimes

They believe that those who commit crimes **should be punished on earth as well as by Allah**

Forgiveness is important where possible but the **safety of the ummah (community)** is the most **important thing**

The Qur'an tells Muslims to '**not take life—which god has made sacred except for just cause.**' (Qur'an 17:33). If someone has committed a terrible crime like murder or has openly attacked Islam they would see the death penalty as 'just cause.'

Muslims countries such as **Saudi Arabia and Iran have the death penalty** and will execute people by beheading, firing squad, hanging or even stoning

In some Muslim countries the **execution is carried out in public as a deterrent**

Muslim countries like Saudi Arabia are associated with very strict application of Shari'ah law and the death penalty can be given for acts such as murder, adultery, treason, homosexuality or terrorism

### Some Muslims do not support the death penalty because:

- ♦ They argue that it is used by oppressive regimes that attack vulnerable groups like women and homosexuals
- ♦ They also believe that the death penalty is often carried out without proper investigations which leads to innocent people being killed which is a great sin

## What do humanists think about the death penalty?

- ♦ Humanists tend to be opposed to the death penalty because they believe pre-meditated killing is wrong
- ♦ They also think that the margin for error is too great and that innocent people can end up victims
- ♦ They believe that we should treat all prisoners humanely, which will ensure that anyone wrongly convicted is also treated fairly

## EXAM WATCH!! PART C - From two different religions or two religious traditions, explain attitudes to the death penalty (8)

One Christian teaching about capital punishment is that it is wrong. This comes from the quote "Thou shall not kill". This means that it is wrong to kill as all life is sacred and only God can take life. Therefore even if someone has committed a serious crime they should not lose their life for it. This would affect a Christian's life as they know that killing is wrong and they would try to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Jesus taught that forgiveness and compassion is better than revenge.

One Muslim teaching about capital punishment is that it is ok in certain situations. This comes from the quote in the Qur'an "Do not take life that Allah has made sacred except for just cause". This means that only Allah can take life unless a person has committed a serious crime such as murder. This would affect a Muslim's life as they know capital punishment is necessary in order to protect the Ummah (Muslim community) and to enforce justice in society.

# Christian teachings on forgiveness

Christianity is known as a religion of forgiveness, compassion and love

Jesus' taught 'do not judge and you will not be judged....forgive and you will be forgiven.'

Jesus told Peter to forgive people Seventy-times seven

"Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us" – Lord's Prayer We can only expect

Jesus said 'blessed are the merciful in the Beatitudes in the

Jesus also asks for God to forgive those who crucify him showing

Bible stories about forgiveness:

Parable of the Prodigal son/Forgiving Father  
Parable of the Unmerciful Servant

## Catholics and forgiveness

- ♦ Forgiveness is supported through confession and acts of atonement (special prayers)
- ♦ Believe that Christ began the sacrament of penance and that God's forgiveness can be granted by the priest after confession

## Evangelicals and forgiveness

Forgiveness can only be granted by God through an act of faith  
Confession cannot achieve forgiveness



# Muslim teachings on forgiveness

The Qur'an teaches that those who forgive will be rewarded. Forgiveness will help bring peace

Two kinds of forgiveness. God's and human's. Both are needed and God's is limitless

Allah is called the 'Oft-forgiving and most merciful.' Muslims ask God directly for forgiveness

The Qur'an said Allah loves those who turn to Him in repentance Qur'an

Muhammad forgave an Old lady who wronged him so we should forgive even when we punish people Qur'an 64:14

## Good and evil: Examples of religious people who have practised forgiveness

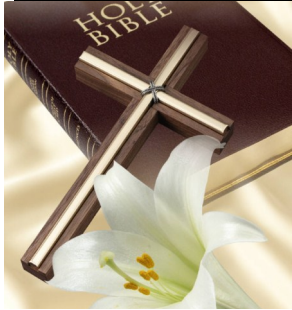
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Person	Religion / Denomination	How they practised forgiveness
<b>Martin Luther King</b> 	Christian and Baptist minister	<p>Was the leader of the Civil Rights movement in American and rather than wanting revenge for the way that black Americans had been treated in the past he looked to reconcile, forgive and live peacefully together</p> <p><b>He said ' Forgiveness is not an occasional act. It is a constant attitude.</b></p>
<b>Gee Walker</b> 	Christian	<p>Her son Anthony Walker was murdered in a racially motivated attack in Liverpool in 2005.</p> <p><b>She says, ' Unforgiveness makes you a victim and why should I be a victim? Anthony spent his life forgiving. His life stood for peace, love and forgiveness and I bought them all up that way.</b></p> <p><b>She said of the killers,' I have to forgive, I cannot hate. Hate is what killed Anthony'</b></p>
<b>Khaled Hosseini</b> 	Muslim	<p>He is the author of the book the Kite Runner and was born in Afghanistan and many of his many member were imprisoned or disappeared despite the personal pain he experienced he forgave and decided to act to help refuges from Afghanistan to live better lives</p> <p><b>He says' I wondered if that was how forgiveness budded....with pain gathering its things, packing up and slipping away in the middle of the night.'</b></p>

### What do humanists believe about forgiveness?

- Humanists believe that we must forgive to have good relationships
- They believe that the Golden Rule is a good way to guides ones actions
- They also recognise the fact that it is not always easy to forgive, especially when terrible crimes/ acts have been committed against a person or group





Read and summarise the main meanings. **These are important** and you need to know the **main ideas** or be able to **quote** from it and **explain** it

### Matthew 18:21-22

#### The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant

21 Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?" 22 Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy times seven times.

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#### Turn the other cheek

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#### An eye for an eye

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#### Blessed are the peacemakers

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#### Father forgive them for they know not what they do

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# Good and evil: What are good and evil and Christian and Muslim views on them?

53

What do Christians believe about what goodness is?

- ♦ Christians believe that when God made the world all was good to begin with
- ♦ The world first experienced evil as a result of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden
- ♦ God created human's with free will which allowed them the possibility of disobeying Him
- ♦ Over time, Christians believe that God has communicated with us about how to live through the 10 commandments and also most importantly through Jesus' life and example
- ♦ Jesus taught 'good' qualities like compassion, kindness, forgiveness etc



What do Muslims believe about what goodness is?

- ♦ Muslims believe we are all born with a natural ability to understand right from wrong (Fitrah)
- ♦ We have free will and can choose to follow Shaytan or God's straight path (Shari'ah)
- ♦ Having the right belief (in Islam) and doing the right thing are good
  - ♦ Prophet Muhammad taught Muslims that kindness, truthfulness, patience and humility were good qualities to develop
  - ♦ If they follow Prophet Muhammad's example they will be doing good
  - ♦ Those who do good deeds will be rewarded in heaven



## What is evil?

**Moral evil** is suffering that is the result of human action. The Holocaust was an example of moral evil

**Natural evil** is suffering that is caused by nature such as volcanoes, earthquakes, disease etc

Christian views on why evil exists	Why do they think this?
<b>The world is a vale of soul making</b>	Because St Irenaeus said that we were made in God's image and over time would develop into his likeness. He believed that suffering would allow us to do this. God doesn't intervene because we need to be able to freely choose good or evil to develop our souls John Hick a modern philosopher also believed that we were made with the ability to grow spirituality and that suffering allows us to do this
<b>Original sin causes evil</b>	Catholics believe in the idea that the original sin from Adam and Eve brought sin to every human being. St Augustine believed that we could be saved from this sin by accepting Christianity
<b>Evil is a test</b>	The Story of Job illustrates this well. Job refuses to reject God despite his suffering and is rewarded for this
<b>We can't understand God's plan</b>	Evil and suffering may seem unnecessary but God with his ultimate knowledge understands its purpose

## What do Muslims believe about evil?

- ♦ Evil happens because of Al-Qadr (fate)
- ♦ God has a greater plan we may not understand
- ♦ Life is a test—all of our good and evil deeds are recorded by two angels for the Day of Judgement
- ♦ Good can come from evil—if we resist Shaytan we will be rewarded
- ♦ If we follow the example of the Prophet Muhammad we will be rewarded
- ♦ Many Muslims believe that Shaytan is the cause of evil and temptation
- ♦ Shaytan refused to bow down to Adam in the Garden of Eden and so was banished—he exists to tempt people to do wrong
- ♦ The Qur'an teaches them to be aware of those who might corrupt them even if they are in their own family Quran 64:14

### Possible Exam Question:

B) Describe religious beliefs about the origin of evil from one religion you have studied (5)



## Islam: Sources of wisdom

Read and summarise the main meanings. **These are important** and you need to know the main ideas or be able to quote from it and explain it

### Qur'an 42:30 -

And whatever strikes you of disaster - it is for what your hands have earned; but he pardons much.

Allah will reward those who forgive

Qur'an 64:14 (O you who have believed, indeed, among your spouses and your children are enemies to you, so beware of them. But...) if you pardon and overlook and forgive - then indeed, Allah is Forgiving and Merciful.

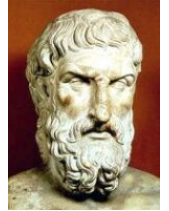
Why would a good God allow evil and suffering?

This is one of the biggest challenges that faces theists.

A philosopher David Hume called it the 'rock of atheism' because it is so powerful

Epicurus (341—270BC), an ancient Greek philosopher asked:

- ⇒ Is God willing to prevent evil, but is not able? Then he is not omnipotent.
- ⇒ Is he able, but not willing? Then he is malevolent.
- ⇒ Is he both able and willing? Then whence cometh evil?
- ⇒ Is he neither able nor willing? Then why call him God?



**This is known as the problem of evil**

Often the problem of evil raises difficult questions for the theist. It is one of the main reasons that people are atheist (don't believe in God) or agnostic (are unsure about whether or not they believe in God).

How do Christians defend God against the existence of evil?

They use **theodicies**, which are arguments that show that either suffering is necessary for humans or isn't God's fault; The main arguments are:

Humans chose to use their **free will** to do evil things. Their choices cause suffering.

It isn't God it is the devil (a fallen angel), that causes suffering not God

God shares in our suffering and suffers with us, showing his benevolence

Suffering is a test of our faith. Such as in the story of Job. The faithful will be rewarded as Job was. Ensure you know this story

Suffering is as a result of man's sinful behaviour

Suffering allows humans to develop; it shapes our souls for the better

**Muslims might see suffering in the following ways:**

- All part of God's plan (Al-Qadr)
  - Life is a test
- Suffering allows Muslims to show their faith through following the Shari'ah (straight path) and resisting Shaytan
- We can benefit from suffering morally

Free will is the idea that we are free to make our own choices in life and can choose good or evil if we wish to

Two competing ideas!!

Fate is the idea that our actions may be predetermined and that the outcome of our actions is inevitable

Christian attitudes to how free will explains why evil and suffering exist?

God gave us free will as a **gift** and humans abused it and so it is right that we are punished

**Original sin** means that we now find it easier to sin than to do good. If we use our free will to follow God we can be saved

Even if we do sin, Catholics believe that we can **atone** and **seek forgiveness** for abusing our free will through confession and penance

God had to give us free will because otherwise we would just be like robots rather than truly devoted followers

Most Christians do not believe in the idea of fate because they believe in the idea that we have free will instead

A small number of Christians believe in **predestination**. These are **Lutherans**, they believe that God has decided who will be saved already

Muslims, free will and fate (Al-Qadr)

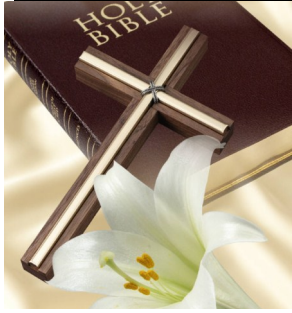
Muslims believe that God has power over all things (Quran 3:159) However they also believe that we have free will

Sunni Muslims believe that God has recorded everything that will happen in every person's life on the 'Preserved Tablet.' The good and suffering allotted to each person is on it

Al-Qadr is one of the 6 beliefs of Sunni Islam and means fate. Many believe that we can still choose our actions however God knows all of the choices that we will make

The Qur'an teaches that any good you receive is from God and that any bad you receive is from mankind

Shia Muslims tend to reject the idea of Al-Qadr as it makes God responsible for suffering. Instead they believe that God can change the course of history if he chooses to and that sometimes the actions of mankind may do this.



Read and summarise the main meanings of the following stories / quotes:

"With God everything is possible" - Matthew 19:26

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The Story of Job

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The Story of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden

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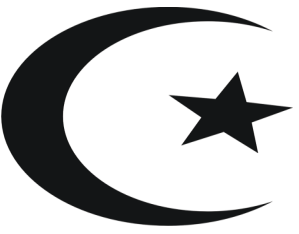
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The Passion of the Christ (Jesus' crucifixion as an act of atonement)

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Read and summarise the main meanings. **These are important** and you need to know the main ideas or be able to quote from it and explain it

### Qur'an

"Those who believe and do good deeds are the most righteous creatures"

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### Qur'an

"Allah has power over all things"

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### Qur'an

"And we will surely test you with something of fear and hunger and a loss of wealth and lives and fruits, but give good tidings to the patient"

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**d) "The existence of suffering proves there is no God." [15]**

Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view. (You must refer to religion and belief in your answer).

Some atheists would argue that God does not exist due to the evil and suffering that occurs. This is often known as the problem of evil; how can God be omnipotent, omniscient and omnibenevolent if He allows suffering to happen? This essay will discuss whether suffering proves that God does not exist.

Most Christians would disagree with this statement. This is because they believe suffering could be a test of faith. Therefore God and suffering can exist at the same time. This belief comes from the story of Job. Job was tested throughout his life but remained faithful even after losing everything. God then rewarded him with double he had before. This would affect the life of a Christian as they know that suffering is part of God's plan. They also know that good can come from suffering and God will reward those who remain faithful. This could be seen as a strong argument, as Christians understand sometimes suffering is needed in order for them to develop their moral souls.

However, this could lead some Christians to question their faith or even lose their faith if they experience severe suffering. As a result, this could be considered a weak argument as why would an omnibenevolent God test his followers by causing them to suffer?

Nevertheless, Christians may also disagree with this statement because they believe suffering is not caused by God but by humans. This comes from the idea of original sin. This means because Adam and Eve disobeyed God humans are born with original sin. It could also be seen that suffering is a punishment for Adam and Eve's disobedience. This disobedience to God is known as the "fall". Furthermore, humans also have freewill. Therefore, some humans choose to cause suffering throughout their lives. Reinforcing the idea that God and suffering can exist at the same time. This would affect a Christian's life as they know that God is omniscient and will judge those who cause suffering on the day of judgement.

Similarly to Christians, most Muslims would also disagree with this statement. This comes from the belief of al-Qadr. This is the idea that everything that happens is part of Allah's plan and his the result of his will. This would affect the life of a Muslim because they know sometimes suffering is a test of faith and that if they stay faithful Allah will reward them on judgement day. They also know that there is a point to suffering and sometimes good can come from suffering such as child birth.

Again, why would a God who is supposed to be considered merciful make people suffer as part of his plan? Muslims would argue this is a weak argument as Allah knows everything and will know the bigger picture of a person's life. Muslims would also argue that Allah is transcendent and we can't possibly understand his greater plan. Therefore suffering does not prove that God doesn't exist.

In conclusion, I disagree with both the Christian and Muslim views. This is because, as an atheist, I do not believe a loving God would allow suffering such as cancer and natural disasters. Therefore, I agree with the statement "suffering proves there is no God".

1. Make flash cards for the key terms at the beginning of the unit.
2. Design a poster/ collage to explain the different ways that people make moral decisions.
3. Write an account of the different attitudes that Christians (and Muslims) have to justice and punishment.
4. Create a comic strip that shows what the Story of Job is and how it relates to the idea of suffering.
5. Explain what retribution, reformation, protection and deterrence are with examples.
6. Describe attitudes to forgiveness with reference to one religion you have studied. (5)
7. From two different religions or two religious traditions, explain different beliefs about the death penalty. (8)
8. From two different religions or two religious traditions, explain different attitudes towards the origins of evil. (8)
9. 'The existence of evil proves that God does not exist' (15)  
'Evaluate this view showing you have considered more than one point of view.'  
In your answer you must refer to religion and belief
10. 'The death penalty is never acceptable' (15)  
'Evaluate this view showing you have considered more than one point of view.'  
In your answer you must refer to religion and belief



# Human rights



<b>Censorship</b>	The practice of suppressing and limiting access to materials considered obscene, offensive or a threat to security. People may also be restricted in their speech by censorship laws
<b>Discrimination</b>	Act of treating groups of people or individuals differently, based on prejudice
<b>Extremism</b>	Believing in or supporting ideas that are very far from what most people consider correct or reasonable
<b>Human rights</b>	The basic entitlements of all human beings, afforded to them simply because they are human. An example is the right to life or to an education
<b>Personal conviction</b>	Something a person strongly feels or believes in
<b>Prejudice</b>	Pre-judging; judging people to be inferior or superior without cause
<b>Relative poverty</b>	A standard of poverty measured in relation to the standards of a society in which a person lives in. For example living on X % of
<b>Absolute poverty</b>	An acute state of deprivation, whereby someone cannot access even basic human
<b>Social justice</b>	Promoting a fair society by challenging injustice and valuing diversity. Ensuring that everyone has equal access to provisions, equal opportunities and rights



YOU MUST, MUST, MUST LEARN THESE AS THEY WILL BE THE FOCUS OF YOUR a) QUESTIONS FOR THIS UNIT



## What are human rights?

- In 1948 the United Nations issued the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- Contains 30 articles, but all are based on the first one which states:  
All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights.'
- The UNDHR was formulated after WWII to prevent the horrors of Holocaust being repeated
- Many countries such as the UK have made human rights part of the law. In Britain parliament passed an act called the Human Rights Act which means that if individuals or groups violate (break) human rights then the law will punish them as criminals
- Groups like Amnesty International work to ensure that human rights are upheld

**AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL**



**Amnesty International work to protect human rights by:-**

Using non-violent methods to raise awareness and protest against

human rights abuses such as:

1. Protest marches (to support restrictions on abortions in Poland)
2. Writing letter to government about campaigns for justice (Saudi Arabian blogger Raif Badawi was detained in June 2012 and sentenced in 2014 for setting up a website focused on social and political debate.)
3. Raising awareness through the media of those who have had their right denied or suppressed (Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe being held in Iran)
4. Running schools programmes to educate young people about human rights



## What is social justice and who promotes it?

- The United Nations are very involved in this area and for them social justice is an 'underlying principle' of their work.
- Through it they hope you achieve world peace and equality for all
- They believe that we can achieve this through removing the barriers that people face such as those because of 'gender, age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture or disability.'
- It will often involve governments and agencies working together to help developing countries. Work might include: reducing the divide between rich and poor, cleaning environmental hazards such as pollution where people live
- The 6th Secretary General of the UN Ban Ki-Moon said that where someone lives, their ethnicity or their gender should not be what determines their access to opportunities in life



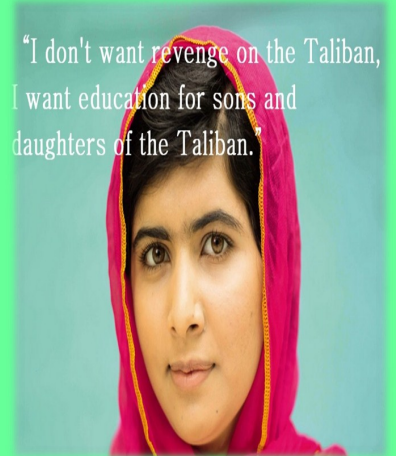
Human rights: Individuals who campaign for social justice using their personal conviction

### Malala Yousafzai: human rights campaigner

- Campaigned for the right to education for girls in the area she lived in Pakistan
- The Taliban (an extremist Muslim group) prevented girls in her area from attending school.

**She says 'I raise my voice up - not so I can shout but so that those without a voice can be heard...we cannot succeed when half of us are held back.'**

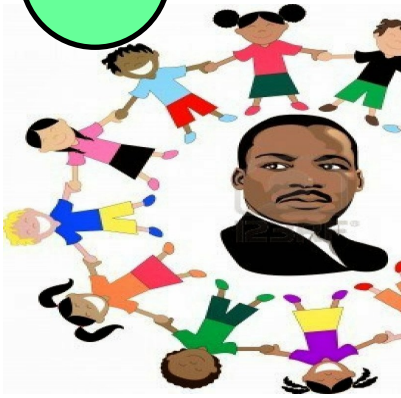
- Age 11 she started a blog and conducted interviews discussing the promotion of education for girls. **She knew that this could put her life at risk** as the Taliban made death threats against her
- On 09/10/12 as she boarded her school bus a gunman asked for her to be identified and she was shot in the head 3 times.
- She survived the attack and has continued to campaign for equal access to education
- Religious believers often use their sacred texts to justify fighting for social justice although they are often open to considerable interpretation
- Malala used her personal conviction that education for all is the right thing
- For many people it is a belief that each human being is important and therefore should have their dignity protected that leads them to fight for social justice



"I don't want revenge on the Taliban, I want education for sons and daughters of the Taliban."

Malala knew that her beliefs about girls having equal opportunities in education would conflict with the law of the country that she lived in.

Campaigners like **Martin Luther King** used his personal conviction to fight against racial inequality in America. His strongly held religious beliefs alongside his view that all men are equal motivated him to act, and ultimately lose his life in his struggle



Possible exam question:

**B) Describe an example where there has been a conflict between personal conviction and the laws of a country (5)**



# Christian beliefs about the dignity of human life?

- Many believe that the UDHR reflect Christian values
- Christians believe we are 'made in the image of God' this means all human life should be valued and protected and never destroyed or mistreated
- For some Genesis 1: 26-27 shows that God sees human beings as the highest of all the species which means we are worthy of the most protection
- The sanctity of life states that all life is sacred

26 Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

27 So God created mankind in his own  
image,  
in the image of God he created them;  
male and female he created them.

## Genesis 1:26-27

## Catholic interpretations of Genesis 1:26-

For Catholics this supports the idea of the sanctity of life which means human life should never be taken. This affects their views of euthanasia and also the death penalty

## Anglican interpretations of Genesis 1:26-

- For Anglicans they interpret it to mean that we have God like qualities that should be nurtured, protected and respected

# Muslim beliefs about the dignity of human life?

- The Qur'an stresses the uniqueness and dignity of human life
- All Muslims have a duty to uphold this regardless of who is the victim
- For Muslims the worth and dignity of human beings is God given and cannot be taken away even by the state
- Even criminals should not be mistreated, even if they are punished
- Qur'an 5:32 says that if someone kills just one person it is as if they have killed the whole of humankind, this shows that human life and dignity should be upheld
- Qur'an 5:32 also says that if you save one person it is as if you had saved the whole of mankind. This shows that our efforts should go into saving and not harming human life

[illegible]

Human rights: Christian practices to promote human rights including equality: agape in action

Agape in action

**Agape is the idea of selfless and unconditional love.**

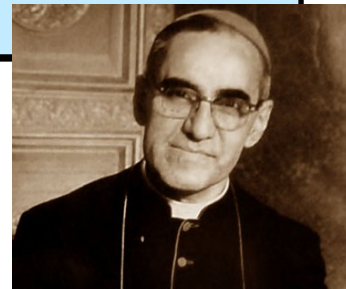
They believe it is the kind of love expressed by Jesus in many parables and stories, for example:

- Forgiving the adulterous woman
- The Parable of the Good Samaritan
- Healing lepers and blind people

It is a love that will endure pain, discomfort and even death in the interest of showing love to human kind. Many organisations like Christian Aid, Tear fund and individuals like Martin Luther King are good examples of agape in practice.

## Liberation theology: a Christian movement overcoming inequality

- This was a movement that began in South and Central America in reaction to injustice and oppression of the poor and vulnerable.
- It follows the example of Jesus who is often seen as a social revolutionary fighting against unjust political, economic or social conditions. He is often seen as a freedom fighter
- Liberation theologians believe that it is right to take a stand against governments where they are acting unfairly.
- Action they may be involved in:
- Peaceful protests, actively involved in cases of injustice such as those wrongly imprisoned or held without trial.
- Some, such as Oscar Romero have been killed for their beliefs and their activism. The government at the time tried to suppress Church protests and had slogans in public places that said 'Be a patriot -kill a priest.'



Many people would like the poor to always say that it is God's will that they are poor.

**It is not God's will for some people to have everything and others to have nothing.**

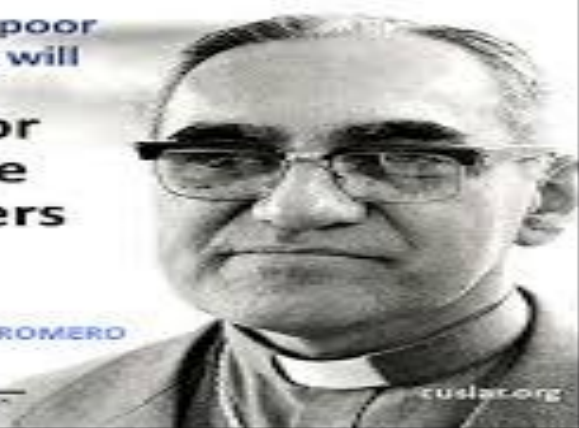
**This cannot be of God.**

ARCHBISHOP ÓSCAR ARNULFO ROMERO



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COMMITTEE ON U.S.-LATIN AMERICAN RELATIONS



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Human rights: Muslim practices to promote human rights including equality: ummah in action

How do Muslim's promote human rights?

Ummah in action!

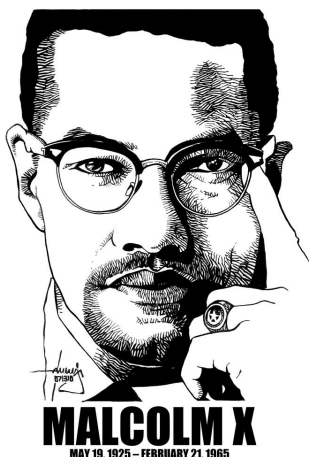
Every Muslim in the world belongs to the ummah which creates a special bond between all Muslims regardless of where they are

Malcom X was struck by the welcome he received by the ummah when he performed the Hajj

**Practices that demonstrate the ummah in action:**

- Zakah—5th pillar of Islam
- Sadaqah—voluntary giving
- Being a member of groups like the Islamic Human Rights Commission
- Giving to or working for Islamic Relief or Muslim Aid

All Muslims are equal and support each other through a range of practices



Malcom X on his experience of the ummah in action on the

'They asked me what about the Hajj had impressed me the most. ... I said, the brotherhood! The people of all races, colors, from all over the world coming together as one! It has proved to me the power of the One God... All ate as one, and slept as one. Everything about the pilgrimage atmosphere accented the Oneness of Man under One God.'

Malcolm X, 1964







There are lots of different arguments about whether things should be censored. Some people think that those who seek to offend should be shut down whereas others believe that they should have the right to express their views, even if they offend others

Article 19 of the UNDHR states:

**'Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without**

- In Europe and the UK you are able to express your views about religion as long as they do not incite violence or hatred
- Some argue that extreme views that are likely to offend should be censored
- Censorship would mean preventing the publication or broadcast of certain content **interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.'**

## Freedom of religious expression

People express their faith both overtly and covertly:

- An overt expression of a religion might be a visible crucifix or a turban for a Sikh
- In some countries in Europe this freedom is limited. For example, in France you are not permitted to wear religious symbolism in public places. This is because they believe that public spaces should be free of the influence of religion

- This law is problematic for religious people who want to be able to express their identity. Often these symbols are an important part of showing devotion and serve as a reminder of the commitment they have to the religion. For example, hijab, vestments, cross or kirpan



## How might laws limiting freedom of expression affect mission?

For Muslims and in particular Christians, they believe they have a duty to tell others about the saving power of their religion

- Christians believe they were told to 'go make nations of the tribes' (Matthew 28) this means they should get out and try to convert people
- Also some interpret the teaching 'go into all the world and preach the gospel to all Creation' (Mark 16:15) to mean that they should be actively involved in converting others
- Some Christians believe this means they should deliver pamphlets, go door to door or evangelise in public spaces like town centres
- Others believe that in a religiously pluralistic society no-one should have the right to try and convert someone else
- These examples show how there is sometimes a conflict between different rights

## Extremism: Believing in and supporting ideas that are very far from what most people consider correct and reasonable

- There is a fine balance between freedom of speech and action, and actions and speech that are considered extreme.
- For some believers, their faith is so important to them that they might feel justified in acting in certain extreme ways to uphold the belief or try to make others believe it too. These actions can cause harm to themselves or other people. These actions might occur because:
- They interpret religious texts (e.g. the Bible) in such a way that they believe that this is the way to behave or react
- That through such actions they will be rewarded in this life or an afterlife
- They are influenced by friends and family who act in similar ways
- They believe that they are doing the work of God

There are many different types of extremism but it is important to remember that you do not have to be religious to hold extreme views.

### Extremist religious groups/individuals:

- \* Westboro Baptist Church
- \* ISIS
- \* Robert Lewis Dear (gun attack on a clinic in the US where abortions took place)

## In what ways are prejudice and discrimination an issue in society today?



- Can affect employment, housing, education etc
- Can affect who you marry, where you worship
- In some countries it has even affected whether you can drive
- Lack of disabled access means disabled people can't lie freely and /or go to work
- Some employers are secretly sexist, racist etc and therefore won't promote or employ some groups
- Some interpretations of religious texts are considered discriminatory such as in denominations such as Catholic or Greek Orthodox where women cannot become priests

### Christian attitudes towards prejudice and discrimination

- ⇒ Leviticus is the book that lots of the rules that Moses got from God are recorded. It states that 'foreigners and the fatherless' should be treated with justly and accepted
- ⇒ Jesus' example is a great inspiration to many Christians. He ministers to many marginalised and vulnerable people such as women, lepers, and even the tax collector Zacchaeus (in Jesus' time Jewish people shunned and hated tax collectors)
- ⇒ St Paul in Galatians writes that we are all one in Jesus Christ. This stresses the equality between all human

### Muslim attitudes towards prejudice and discrimination

- ⇒ Muslims believe that we are all made equal but different
- ⇒ The ummah crosses all boundaries
- ⇒ Qur'an 49:13 says that God made each of us into different genders and tribes so that we could become to know one another
- ⇒ Equality is shown of the hajj where everyone where's ihram
- ⇒ The Qur'an teaches that men and women have equal religious rights however this doesn't mean that they are the same

#### Christian beliefs about women in worship

The Catholic Church do not allow women to be ordained as it states in 1 Timothy that women cannot minister or have authority over a man in church

Pope John Paul II confirmed this  
The role of the priest is to represent Jesus so some say this means a woman cannot do it

The Church of England has allowed Libby Lane to become the first female bishop in 2015



#### Muslim beliefs about women in worship

Raheel Raza became the first woman to lead a mixed gender congregation in Britain. She has received death threats but argues that the Qur'an does not say women should not lead prayers



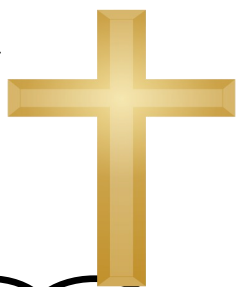
There are Hadith which mention Muhammad's wives Aisha and Umm Salamah leading prayers

There is disagreement about the role women can take in salah  
It is traditionally a man  
Some women lead female only prayer but must stand in the congregation not at the front as a man would

# Human rights: Christian and Muslim attitudes towards racial prejudice

70

## Christian attitudes to racial prejudice



The Parable of the Good Samaritan shows Christians that all races are your neighbours and should be treated equally

Jesus did not treat people differently based on their race

### Christian organisations that work to prevent racial discrimination

#### Church of England's Committee for Minority Ethnic Anglican Concerns (CMEAC)

- Encourage minority ethnic people to become part of the ministry of the Church
- Support race awareness initiatives
- Create and support interfaith dialogue with different

#### Catholic Association for Racial Justice (CARJ)

- Raise awareness of the importance of cultural diversity
- Seek to 'value, respect and celebrate the equality and dignity of all God's people.'

## The work of Dr Martin Luther King

### What did he do?

- ⇒ Had a dream and acted upon it!
- ⇒ Formed a community of people to support him 'as brothers and sisters'
- ⇒ Used non-violent methods of protest and believe that 'non-violence is the answer to the crucial political and moral questions of our time.' He believed that only non-violence and the idea of love could overcome the need for revenge and hate
- ⇒ Acted upon his personally held conviction that the treatment of black Americans was fundamentally wrong, even though it got him arrested for doing so



## Muslim attitudes to racial prejudice

When God first made man he made him out of different coloured, types of clay collected by the angels. Some say this shows God's intention for Adam's descendants to be diverse

The Qur'an 30:22 teaches that God planned for their to be great diversity among humans in their languages

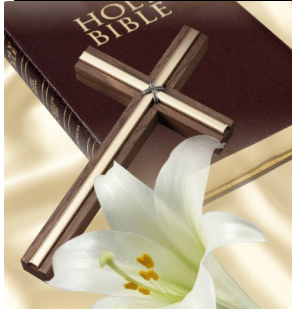
Muhammad's choice of a former black slave (Bilal) to be the muezzin shows that race equality is part of Islam's teachings and history

Muhammad's last sermon states that as humans we are equal and that we are the same regardless of race and gender. All that distinguishes us is our piety and goodness

## The work of the Christian/Muslim Forum

### What do they do?

- ⇒ Work together to promote interfaith dialogue
- ⇒ Brings together Muslims and Christians from around Britain
- ⇒ Builds relationships between the denominations. There are 4 ministers from the Anglican, Catholic, Free Churches and Minority traditions and Muslim Presidents representing the Sunni/Shia traditions
- ⇒ They pray together, eat shared meals together and learn about each others faiths to overcome stereotypes and ignorance



Read and summarise the main meanings. **These are important** and you need to know the main ideas or be able to quote from it and explain it

There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

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Love thy neighbour / Love one another as I have loved you

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Genesis 1:26-27 - 27 So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

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### **Qur'an**

Whoever kills a soul it is as though he has killed all of mankind, whoever has saved a soul it is as though he has saved all of mankind.



Allah is acquainted with what you do

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Those who do the most righteous deeds are the best creatures

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We are all equal like the teeth of a comb

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## Why is wealth distribution an issue in the UK?

⇒ Because the bottom 5th of the country have only 8% of the wealth whereas the top 5th have 40% of the wealth

⇒ This shows that wealth isn't not evenly spread. This is partly due to the fact that **people acquire wealth in different ways. For example:**

⇒ People like celebrities get paid considerably more than the general population; some people inherit wealth upon the death of a family member; some acquire wealth through gambling and a small percentage through crime

**Wealth acquisition** is how you get wealth/  
money

**Use of wealth** is how you spend money

## How do people use their wealth?

⇒ The UK is seen as a materialistic country - this means that many people are very concerned with what they own. For example, new smartphone, X-Box, trainers, designer label clothes etc

⇒ However, the UK is also the most generous European country when it comes to giving to charity. In the UK 74% of adults gave to charity in comparison to a worldwide average of 31%

⇒ In the UK many parents are now having to use their savings to support their children as the cost of housing gets higher and higher



## What is poverty and why is it still an issue in the UK?

⇒ There are two types **relative** and **absolute** poverty

⇒ **Relative poverty** is a bigger issue in the UK than absolute poverty

⇒ Poverty in the UK means that there are **2 million people who are malnourished** (not eating enough good food) and 3 million more who are at risk of it

⇒ **Poverty has a big affect on children**; children from poor families tend to get ill more and also tend to do less well at school than those who aren't poor this means they are more likely to be poor as adults

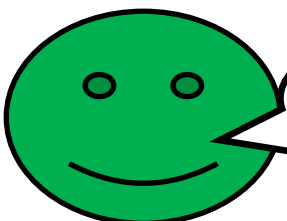
⇒ In the UK there are a lot of charities that have been set up to deal with poverty and might involve giving donations or volunteering.



Fairtrade is an international charity that works to help producers out of poverty by paying them a fair wage for the produce that they sell. Many companies in the UK are Fairtrade providers and those who buy products with the Fairtrade stamp are supporting this work

## Money and happiness

There is a famous saying that money doesn't buy you happiness  
Some would argue it is what you do with money to make the lives of others better that makes you happy?





## Human rights: Christian attitudes about the acquisition and use of wealth including a case study of Christian Aid



What did Jesus teach about helping those in poverty?

### TOP TIP

Read the full versions of the Rich Man and Lazarus in the sources of wisdom page

- ⇒ **Matthew 6** states that money should not be stored up and that you should be careful not to let money get in the way of God. Also, if you give to the poor you should do so without expecting praise. Instead **give in secret and you will be rewarded by God**
- ⇒ Also in Matthew, a rich young man asks Jesus what he should do to gain eternal life and Jesus responds that he should **sell all of his possessions and give to the poor**.
- ⇒ There is also the **Parable of the Sheep and the Goats** which show Christians how they should live
- ⇒ There is the story in **Luke 16** about the **Rich man and Lazarus**. The rich man dies having ignored Lazarus and his poverty at his gate and is sent to hell. Lazarus goes to heaven. The rich man repents but it was too late

## What do Christians believe about the acquisition and use of wealth?

- Christians believe that **a person's actions are what's important** not their wealth; **being rich is neither good nor bad** it is how you use your wealth that counts
- Christians will often reflect on whether their jobs are helping people and **try to avoid jobs that exploit people**
- Many Christians are **against gambling** because it encourages a love of money for money's sake and **can also involve exploitation**. **The Methodists will not be involved in any gambling for this reason**



Christian Aid is an **ecumenical** (meaning they represent many different denominations) Christian charity that works in over 60 countries around the world.

It works with people of all religions, races and nationalities

It **aims to stop poverty** and challenge systems that allow the poor to be exploited by the rich

It **runs a variety of projects** aimed at educating poor people and supporting them to escape the cycle of poverty

The following values reflect the Christian ethos of the charity:

- Love and solidarity
- Dignity and respect
- Justice and equality
- Cooperation and partnership
- Accountability and stewardship

### TOP TIP

Think about how Christian Aid's core values could be linked to key teachings/concepts. For example, love and respect could be seen in the Parable of the Good Samaritan or the sanctity of life or through the idea of agape....I could go on!!! These links will develop your writing



# Human rights: Muslim attitudes about the acquisition and use of wealth including a case study of Islamic Relief

## What do Muslims believe about the acquisition and use of wealth?

- Muslims believe all wealth is a gift from God
- They will be judged on how they acquire and use their wealth
- Muslims are forbidden from working in jobs where interest (riba) is charged
- The Qur'an forbids gambling—this can be an issue if Muslim Charities are given money gained from the lottery as it may be considered haram
- Qur'an 5:90 prohibits earning money from gambling, alcohol and any superstitious traditions
- Qur'an 2:177 states that true righteousness comes from those who believe in Allah and the 6 beliefs and those who follow practices like Zakah and help the less fortunate



## Ways Muslims help those in poverty using their wealth

**Zakah**—(2.5% of wealth)  
Sunni and Shia

**Sadaqah**—voluntary giving is a duty for all Muslims. It could be time, money or goods

**Khums**—(Shia practice)  
20% of savings goes to community leaders for community welfare

**Zakah-ul-Fitr** - a donation paid at the end of Ramadan to ensure that all Muslims can enjoy a good Id-ul-Fitr meal

Muslim Poems for Children  
Mymona Hendricks



Muslim children are taught about the importance of using their wealth for the good of others from an early age through poems that encourage them to 'share with those in need' and that 'all feel good when zakah is paid.'



**SAVING LIVES  
SINCE 1984**

**What do Islamic Relief do and how does their work promote Muslims values and alleviate (reduce) poverty?**

Islamic Relief was founded in Britain in 1984 and operates in over 40 countries.

It works to provide support, education and also longer term projects to help those in disasters and emergencies

Their core values are:

**Compassion**—supporting those in need in disasters and emergencies

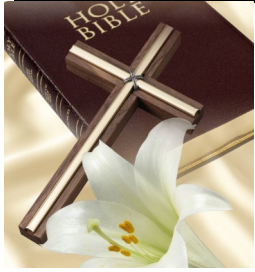
**Justice**—raising awareness for those without a voice via the media

**Custodianship**—sell and recycle donated clothes

**Sincerity**—sponsoring on many orphans across the world

**Excellence**—work to very high standards set by the Red Cross

Qur'an 5:52 inspires what they do as **anyone who saves someone is seen as having saved the whole of mankind.**



Read and summarise the main meanings. **These are important** and you need to know the main ideas or be able to quote from it and explain it

### Luke 16:19-31

#### The Rich Man and Lazarus

19 There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day.

20 At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores 21 and longing to eat what fell from the rich man's table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.

22 "The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried. 23 In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus

by his side. 24 So he called to him, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.'

25 "But Abraham replied, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. 26 And besides all this, between us

and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.'

27 "He answered, 'Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, 28 for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.'

29 "Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.' 30 "No, father Abraham,' he said, 'but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.'

31 He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'

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## Examiner's model answers

### **'Religions should do more to fight against racial prejudice and discrimination.' (15) -**

Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view. (You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.)

Prejudice is the prejudging of someone or a group of people before you know them. This can often lead to discrimination and result in someone being treated differently due to race, religion, sexuality etc. Should religions be doing more to fight against this?

Most Christians would disagree with this statement. This is because they believe they are following in Jesus' example of treating people with compassion regardless of their race. This comes from teachings such as "love one another as I have loved you". This means that Christians are trying to fight against racial prejudice and try to treat everyone equally. They would try to stand up for those facing discrimination. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights reflects the key principles of Christianity. One human right is "no discrimination", therefore Christians will fight against this. This would affect a Christian's life as if they are following Jesus' example and fighting against injustices they will hopefully live in a better society and then be rewarded with heaven. However, this is a weak argument as there is still racial prejudice evident in society and there are still racist groups like the Ku Klux Klan. It could also be argued that some Christians believe the main aim of their religion is to evangelise their beliefs to spread Christianity not fight against injustices. Therefore, some would argue religions need to do more.

Other Christians would also disagree with this statement because they believe they are all children of God. This comes from the teaching "there is neither Jew nor Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ." This means that no matter who someone is they are still a child of God and should be treated fairly and with compassion. This is shown through Christian charities like Christian Aid, who fight against discrimination and injustices. This could be considered a strong argument as fighting against injustice is also evident in the parable of the Good Samaritan. The parable of the Good Samaritan explains how a Samaritan helps a Jewish man who was beaten and left at the side of the road, even though the Samaritans were despised by the Jews. This would affect a Christian's life as Jesus used this parable to teach Christians what they needed to do in order to get into heaven and gain eternal life with God.

Furthermore, some Muslims would disagree with this statement as they try to treat people equally regardless of race. This comes from the quote "we are all equal like the teeth of a comb". This means that Muslims try to fight against racial prejudice and discrimination in order to ensure everyone is treated equally as everyone is created by Allah. They would also give 2.5% of their yearly wage to charity as part of Zakah. Zakah can be used by many causes and charities such as Islamic Relief in order to challenge and combat discrimination. This would affect a Muslim's life as they will try to treat everyone with respect as they know Allah will judge their actions and how they treat people; "God is acquainted with what you do". This could be considered a strong argument as the Ummah transcends across all races. Therefore, it is clear Muslims will fight against injustices as they are all part of a worldwide Muslim community.

In conclusion, I disagree with this statement "religions should do more to fight against racial prejudice and discrimination". This is because, as an atheist, I believe that we are all responsible for fighting against injustices in society. I believe religious believers already do a lot to fight against racial prejudice and discrimination but everyone needs to work as a community in order to eradicate racial prejudice. Overall, it is not just a concern for religious believers consequently the statement is false.



1. Make flash cards for the key terms at the beginning of the unit
2. Create flash cards for the sources of wisdom at the end of each section.
3. Write an account of the different attitudes that Christians (and Muslims) have to prejudice and discrimination
4. Create a comic strip that shows the work of Martin Luther King
5. Explain what the terms acquisition and use of wealth mean
6. Describe attitudes to social justice with reference to one religion you have studied. (5)
7. From two different religions or two religious traditions, explain different attitudes to the acquisition and use of wealth (8)
8. From two different religions or two religious traditions, explain different attitudes towards human rights (8)
9. 'Religious people should follow their own rules and not human rights' (15)  
'Evaluate this view showing you have considered more than one point of view.'  
In your answer you must refer to religion and belief
10. 'Religious people don't do enough to support the poor and needy' (15)

'Evaluate this view showing you have considered more than one point of view.'

