

Year 11

Whole Course Revision Booklet.

Name _____

The Nature of God.

The exam requires you to know these 4 qualities.

Omnipotent – God is all p_____.

Omniscient – God is all k_____.

Benevolent – God is all _____.

Just – F_____.

You should be able to suggest whether God can or cannot be all of these things at once.

What forms does suffering take? You will need to know examples, such as pain, poverty, and illnesses.

You will also need to be able to say if suffering can ever have a purpose. Remember that suffering can have positive benefits. We can learn from our mistakes, we can understand what is good and bad for our bodies.

An example to learn:- If we felt no pain, we would not know if we had cut ourselves. The cut could become infected, and we could lose an arm or a leg by the time we finally noticed the wound. If the pain alerts us to the problem before this, then it has had a positive benefit.

What is the problem of Suffering? Suffering is a particular problem for C_____ as they believe in a God who is O_____, O_____, B_____ and J_____, meaning he is all powerful, all knowing, all loving and fair. Therefore if he were all powerful, he would be a_____ to do something about suffering. If he were all k_____, he would k_____ that suffering is a problem, and he would k_____ what to do about it. If he were all loving, then surely he could w_____ to do something about it. If he were fair, then it makes sense that only those who d_____ it should suffer.

Therefore the existence of suffering raises problems for Christians as it challenges what they b_____ about God.

How do we defend God?

1) God is sometimes called F_____. At times parents will either act or stand back to let you feel pain. This helps you learn. Maybe God is like this with us.

2) Pain is p_____ for the bad things we do.

3) Pain is a t_____ of our f_____ in God. He gives us pain to see if we can take it and still believe in him. (Story of Job)

4) We l_____ from pain.

5) We need to experience b_____ things so we can appreciate the g_____ things. Eg If we never went to work we would not appreciate holidays.

6) Evil and suffering result from f_____ will. God allows us to be free, but some people choose to misuse this freedom.

7) Don't q_____ God. Accept his will. We, as humans cannot understand God. We should not bother to try.

8) The d_____ causes all of the evil and suffering.

The Trinity

This is the idea that God is the F_____, the S_____ and the Holy _____. Each of these is distinct from each other, but they are all fully G_____. It may be helpful to think of 3 different roles that you play in your life. Another way to look at it could be to compare God to water. The liquid, the steam and the ice are all fully water but they take on different forms.

You will need to be able to suggest ways that the Trinity is confusing, even for Christians.

The Christian Creation Story.

You will need to know the **Christian Creation story**. It is found in Genesis 1. Christians usually believe that Genesis tells them that God the Father, together with the Spirit are responsible for creation. The story runs as follows....

God created the world in 6 days and rested on the 7th. He created:

1. L_____.
2. S_____.
3. L_____ and p_____
4. S_____, m_____, and stars.
5. Sea creatures and b_____
6. Animals and H_____
7. God rested.

When God had finished this he put the first man and the first woman 'Adam and Eve,' into the Garden of E_____. This was paradise as it was perfect. God planted the 'tree of K_____ of Good and Evil' in the garden. He told Adam and Eve that they could eat from any tree in the garden except for this one. The serpent (representing the d_____) tempted Eve to eat from the tree. She did, and also gave some to Adam. God banished them from the garden of Eden, and gave them each a punishment.

Man – To work hard for f_____.

Woman – To have increased pain in c_____.

Snake – To crawl on his belly for his whole life. He loses his l_____

Christians now believe they are born with a tendency to commit s_____. This is why baptism is important, and also why atonement was needed.

The Role of the Word in Creation.

This is found in the Gospel of John 1. Experts suggest that 'The Word,' refers to the S_____, Jesus, who came to earth. Therefore John is emphasising the idea that the whole of the Trinity was present in C_____.

Jesus has always been there, even before he came to earth. This means that he was not an ordinary man, he was actually God.

Are we supposed to understand this fully?

- The simple answer is ‘no.’
- The trinity itself is a mystery, and we cannot fully comprehend how The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit were all present at Creation.
- However, this is part of F_____. If everything made perfect sense, or was easy to understand we would know that God existed or didn't. Therefore logically there must be some mystery that surrounds the concept of God.

Heaven.

How do you get there?

- Most Christians believe that entry to heaven is conditional on having led a “g_____ life”. (Salvation through works/deeds) Matt25 The Parable of the S_____ and the G_____ show this.
- Protestants believe that one must accept Jesus as one's saviour, and then Jesus will assume the guilt of your sins. Believers are believed to be f_____ regardless of any good or bad "works" they have participated in. (Salvation through _____.) John14:6 ‘I am the way the truth and the life. No-one comes to the F_____ except through me.’
- Other Christians believe that you must carefully follow all the rules in order to enter heaven. (Salvation through the L_____.)

Different Christians accept one, or more of these at the same time. Therefore many like think that deeds and belief are important. This is found in the parable of the Sheep and the Goats in Matthew 25. However, this quote does emphasise the deeds bit more than the belief. John 14:6 says ‘I am the way the truth and the life, no one comes to the Father except through me.’ This emphasises the salvation through g_____ idea.

What's it like?

Jesus answered him, “I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in p_____.” Luke 23:43

“In my Father's house are many r_____. I am going to prepare a wonderful place for you.” John 14:2

These 2 quotes suggest that heaven is a physical p_____ and can be used to discuss this idea in the exam.

However, some Christians think of heaven as a more spiritual thing. A s_____ is a non physical thing, meaning it can't be seen or felt. Therefore it needs NO PLACE to be.

So if heaven is just for s_____, you cannot think of it as a place. Some Christians believe that it is a ‘s_____ of m_____’ Your soul will get to know that God e_____ and is with you. This would be a heavenly state to be in, without having to be in a ‘place.’

Hell

How do you get there?

- Punishment in Hell typically corresponds to s_____ committed in life.
- In Christianity, however, faith and repentance play a larger role than actions in determining a soul's afterlife destiny.
- Only the really bad that have failed to r_____ (ask for forgiveness for the sins they have committed) will therefore go to hell.
- Most Christians believe that you will be g_____ forgiveness if you repent.
- Therefore God can still be b_____. You cannot be granted forgiveness unless you ask for it. If you don't ask for it then it is assumed you do not know what you have done wrong.

What's it like?

Revelation 14:10 "he will be tormented with f_____ and brimstone
The book of Daniel describes hell as a 'place of unending s_____.'

- However, hell is may not actually be a place.
- If it is a s_____ of m_____ (in the same way as heaven) then your soul would find out that God exists, but is not with you. This would cause unhappiness and pain for all eternity.

Judgement.

In this section you need to refer to many of the ideas in the heaven and hell section. Entry to heaven is condition, so a judgement will have to be made. Entry and therefore salvation, could be

- Through g_____
- Through w_____/deeds
- Through the l_____.

These are discussed above.

When is this judgement?

- When you d_____.
- Not until 'J_____ Day.'
- Catholics often say that people will go to heaven after 'P_____.' This is rather like a w_____ r_____ before h_____. The time spent here depends on what sins you have committed in life. The more sins, the more time. Catholics often p_____ for those in purgatory to shorten their time there.

Quotes/stories that can be used are

Matt 25 – parable of the Sheep and the Goats.

John 14:6 'I am the way the truth and the life. No-one comes to the Father except through me.'

Heaven, Hell and Judgement Summary.

- Exactly what heaven and hell are, are debatable. Some believe in real places, (Good for heaven and bad for hell.) Whereas others believe they are states of mind. Only your soul exists and it gets the knowledge that God exists, and is with you (for heaven) or is not with you. (for hell.)
- When Judgement happens is also debatable. Some Christians believe that you are sent to heaven and hell straight after death, with Catholics believing that many people spend time in purgatory. Others believe in Judgement Day, where Jesus will come to judge the living AND the dead – no judgement will be made until then. This allows them to believe in the resurrection of the body, as the world will then enter a new realm.

The Incarnation.

- Incarnation means "becoming f_____".
- In Christian terms the Incarnation means that God became human by the power of the Holy Spirit. (M_____ was a virgin.)
- Jesus was born as a h_____, took on a human body, a full human nature and lived among mankind as one of them.
- In doing this Jesus did not stop being G_____ but, in some way we cannot understand, Jesus had dual nature. He was not part God and part man but wholly God and wholly man.

Incarnation quotes.

John 1:14 The Word became f_____ and made his dwelling among us.

Matt 1:18 This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be p_____ through the Holy Spirit.

The Crucifixion.

There are many arguments about who is responsible for the death of Jesus. J_____ is responsible for betraying him in the first place, the Jewish l_____ sent soldiers to arrest him and pass him to the Romans. The R_____ pass him around but do not release him, and the crowd chanted for someone else to be released when Pilate asked them if they wanted to release Jesus.

There are also a number of reasons why people would want him crucified in the first place. Some suggestions might be

- He healed the s_____
- He worked on the Sabbath

- He claimed to be the M_____
- He broke religious l_____
- He committed blasphemy
- The Pharisees were jealous of him
- To establish a new covenant
- Pilate did not want an uprising
- He was not a warrior Messiah

Sin, Atonement, Salvation and the Purpose of the Crucifixion.

Sins are the b_____ things that we have done.

Original sin is the sin that A_____ and E_____ committed in the G_____ of Eden.

Atonement is basically the p_____ for these sins.

So how does all of this link together with the Crucifixion?

Adam and Eve caused Original Sin. This was because they disobeyed God's single command in the Garden of Eden. This command was not to eat the fruit from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. The Serpent persuaded Eve to eat the fruit, and therefore a divide was created between God and man.

Original Sin also meant that some Christians believe they are born with a tendency to sin.

Add to this the fact that we have f_____ and can make our own choices, means that there is no way man could return to God on his own, as s_____ was too great.

Through the Incarnation God became f_____ in Jesus. The C_____ of Jesus paid the price needed for man to return to God. This is known as A_____.

However, Atonement alone cannot guarantee salvation. An individual Christian must also achieve r_____. They must apologise for their sins, and they must believe in God and Jesus. Some Christians also add that you must also do good deeds, or follow all the rules in order to achieve redemption, and therefore S_____.

The Resurrection.

After the crucifixion, Jesus' body was taken down from the cross and placed in a tomb. A stone covered the entrance. M_____ Magdelene and some other women went to the tomb on the Sunday. They could not go on Saturday as it was the S_____ day. They found that the stone had been rolled away. Mary went to fetch the d_____, and they saw the linen cloth which had been used to wrap Jesus' body. The disciples left, probably to investigate what was going on. Mary then saw Jesus. At first she did not recognise him, as she thought he was the gardener. However when she recognised him, she went to tell the disciples. Jesus is said to have appeared to many of the disciples, and even showed them the w_____ in his hands.

Why is the resurrection significant?

The resurrection shows victory over death - the power of good over evil.

Jesus' resurrection gives Christians the belief that there is life after death and they too will be resurrected.

Jesus' death and resurrection is atonement for their sins. They believe that their sins have been forgiven and they can inherit eternal life. Christians believe that Jesus died because he loved each and every person. This belief can give a Christian hope in this life and mean that they do not fear death.

The Ascension.

It is an important belief that Jesus did not die after the resurrection. He was 'taken up' by God, which means that death was overcome and not necessary.

What is the significance of the ascension for Christians today?

The ascension shows Christians that Jesus is now with God in heaven. It marks the beginning of God sending his Holy Spirit to provide comfort and guidance. The ascension shows that Jesus is fully God and has completed his work to show his creation the right way to God.

Practices.

Worship

There are 2 types of worship. Christians will use both types.

Many churches have **l**_____ worship. This is worship with a set p_____. There will be a sermon, p_____, and often **H**_____ Communion. You know what is coming next, as it will be written down and given to you as you enter the c_____.

Others have **n**_____ **-liturgical** worship (more spontaneous, based on individual testimony and contributions). This could include s_____, dancing or even q_____. This is much more m_____, and there will only be a vague p_____ of what will happen in the service.

Prayer.

S_____ prayer. This is a prayer that you learn and say off by heart.

I_____ prayer. This is a prayer that you m_____ up as you go along like a conversation.

P_____ prayer. – This is when you pray on your o_____.

P_____ prayer – This is when you p_____ with others.

The **L**_____ 's prayer is one of the most famous examples of Christian prayer.

Prayer is important to **C**_____, as it is the way that they c_____ with God. It helps them to build discipline and the ability to cope in times of t_____. It also gives them o_____ and routine in even the busiest of days.

The Sacraments.

A sacrament is an a_____ that channels the p_____ of God. You are filled with the **H**_____ **S**_____ whilst doing these actions. Many Christians believe that you are strengthened in your r_____ with God through the sacraments.

Infant Baptism.

An Infant Baptism is a ceremony where a child is introduced to the Christian f_____. Before the ceremony the baby is dressed in special clothes. This is normally a w_____ gown as it is a symbol of p_____ and **goodness**.

Baby, parents, g_____, family and friends arrive at the Church. Parents and godparents gather around the **F**_____ and take vows on the baby's behalf and p_____ to help bring them up in the Christian faith.

The parents n_____ the child and the vicar or priest makes the sign of the c_____ on the baby's forehead.

Holy w_____ is poured from the font onto the baby's h_____ three times, one for each member of the trinity (Father, S_____ and Holy Spirit). He announces the name of the baby. At the end of the ceremony, some Churches hand a small lighted c_____ to the baby's parents. This signifies that the baby now belongs to Jesus, the l_____ of the world.

Believers Baptism.

This is practised by churches who do not b_____ babies. The person goes into a p_____ of water with the m_____ and makes their promises. The minister l_____ them down into the water. This is symbolic of their old l_____ ending, and their sins being f_____ by Jesus. They are f_____ immersed in the water, which represents the d_____ of the person that they were. They then are brought back up, which represents their new l_____ as a Christian. Many Christians feel that this kind of ceremony follows the example of J_____, as he was baptised as an adult.

Holy Communion

This is one of the most important parts of Christian worship. It is known under many different names. 3 examples are:

The Eucharist
The Lords Supper.
M_____

This act of worship remembers Jesus' L_____ S_____. In the Holy Communion ceremony Christians will go to the a_____, which is a special table at the front of the church. They will be given some b_____, or possibly a wafer to eat, and will be given a drink of w_____. These 2 things represent the b_____ and the b_____ of Jesus. The actions of Holy Communion follow the actions of Jesus at his final m_____, which is known as the **Last Supper**.

It is a SACRAMENT which means they believe that by taking part in Holy Communion they are receiving the H_____ S_____.

Different ways of celebrating Holy Communion.

The D_____ liturgy in the Orthodox Church.

This is supposed the recreated h_____ on earth. A lot of the service is done from behind a s_____ called an iconostasis. The priest comes through the H_____ Doors, and the church is filled with c_____ and incense to remind people of God's p_____.

The Liturgy of the W_____ involves h_____, and a b_____ reading.

There may also a s_____ (religious explanation.)

The Liturgy of the Faithful involves the priest coming through the H_____ D_____ and selecting a loaf baked by the congregation to be b_____. The Creed and the L_____ 's prayer are said. The priest goes back behind the doors and says the words of J_____ at his L_____ S_____. The bread is divided into f_____, and three of them are b_____. The fourth is broken into pieces and people are given it to take h_____ on their way out. The b_____ and w_____ is mixed together on a s_____ and given to the people who come forwards. They then say prayers of t_____.

The Oorthodox church believes that the b_____ and w_____ really do turn into the b_____ and b_____ of Jesus, but don't attempt to explain how. They call this a

D_____ M_____

Mass

This is or C_____. The priest w_____ everyone, and there are some p_____.

The Liturgy of the Word.

There will often be t_____ Bible readings, one from the O_____ T_____, one from Paul's letters and one from a N_____ T_____ gospel.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist.

The b_____ and w_____ are brought to the a_____

The priest says the Eucharistic p_____ using the words of J_____ at the L_____ S_____.

The people say the L_____ P_____

They exchange a sign of peace – usually a h_____ shake.

The people receive the b_____ and w_____

The priest b_____ them.

Catholics believe that the bread and wine turn into the b_____ and b_____ of Jesus through a process known as T_____.

Holy Communion is Anglican Churches.

This is almost the same as C_____. The difference is mainly in the meaning. Anglicans believe that J_____ is present with them through the H_____ S_____ at Holy Communion, but they think of the b_____ and w_____ are more s_____.

Pilgrimage.

A Pilgrimage is 'A special j_____ to a place of religious significance.' You cannot give a definite reason why some people go on pilgrimage, but here are some common ideas:

- ✓ S_____ Faith
- ✓ Become c_____ to God

- ✓ Show c_____ to religion
- ✓ Say thank you
- ✓ Say s_____
- ✓ Ask for help or h_____
- ✓ As part of a religious d_____

Lourdes.

Lourdes is in Southern F_____. The story of why it became a place of pilgrimage is as follows:

B_____ Soubirous, the fourteen year old daughter of devout C_____ peasants saw visions of a white-robed lady 18 times in a small grotto (cave) at Lourdes. In the visions the lady told Bernadette to "go tell the village p_____ to build a ch_____ here" and that many people would soon come in procession to the h_____ place. On the day of the 16th vision, March 25, the lady revealed herself as the V_____ M_____, the mother of Jesus. During a trance that day, Bernadette suddenly rose from her knees, walked a short distance, and fell to the ground. She began to d_____ in the earth until a small puddle of w_____ appeared. Over the next few days the puddle gradually formed into a p_____ and eventually became the sacred s_____ for which Lourdes is now so famous.

It is because of this S_____ Pool that many people go to Lourdes today. They may go because they believe that the pool can h_____ them from all sorts of ailments, especially physical d_____.

When people go to Lourdes today, they will visit the site where the V_____ Mary was seen. They may worship at a s_____ - that has been set up there. Those who are i_____ may go into the Sacred Pool, and pray that they will be h_____. In Lourdes today there are a number of churches and chapels, and it is common for p_____ to go to a number of different services. Most services are in L_____. Pilgrims may also take part in various p_____ that take place around Lourdes.

Iona

Iona is an island off the west coast of S_____. Some people think that Iona is a 't____' place, where the veil between the spiritual world and the physical world is thin. The Iona Community hold daily services in the church, led a s_____ mile hike to the island's holy and historic spots and conduct workshops on Christian themes.

Festivals.

1. Christmas. (25th December)

Christians believe that Christmas celebrates the b_____ of Jesus. You can look the story up in the Bible if you cannot remember it. (Matthew 1:18)

Christians celebrate with decorations, church s_____, family gatherings etc. There is a special service called M_____ M_____ on Christmas Eve.

2. Easter.

Christians believe that Jesus was c_____ on G_____ F_____. On Easter Sunday he rose from the d_____. Christians may go to ch_____, and light a candle to show that Jesus is the light of the w_____. Christians may go on processions through the streets carrying a w_____ cross. Orthodox Christians might walk around the church at m_____, entering the church in darkness apart from candles. This symbolises the t_____. Then the p_____ will announce 'He is risen.' Many churches organise b_____ for Easter Sunday, often eating eggs, as they are a symbol of new life.

The Church in the Community – Food Banks.

The church is not just a building, it is also a c_____. This community believes that they have a r_____ to help those around them.

Many Christians feel that teachings like the parable of the s_____ and the g_____ mean that they should help others.

Therefore the 'Church' has become involved with h_____ poor people, religious and non-religious alike.

The T_____ t_____ is a food bank, which is designed to give people emergency food when they need it. Food which takes a long time to go o_____ is donated. People who need it can get a v_____ through a number of different professionals and organisations, and ex_____ it for a box of food, designed to l_____ them a three days,

The Church in the Community – Street Pastors.

It is a Christian charity, where C_____ adult volunteers receive training in order to patrol the streets in urban areas. They do not have the right to enforce the law but provide a reassuring presence in the local c_____. The initial idea was to challenge gang culture and the use of knives and weapons in the local community in London. As Christians elsewhere made their own little groups the initial f_____ was changed to dealing with d_____, anti-social behaviour and fear of crime. Street pastors aim is to help and care for vulnerable people in practical and easy ways. They also aim to work closely with the councils and police in their local a_____.

Wearing a blue, reflective 'street p_____' uniform their aim is to provide a positive service to their local community. What they do includes l_____ to people's problems, giving guidance regarding agencies which might be able to help and stop or discourage anti-social behaviour the area. They are backed up by prayer pastors who p_____ for the street pastors and what they do. Sometimes they c_____ with other street pastors by using a m_____ phone. Since 2003 street pastors have rapidly g_____ a lot with nearly 300 locations worldwide with around 14000 trained personnel.

Another organisation was set up called school pastors was set up in 2011 with the aim to reduce antisocial behaviour, illegal drug use and bullying in the community. Within the school, school pastors mentor y_____ people and they patrol within and around the school helping to prevent anti-social behaviour from happening. Recently there has also been the development of college pastors, rail pastors and in the event of a disaster response pastors.

The mission of the church is to make a p_____ contribution to their local community

and make it a better and nicer place for everyone to live. It is also to be a g_____ neighbour to everyone whoever they're. S_____pastors have resulted in lots more organisations being made like street pastors to help the community and the people in the local a_____.

The Place of Mission and Evangelism.

The church is not simply a b_____. It is also a community of b_____. These people believe that they have a m_____ to spread the g_____ n_____ of Jesus to other people. In Matthew it says 'Go and make d_____ of all nations.' This is called the Great Commission. Christians believe they have a d_____ to tell other people about their faith. This can be through words OR a_____ or a combination of both.

The A_____ Course was started to help Christians understand the basics of their own r_____. However, it quickly became an introduction to the C_____ f_____ for those wanting to find out about it. Today the courses are run in various p_____ including people's homes, and offer other things, such as r_____ and marriage support with a Christian perspective.

Church Growth.

Worldwide there is an estimated 1.5 to 2.5 billion Christians which makes up about a third of the entire world's population. This includes people who know very little of Christianity however when questioned they will respond as part of some type of a Christian denomination. The ch_____ has grown rapidly across Asia, Africa and South America. This is because these continents are made from less developed counties where basic things to live and survive are hard to access due to short supply and it is easier for the inhabitants of these countries to believe in God.

An organisation called CFA_N is trying to help spread Ch_____ across less developed c_____ like Africa and stands for C_____ f_____ A_____ N_____. C_____ began in 1974 and was formed by Reinhard Bonnke. At first he was d_____ because his attendances were small but had a d_____ in which G_____ told him "Africa shall be saved". This dream repeated f_____ times.

The churches m_____ doesn't have to end with people just wanting to become Ch_____. The great commission said by J_____ was to make d_____, not just new Christians. This can be done by sharing testimonies on S_____ M_____.

The Importance of the Worldwide Church.

The primary mission of the worldwide church is to proclaim that Jesus came so you can r_____ the relationship between m_____ and God. Christians believe that s_____ caused this relationship to break and separate the world from God (who is holy).

Christians believe that when Jesus died on the cross and r_____ up he saved human beings from sin and made s_____ and atonement possible.

Despite the work of Christians to bring reconciliation and peace, Christians are discriminated against and p_____ by means like forcing Christians to pay extra tax, not allowing them to have good jobs or build churches and even extends to attacks on Christians.

The role of the worldwide church is to restore people's relationship with God and one another. There is lots of violence in the world from all the hatred and sections of the church have even fallen out –Catholics and Protestants. The C_____ community works to

promote reconciliation, people from various backgrounds gather at the community centre in Ireland for peace-building through the healing of social, religious and political divisions. The world council of churches has a programme to try and bring about reconciliation between Christians of different D_____ and members of other faiths. For example, the pilgrimage of justice and peace initiative, seeks to work together to help heal a world filled with conflict, injustice and pain. Christians believe that they should work to bring about r_____ first between G_____ and humans, and secondly with other people who have views different to their own. Many Christians are being p_____ for their b_____.

Persecution.

Persecution is when people are treated d_____ because of one thing about them. Christians are persecuted because of their b_____. Persecution ranges from forcing C_____ to pay extra tax, not allowing good jobs or sometimes m_____. Not all persecution has a negative effect. It is seen to some Christians to be a t_____ of f_____. Some Christians who are persecuted think that they are sharing an e_____ with Jesus when he was on the cross. Another idea is that Christianity actually grows because of p_____. This is because people see how calm and hopeful Christians are and want to join the f_____.

Pastor Baber George set up new c_____ and helped to organise missions and conferences to help the p_____ in Pakistan. Radical Muslims issued him with death threats and his family had to go to Sri Lanka, where other C_____ provided them with food and shelter. He was eventually given an asylum in America.

The Church campaigns on behalf of persecuted Christians and s_____ them. No matter what is said to the Christians, they are still encouraged to sow l_____.

The Barnabas fund helps Christians suffering from d_____ and persecution because of their f_____. These projects aim to strengthen Christians, the c_____ and communities by providing lots of different kinds of support. One of these kinds of support is raising awareness for those who are being p_____.

The Church's response to Poverty.

The church spends a lot of time helping people who are in p_____. There are a few ways to do this. They include e_____, p_____ and the giving of aid. There are 2 types of aid.

1. S_____ Term Aid.
 - Money
 - Food
 - Water
 - Blankets
 - Tents
 - Medical supplies
2. L_____ Term Aid.
 1. Train people in
 2. construction skills.
 3. Teach farming skills.
 4. Provide farming equipment.
 5. Build flood defences.
 6. Help rebuild homes.

7. Continue healthcare including setting up Healthcare centres.
8. Build schools and train teachers.

CAFOD stands for the C_____ Agency for Overseas D_____. It is mainly concerned with Long Term Aid, and works in the poorer countries of the world. Christian Aid does similar work, but also provided S_____ t_____ a_____. It works with other agencies such as fairtrade, to try and stop poverty altogether.

Jewish Beliefs.

The Unity and Nature of G-d

Jews are m_____ – They believe in only ONE G-d. This idea is expressed in the Shema, which is one of the most famous teachings from the T_____

The Shema:-

Listen, Israel! The L_____ our God is the only true God! So love the YOU'RE YOUR God with all your heart, soul, and strength.

Deuteronomy 6:4-5

God is the Creator.

In the book of G_____ it says that G_____ is the c_____ of the world. O_____ Jews believe that this is literal and therefore reject s_____ theories. Reform Jews may accept science, but still maintain that G_____ created everything.

Jews remember this story every week when they celebrate S_____.

God is also

O_____ meaning all powerful,

O_____ meaning all knowing,

O_____ meaning everywhere at all times.

They therefore think that G_____ created the potential for e_____, as there is no idea that the devil did! Humans have f_____ which means they can choose to do wrong things if they want!

God is also the s_____ of life – He keeps it all going. It is a fact that there are enough resources in the world for everyone, but the fact that they are not distributed equally is the fault of h_____

The Nature of God.

God as Lawgiver

God gave humans many rules to follow. This helps them to use their f_____ wisely.

The t_____ c_____ are very important and were given to M_____. There are _____ commandments in total. They are called m_____. These rules form the

H_____ which is the Jewish way of life.

God as judge.

God judges people on how well they follow his l_____. Obviously this happens after they d_____ when God will judge them in order to determine their a_____.

However at the festival of new year called R_____ H_____ they will be judged on their actions from the previous y_____.

Shekhinah.

This is G_____ D_____ P_____. There are many ways that this has been shown. They include the t_____ a portable tent, a pillar of c_____, a pillar of f_____ and the original Jewish t_____.

Life after death.

Jews try not to leave a dying person on their o_____. They have a s_____ day period of mourning called Shiva. After that there are t_____ days of lesser mourning.

Afterlife.

Jews do not have many specific t_____ about life after death. Jews used to believe that everyone went to s_____ which was a dark place. These days Sheol is seen more a place of c_____ for souls.

Jews believe in G_____ E_____, which is paradise. However, they are not really sure if this is p_____ or s_____.

Judgement.

Like Christianity there are a few ideas about when j_____ happens. Some say that is as soon as you d_____ whereas others believe in a J_____ D_____ where everyone will be judged at the same time.

Some Jews believe in the r_____ of the body, whereas other Jews reject this idea. Overall, there is the idea that this life is more i_____ right now. Logically is you respond well to G_____ in this life, by following all the m_____ the afterlife is nothing to w_____ about.

The Messiah.

The idea of the M_____ is an idea that a l_____ sent from God will come to u_____ all the Jews.

Orthodox Jews believe that every generation has someone with the potential to be the M_____.

Reform Jews believe that everyone working together could bring about the M_____ A_____.

Covenant and the Messianic hope

A covenant is a special agreement or p_____ made between G-d and man.

Simply put, the Covenant is, "I will be your G-d if you will be my people".

Throughout Jewish History, there have been many covenants which have shaped how Judaism was and is practiced.

Abraham.

G-d make 3 covenants with Abraham.

1. He promised to make him the father of a great nation. He showed this by changing his name from Abram to A_____.

2. G-d gave Abraham and his descendants the Land of C_____ to live in. And promised to look after them.

3. G-d enabled S_____, Abraham's wife to have a child called Isaac.

To show that Abraham and his descendants agreed to this covenant they had to circumcise all males born when they were ___ days old as a sign.

God then t_____ Abraham's faith by asking him to sacrifice Isaac. Because he was prepared to do it, God was very p_____ with him.

Moses.

Often called the Sinai C_____, this was made while the Jews were wandering in the d_____.

G-d gave Moses the 10 commandments and 603 other L_____ to live by. Moses promised G-d that the Hebrews would keep to these L_____.

The 10 Commandments

1. You shall have no other Gods but me.
2. You shall not make for yourself any idol, nor bow down to it or worship it.
3. You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.
4. You shall remember and keep the S_____ day holy.
5. Respect your father and _____.
6. You must not k_____.
7. You must not commit a_____.
8. You must not s_____.
9. You must not give false evidence against your n_____.
10. You must not covet your neighbour's goods. You shall not be envious of his house nor his wife, nor anything that belongs to your neighbour.

The Messianic Age

The Messianic Age is a term to describe a future time of peace on earth without c_____, w_____ and p_____.

In Judaism, they believe this time will come under the rule of a 'Messiah' or anointed one, who will be sent by G_____.

In this age all people will follow the L_____ in the Torah.

There will be no w_____ and suffering.

Key Moral Principles.

1. J_____. God himself is j_____, and various prophets and the commandments, help Jews to be just too!
2. H_____ the w_____. This involves helping o_____, and also trying to live the best possible life you can yourself through p_____ to G_____ and following the c_____. An organisation to use as an example is G_____.
3. K_____ to others. Jews should r_____ each other. Many of the m_____ are about how to do this.

The Sanctity of Life.

This means that life is s_____. Life is a gift from G_____. Only God gives life, so only God should t_____ it away. This means that things like m_____ and e_____ are not allowed as they r_____ life. However, this is more unclear as technology advances. Is turning off a ventilator same as giving a l_____ injection. Many would argue not!

Pikauach Nefesh.

This means s_____ a l_____.

This is very important. It is more important than all the S_____ laws – if you need to w_____ to save someone, then that is what you should do!

Jewish practices.

The Synagogue.

The S_____ is the Jewish p_____ of worship.

Jews can actually p_____ anywhere.

However for some prayers and services a MINYAN is needed. This is t_____ adult males over the age of 13 for Orthodox Jews, or 10 a_____ for reform Jews.

Because of this, Jews believe that it is important for them to pray together, and it therefore makes sense that they have a b_____ to do it in!

To recognise a synagogue you should look for

S_____ of D_____

M_____

H_____ w_____

A Synagogue may have

S_____ G_____ W_____

Orthodox synagogues often have 2 f_____ as m_____ and w_____ worship s_____

The main uses of a Synagogue are

- W_____
- Meetings.
- C_____ events.
- S_____ events.
- Y_____ club/youth events.
- Learning H_____.
- Ceremonies like B_____ M_____

Inside the Synagogue.

The Jewish Scriptures are called the T_____ Scrolls. These are r_____ aloud in the Synagogue. They are taken out of a special cupboard, which is called the A_____. Above this cupboard you will find the everlasting light, which is known as the N_____ T_____. It symbolises the p_____ of G_____. Scrolls are then taken to the B_____ which is a raised platform. They will be read using a special pointer called a Y_____.

Definitions you will need.

- Bimah – A raised platform where the Torah Scrolls are read. They are usually read by a man called the C_____. The R_____ will also use the Bimah to deliver his sermon.
- Ner _____ – This is a light which is always on. It hangs above the Ark, and reminds the worshippers of the presence of God.
- Ark – This is a special c_____ where the Torah Scrolls are kept.
- Yad – This is a p_____ which is used to read the scrolls.
- Menorah – This is a 7 branched c_____. It is used as a symbol of Judaism. Each candle represents one of the days from the C_____ S_____.
- Star of David – This is the most commonly used Jewish _____.

Orthodox and Reform Synagogues.

Orthodox

- Traditional
- L_____ and instructions most important.
- Different roles for m_____ and w_____ in worship
- Belief that the religion should not be _____

Reform

- More m _____
- Individual c_____ about how to worship.
- Equality for m_____ and w_____ in worship.
- Importance of moral code rather than individual c_____.
- Belief that the religion should be relevant to m_____ life.

In the O_____ Synagogue the men and w_____ sits_____. W_____ do not play a part in the running of the service. The minyan must be made of t_____ m_____. The R_____ and the C_____ will face the a_____ when they are praying, so he will have his b_____ to the congregation. There is s_____, but there is no musical i_____. The service is often entirely in H_____.

In the R_____ synagogue, m_____ and w_____ sit together. Woman can do all parts of running a service, including becoming a r_____. The service is often in the l_____ of the society, although the reading of the scrolls is still in H_____. Reform services are often shorter than O_____ although they do tend to have a more rigid structure.

Daily services and Prayer.

For morning prayer, male Orthodox J_____ will wear 2 important items. R_____ Jews can choose to wear these items whether they are m_____ or f_____.

They wear a t_____, which is a prayer shawl that is worn around the shoulders. It has _____ tassels (tzitzit) which remind them of the 613 c_____. They also wear t_____, which are wooden boxes covered with leather. One is worn on the h_____ and one is worn on the arm facing the h_____. This is to remind them that when they pray G_____ should be in their heart and mind.

A Siddur is the name of the p_____ book used by Jews.

The Shema other p_____ and psalms usually start the service.

The services are morning, a_____ and evening.

Orthodox Jews pray _____ times a day.

Prayer builds the r_____ between humans and God.

You need to have a m_____ – 10 men (Orthodox) or 10 men and women (Reform) to be able to pray.

The Amidah is the standing p_____. It officially has 18 blessings, although there are actually n_____.

Shabbat.

- Shabbat occurs between s_____ on Friday and sunset on Saturday.
- No w_____ should be done during this time.

- It is observed by the majority of Jewish people every w_____.

There are 2 important Shabbat services in the synagogue. These are on F_____ evening and S_____ m_____.

Friday.

The Friday service is designed to w_____ Shabbat.

This service is often family friendly, and will involve m_____, discussions, g_____ and storytelling.

At the end of the service a prayer called K_____ is said over a glass of wine. This is to thank God for giving the _____ to the Jewish people.

Saturday.

The Saturday service includes p_____, blessings and a T_____ reading.

The Torah is taken out of the A_____ as the congregation stands. This reminds them of the Jews standing at the bottom of Mount Sinai when M_____ returned with the commandments.

The Torah is then 'dressed' in a cover, with ornaments and a breastplate to remind Jews of what p_____ used to wear.

The Torah is then paraded around the Synagogue, reminding Jews of when the I_____ carried the Holy Ark containing the 10 commandments.

As it passes many Jews will touch it with their t_____, and then put their fingers to their lips. This shows that God's words should be on their l_____.

The Torah is read from the B_____ and paraded around before it is returned to the Ark.

The R_____ will give a sermon.

Jews leave by saying 'Shabbat Shalom, meaning 'have a p_____ Sabbath.'

Shabbat in the home.

The h_____ is prepared carefully for S_____. The whole house was c_____, and the best plates etc are prepared. The w_____ is ready to bless and there are two loaves of b_____ called Challot on the table. This is because when M_____ and the Israelites were in the d_____, God sent 2 loaves on a F_____ as he was resting on the S_____.

The w_____ of the household w_____ the Shabbat by lighting the c_____ and saying a b_____.

The Friday meal begins with the K_____, the blessing over the wine. Everyone has a bit of the b_____ before the meal begins. It is usually quite a long meal, and scriptures might be told to the c_____ after each course.

On the S_____ the main rule is no w_____. Jews will relax and spend time with their f_____.

The service ends with the H_____ ceremony. The w_____ is passed round, and a special plaited candle is lit. A s_____ b_____ is also used to carry the sweet smell of Shabbat into the coming week.

Worship in the home – Written and Oral Law.

Jews believe every d_____ is another chance to worship God.

Prayers should be said t_____ times a day.

Traditionally Jews s_____ to pray.

If praying alone Jews will be s_____.

A Jewish home is organised to meet G_____ 's commands.

A Jewish kitchen has t_____ of most things, to allow them to keep the food rules.

Houses also have mezuzot which are small boxes with v_____ from the Torah.

Jews will attach mezuzah to their d_____

They will touch the mezuzah as they move from room to room, to reminder of God's l_____.

The Tenakh.

- The Tenakh is divided into t_____ sections.
- 1. Torah – first 5 books of M_____. This contains most of the Jewish l_____.
- 2. Nev'im – The prophets. About Jewish h_____ and a bit more on the law.
- 3. Ketuvim – Writings. Poetry, s_____, advice and history.

The Talmud.

This is officially the Oral L_____

How to interpret the Torah was passed on by word of m_____. This seemed dangerous as it could c_____.

In 200CE they were written down and called the Mishnah. The M_____ itself was debated, and these discussions were written in the Gemara, in about 500CE

The Mishnah and G_____ together form today's Talmud.

Orthodox J_____ stress the importance of both the T_____ and the T_____. This means that they spend a lot of time s_____ them. R_____ Jews are more concerned with living a m_____ life, so study them l_____.

Birth Ceremonies.

- ▶ For O_____ Jews, a new baby is taken to the Synagogue to be b_____ on the first S_____ after his birth.
- ▶ The f_____ will recite a Torah blessing, and ask for the good h_____ of his wife and child.
- ▶ If the b_____ is a g_____, the name would be announced. If it is a boy, this will wait until his c_____.
- ▶ In Reform Synagogues both p_____ take part, and it will be a Sabbath, but not necessarily the first one!

Brit Milah.

A Jewish baby boy is circumcised when he is e_____ days old. The reason for this is because God told A_____ that every male in his family should be circumcised. It is a physical and irreversible sign of the C_____. This means that it is a sign of a special agreement between p_____ and God.

The family will book a M_____. This is the person who will perform the c_____.

Everyone will take turns to h_____ the baby. Men gather to perform the circumcision, and it is traditional that women will l_____ the room. Eventually the baby is passed to a special person called a SANDEK. This is the person who will h_____ him on a cushion for the circumcision. He is a respected friend or r_____.

Redemption of the Firstborn.

This is simply a tradition now. Some Jews give a small amount of money to a kohen, 31 days after birth. A k_____ is a descendent of the p_____ of the Jewish t_____. This 'redeems' him from temple service.

Prayers are said, hoping the child will enter into Torah, marriage and good d_____. The ceremony is called Pidyon Ha-Ben.

Bar and Bat Mitzvah.

The boy will be t_____ when he becomes Bar Mitzvah. This means he becomes ‘son of c_____’. He is expected to follow all 613 M_____, as he is now an a_____ in the religion.

He will wear a tallit and t_____ for the first time in public. He will read from the Torah Scrolls in the S_____. (He has been learning H_____ for a few years.) There will often be a party afterwards where the boy usually makes a s_____ about why Bar Mitzvah is important to him.

O_____ Jews usually celebrate a Bat Mitzvah with a f_____ m_____. However Reform Jews will often have a ceremony very similar to the b_____.

Marriage.

- Engagement is betrothal. It is very i_____ for Jews.
- It is usually for 12 m_____.
- It has status in Jewish law and needs a d_____ or d_____ to break it.
- Many Jews marry for l_____, but some Orthodox Jews choose a partner for their children with the help of a Jewish matchmaker.
- It is generally expected that J_____ people will marry other J_____.
- Jews don't l_____ together before marriage. However they will draw up a KETUBAH, or wedding c_____ in this time.
- For Orthodox Jews this set out l_____ things, like the duties of each partner, and how the man will provide for his wife if they d_____.
- For Reform Jews this focuses more on spiritual h_____ for the marriage.

The Ceremony.

Wedding ceremonies can take place anywhere, although it is traditional to have them o_____.

The wedding takes place under a c_____ called a **chuppah**. It symbolises harmony and the marital h_____ that the couple will build together.

It encloses the couple beneath it. It is open at the sides to signify they belong to the rest of the c_____.

The bride is brought in by her m_____. She circles the groom s_____ times, which is symbolic of them having p_____ space in the relationship.

The groom offers the r_____ to the bride, and says, “Behold you are sanctified to me with this ring, according to the law of M_____ and Israel.” The bride accepts the ring as a sign of her c_____.

The v_____ are exchanged, and they are very similar to the vows exchanged at a Christian wedding.

At the end of the ceremony the groom smashes a g_____. This is probably the most well-known ritual of a Jewish wedding. It signifies the destruction of the Temple in J_____, or a noise that will drive e_____ spirits away from the r_____. The couple will spend a short time together in a p_____ room, before the r_____ begins.

Funerals and Mourning.

A dying person is never left a_____

After death a candle is l_____

The body is not left alone before b_____

Jews are never cremated, always b_____

Every Jewish synagogue has a Chevra Kaddisha, a group of people who take over the a_____ for the funeral. Men are washed by m_____ and are traditionally wrapped in their t_____. Women are washed by women and wear w_____. Traditionally the body is buried within 24 h_____. The body is usually buried in a plain wooden c_____ to show they are all e_____ in death. The tallit used to wrap the deceased man will have had its t_____ cut to show that the person no longer has to follow all the c_____. Jewish funerals do not usually take place in the S_____, instead they take place at a c_____. Jewish cemeteries have p_____ halls for funerals. Prayers and a psalm are read in the prayer hall. The r_____ will give a eulogy for the dead person.

A small t_____ will be made in the clothes of the mourners to symbolise their grief at the death of a loved one.

After the ceremony, Jews will start a s_____ day period of mourning. The rules for this period are:

- ✧ The family will sit on low c_____.
- ✧ They will not comb or cut their h_____ or shave, and all mirrors will be covered.
- ✧ They wear slippers or soft s_____.
- ✧ They wear their t_____ clothing.
- ✧ They will not listen to m_____

Lesser Mourning.

- ✧ After Shiva there is a period of lesser mourning until the person has been dead t_____ days.
- ✧ Normal daily l_____ starts again.
- ✧ BUT there are no p_____, listening to music or h_____ cutting during this time.
- ✧ Males say Kaddish in the S_____ each day.

Final Mourning.

- ✧ This last for e_____ months!
- ✧ There are still no p_____.
- ✧ Only c_____ of the deceased say the kaddish.

It is usual for the h_____ to be placed at the grave about one y_____ after death. Some families have a small ceremony to mark this. When visiting a Jewish grave you leave a s_____ to show you have been.

Food Rules.

Jewish Food Rules are called K_____.

Something you are allowed to eat is called K_____. (This means 'fit.')

Something you are not allowed to eat is called T_____. (This means 'torn.')

A brief summary of the rules is:

- Animals: only ones that have 'cloven h_____' (split feet) and 'chew the c_____' (are able to d_____ grass.)
- Birds: chicken & turkey are kosher; h_____ birds aren't kosher.
- Fish: fish that have f_____ and s_____ are kosher (eg salmon, cod, haddock); Not prawns, mussels, shellfish.
- Plants: all plants are k_____
- Insects: n_____ kosher

In addition to these rules:-

- Jews may only eat animals and birds that have been killed by a Jewish b_____ using the Shechitah method
- Shechitah is killing the animals by slitting the t_____ with a very sharp knife.
- Many Jews think this is P_____ to the animals, as causing pain to living things is against Jewish law.
- The animal must not see the k_____, as this might upset it.
- A Jewish butcher needs a c_____ (called a hechsher) so people know he works correctly

And finally

- There is a quote in the Torah which says "You must not cook a young g_____ in its mother's milk"
- Jews have taken this quote to mean that all m_____ products and d_____ products are kept completely separate during preparation, cooking and eating.
 - Meaty – any part of the dead a_____ or bird
 - Dairy – anything made from m_____
 - Parev (= neither meat nor milk) – plants, fish, eggs, can be eaten with either m_____ or d_____.

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

Rosh Hashanah.

Rosh Hashanah is the **Jewish N_____ Y_____**. For Jewish people, the New Year is not on the 1st of January. It is in late S_____. Jews believe that Rosh Hashanah celebrates the birthday of the w_____.

- During the festival Jews recall how God created the world in 6 days and rested on the s_____.
- Rosh Hashanah is a day of rest and a day for n_____ beginnings.
- Rosh Hashanah is also the start of the most solemn part of the y_____, which last for t_____ days. These ten days are called the Days of R_____.
- Like all Jewish Festivals, Rosh Hashanah starts at s_____.
- At home Jews have a special evening m_____. They will usually eat f_____, and will have an a_____ dipped in honey.
- They make bake b_____ in the shape of a c_____ to show that God is king.
- There will be a synagogue service, which is similar to the S_____ service, but a little longer.
- One of the readings is the story of c_____.

- There is also a part of the service where a h_____, called a Shofar, is blown many times.
- The Shofar is made from the horn of an animal that is cleaned and hollowed out with a mouthpiece cut into the narrow end. It can produce a very l_____ note, which reminds people that god is very p_____, and they must listen to him.

Yom Kippur.

- Yom Kippur is the last of the t_____ days of Repentance.
- Yom Kippur is a very special day for Jews all around the world. Yom Kippur means **Day of A_____** and this means a day receive f_____ from God for any bad things that you might have done in the year gone by.
- In the days leading up to Yom Kippur, Jews will a_____ to people they might have upset or hurt, so that when the special day comes, God will f_____ them for their wrongdoings.
- On this special day there are f_____ prayer services in the synagogue
- At the end of the day the rabbi blows the s_____ to tell people that Yom Kippur is finished.
- Rules....
- Fast for 25 h_____.
- Do not wear leather shoes.
- Do not wear make up or p_____.
- Do not bathe.
- Wear white c_____
- Jews will also send friends and family greeting c_____.

Pesach.

This is the Jewish Festival also known as P_____.

It commemorates the story of M_____, which involved the 10 plagues. The last of the Plagues was the A_____ of D_____, which killed every first born child of the Egyptians.

The Israelites were given specific instructions to make the angel of death 'PASS OVER,' their h_____ and leave their children alive.

- The Jews had to sacrifice a l_____
- They had to smear it's b_____ onto their doorposts.
- They had to eat quickly, and not put y_____ in their bread, so that it would be ready sooner. This is called unleavened bread.

Today, the Passover is celebrated with the S_____ meal. Before the meal the house is spring cl_____, and all items with 'chametz' (yeast or rising agents) are removed.

At the meal there is a set order of things to do.

- Each person will have f_____ cups of wine. They are a reminder of the four times that God promised f_____ for the Israelites.
- The youngest child will ask 4 questions, and for the answers the story of the P_____ is retold.
- There will be 3 Matzot (pieces of u_____ bread) on the table.
- There is also a symbolic plate of food.
- Jews will also eat an ordinary meal.

The red wine reminds Jews of the lambs b_____ which the Israelites smeared on the doorposts.

The Matzah reminds them of the b_____ the Israelites made before they left.

Salt water reminds them of the t_____ of the slaves.
Green Vegetables symbolise h_____ of the promised land.
Bitter herbs symbolise the bitterness of s_____
Charoset (paste of nuts, wine and apples) symbolises the mortar the slaves used to b_____ with.
The egg and lamb bone are reminders of Temple s_____.

Families and Relationships Revision.

Sexuality = The way people express themselves as s_____ beings.

Heterosexual = Someone who has sexual relationships with the o_____ sex.

Homosexual = Someone who has sexual relationships with the s_____ sex.

Some Christians are against homosexual r_____ because of the C_____

S_____. God creates a m_____ and a w_____ and tells them to reproduce. Since pro_____ is not biologically possible in a h_____ relationship, some argue that they are against God's p_____.

However, society has c_____ a lot in recent generations. The actual nature of relationships have changed too.

Some changes that have taken place are:

Sex o_____ of marriage is more common.

Open h_____ relationships are more common.

O_____ relationships are more common.

Multiple s_____ partners are more common.

A_____ is more common.

Children outside of m_____ are more common.

There are also a number of possible reasons for this. These might include....

Effective c_____

Legal a_____.

Sex education.

Less r_____ people?

A more hedonistic lifestyle, meaning that people are basically just living to e_____ themselves.

The Law.

There are no laws against affairs, sex before marriage or o_____ relationships. However, these things were very much 'frowned upon' in the p_____.

Homosexuality, however, has been subject to a number of laws:

1967 Homosexuality made legal for over 21s. NOT in a_____ forces.

1994 Homosexual age of c_____ is reduced to 18.

2000 Homosexuality l_____ in the armed forces.

2001 Homosexual age of consent is r_____ to 16.

2004 C_____ partnerships recognised by law.

2013 Same sex m_____ recognised by law.

The age of consent is s_____, for h_____ and h_____ today.

The l_____ tries to prevent under 16s from exploitation.

Some people would think that a_____ legal sexual acts are OK for over 16 year olds.

However, most people would say that u_____ to a partner is wrong, and that sex should be confined to a relationship.

Some people may still be against h_____.

Corinthians 6:9-11 says *“Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.”*

However, this was St P_____ who was writing to prostitutes, and not talking about everyday r_____.

The Evangelical Church They believe that being a homosexual is a sin. They believe that you can “p_____ away the g_____”.

The Roman Catholic Church They believe that just being a homosexual is n_____ a sin.

However they believe that the s_____ act is a sin, therefore you should remain

c_____.

The Protestant Church Most of these churches believe that there should be e_____ for homosexuals. They believe that the relationship should be f_____, in line with the normal bounds of morality.

Sex before and outside of marriage.

Sex before marriage means that you are having s_____, but you are not m_____.

Sex outside of marriage means that you are m_____, but you are having sex with someone who is not your m_____ p_____.

Traditionally all Christians believe that sex before marriage and sex outside of marriage are w_____. Most Catholics still feel this way.

Some Christians these days take a more r_____ attitude. They feel that s_____ in a loving l_____ term relationship is a valid form of expressing love.

However, sex outside of m_____ is called adultery – cheating on your partner. The T_____ C_____ say ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ Therefore a_____ branches of Christianity are against this!

Contraception and Family Planning.

Contraception is any way of preventing p_____ when a couple have sex. Different d_____ of Christianity have different views on c_____ as a whole. In addition to this those Christian that accept some forms of c_____ have different attitudes towards different m_____ of contraception depending on how they w_____.

There are many different forms of artificial contraception, some of which include:

- The pill, or injection, which contains a hormone that stops the woman from producing an egg.
- The diaphragm, or condom, which stop the sperm meeting the egg- the condom also prevents the spread of sexually transmitted infections.
- Spermicidal jellies or creams, which kill the sperm directly
- The coil (intrauterine device) and the 'morning after' pill, which stop a fertilised egg from implanting in the womb.
- Sterilisation (a surgical operation) of either the man or the woman, which is a permanent way of preventing pregnancy.

Most Christians disagree with the IUD (the coil) and the morning after pill. This is because it allows fertilisation to take place. Since the egg and the sperm have met, many Christians would think that this is similar to an abortion, as the life has already begun.

Catholics.

Catholics disagree with all artificial contraception, saying that only natural methods should be used. Natural methods involve only having sex at certain times of the month in order to reduce the chance of pregnancy. For example, with the rhythm method, the woman records the length of her menstrual cycle in order to determine when she should avoid having sex. Not ejaculating inside the woman would also be classed as a natural method. This is often called pulling out. However, none of these methods are actually as effective in preventing pregnancy as the artificial methods.

Modern Attitudes.

In modern Britain there is widespread acceptance of the use of contraception in family planning. Many people think it is more responsible to prevent unwanted pregnancies, both from a personal point of view and also because of concerns about global over-population.

Many responsible people think that using some forms of contraception for the right reasons within marriage is acceptable.

All Christian churches agree that having children is God's greatest gift to a married couple. Christian couples are called by God to be responsible parents, fully committed to their children's nurture and guidance. It is God's will that children are born within marriage, but all Christian churches accept that there are some situations when it may be acceptable to bring children into the world. The reasons may be economic, environmental, or psychological.

However, as already mentioned Christian churches do not all agree on the methods couples should use to limit their fertility or to time the births of their children.

Marriage.

People marry to spend their lives with the person they love. Marriage is a legal contract that brings security as it protects the rights of each partner, provides various legal and financial benefits, and is a serious, lifelong public commitment.

The nature of marriage has recently been keenly debated in the UK. *Marriage used to be defined as the legal union of a man and a woman.*

In 2004, same sex couples were allowed to register their union in a civil partnership that gave them the same legal rights as married couples. But many same sex couples felt that having separate civil partnerships seemed to imply that heterosexual relationships were not as valid as heterosexual ones.

Same – sex marriages became legal in England, Wales and Scotland in 2014, and in Ireland in 2015.

Many Christians oppose this, not because they were against equal rights, but because it seemed to be changing the nature of marriage. Marriage was being redefined to mean simply a contractual relationship between adults, whereas many Christians consider it to be a unique relationship between a man and a woman that involves their ability to create new life in the form of children. The law does protect churches that oppose homosexual marriage and they are not forced to conduct same sex marriages against their beliefs.

Christians believe marriage is a gift from God and is a covenant (special promise) made before Him. They aim to live faithfully together until death. Their personal intimacy expresses their love and they share companionship through good and bad times.

Cohabitation.

Sometimes the cost of marriage prevents people from marrying immediately. In contemporary British society many couples live together without being married. This is called cohabitation. Some want to see if their relationship is going to work, and then may decide to live together in a loving partnership.

Christians against Cohabitation

Christians who are opposed to sex before marriage believe cohabitation is sinful. The Catholic Church says: “The sexual act must take place exclusively within marriage. Outside of marriage it always constitutes a grave sin.”

Some reasons why less people marry these days might be

1. It c_____ too much.
2. Too many e_____ in divorce.
3. They don't see the p_____ in it if they are not r_____.
4. They feel it is o_____.
5. Modern lives are too b_____ to settle down.

Divorce and re-marriage

A divorce is the l_____ ending of a marriage. There is n___ limit of how m_____ times are you allowed to get divorced. Remarriage, is getting married a_____ after you have been d_____. This is usually to a different person, although remarriage to the s_____ person is allowed too. You can r_____ in some churches, but not in a___ of them.

Marriages may fail for a number of reasons. Some examples might be

- As the couple grow up they find they are just too d_____.
- One or both of them commit a_____.
- Domestic a_____.
- Arguments about m_____.
- Arguments about c_____.
- Any kind or unr_____ behaviour.

Both d_____ and arguments between p_____ can cause instability for children in the f_____.

Christian churches try to prevent this by offering c_____ that prepare couples for marriage. They may also offer counselling for those who are not getting along and may at some point consider a d_____.

Christians have to balance ethical arguments between the sanctity of their marriage v_____ and compassion for those who are going through a breakdown of their m_____. While many would say that vows made before God are sacred and should never be b_____, there may be circumstances when it might be more compassionate and loving to divorce, for example in cases of domestic violence that risk the health and s_____ of a partner or their children.

Different church views on Divorce.

Catholics.

The **Catholic Church** teaches that a civil d_____ cannot dissolve a marriage between two baptised people. Catholics can s_____ but they cannot m_____ someone else in a Catholic church while their partner is still alive. For Catholics, marriage is a s_____ that is permanent, exclusive and lifelong, and the couple make v_____ before God that can never be broken.

However Catholics can obtain a _____ under certain circumstances if it was never a true marriage. Catholics whose marriage has been annulled are free to m_____ in church.

Protestants.

Divorced **Anglicans** can marry someone else in church with the b_____’s permission, as long as the priest in that church is w_____ to perform the marriage ceremony. Priests who are uncomfortable with this may instead offer a b_____ after a civil ceremony.

Other Protestant churches, for example the **Methodist or United Reformed Church**, accept civil divorce and allow remarriage in church as long as the couple take the vows s_____. They think that the Church should reflect the f_____ of God and allow people who have made mistakes the opportunity to find happiness in a s_____ marriage.

The **Eastern Orthodox Church** grants divorces and remarries couples but usually not more than t_____.

Useful quotes.

Luke 16:18 ¹⁸“Anyone who divorces his w_____ and marries another woman commits adultery, and the man who marries a divorced woman commits a _____”

In 1Corinthians 7 it says A wife must not separate from her husband. ¹¹ But if she does, she must remain unm_____ or else be reconciled to her husband. And a husband must not d_____ his wife.

However, as with many other topics Christians are also taught to “L_____ your n_____” Therefore to accept that some marriages don’t w_____ out, might be the most l_____ thing to do.

The Nature of Families.

A ‘nuclear’ family is the ‘_____l’ family unit for western societies. It is a father, mother and their children l_____ together.

However, there are many different sorts of families in society today. Some examples could include

Step families.

S_____ parent families.

Same-sex p_____ with children.

Foster f_____.

Families with a _____ children.

Families with c_____ from a surrogate.

Families are expected to p_____ for their children and relatives in terms of l_____ and basic needs. Religious people are also expected to bring their children up in the f_____.

1 Timothy says “⁸ Anyone who does not p_____ for their relatives, and especially for their own household, has denied the f_____ and is worse than an unbeliever.”

When in a marriage, partners are also expected to meet each other’s needs. St Paul tells the early Christians communities that it is actually best to n_____ marry and remain c_____. However, he also recognises that this would n_____ be p_____ for most people, and says that if they are going to have s_____ then they must get m_____. Within a m_____, it is expected that the couple do have s_____ with each other and produce c_____

“² But since sexual immorality is occurring, each man should have sexual relations with his own wife, and each woman with her own husband.”

Gender Equality.

Gender D_____ = Acting against someone based on their g_____.

Gender P_____ = Unfairly judging someone without knowing all the f_____.

Gender S_____ = Having a fixed idea of how m_____ and w_____ will behave.

Gender E_____ = Giving the same rights to all people, r_____ of whether they are male or female.

Traditional Society.

- Men used to earn all the m_____.
- Women would stay at h_____.
- Women would do h_____.
- Women would look after the c_____.
- Women used to do first what their f_____ wanted, and after marriage, what their h_____ wanted.

The situation today.

- Women generally e_____ less than man. Sometime this can be for doing the s_____ job.
- Women do make up about h_____ of the workforce, but there are more men in s_____ positions.

There are many reasons that there may still be a gap in p_____. Some of these reasons MAY include

- Men are seen as being physically s_____.

- Women may be expected to take more time off for maternity leave than paternity leave.
- Women are often still seen as the primary carer for children, and so might be seen as less focussed on their jobs.
- Women may HAVE to be the primary carer for some babies as they may choose to breastfeed them.

However, it is important to note that just because roles are different in a household, doesn't mean they are unequal. Many parents play an equal role in childcare. What suits a family may depend on finances, individual strengths, and the amount of support from extended family.

Christian views.

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

BUT in Genesis God says to Eve "Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."

Most mainstream Christians will agree with gender equality. You could again use the Leviticus your non-biblical quote to explain why this might be.

Religion and Life.

The Creation Story

In the creation story God creates the world in 6 days and rests on the seventh.

On the first day he creates light.

On the second day he creates the sky.

On the third day he creates land, seas and plants.

On the fourth day he creates the sun, moon and stars.

On the fifth day he creates birds and fish.

On the sixth day he creates land animals and humans.

On the Seventh day God rests.

After he finished creating, God put Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. God tells them to eat from any tree except the Tree of Knowledge of good and evil. A serpent tricks Eve into eating the forbidden fruit and they are cast out of the garden.

They are all punished. The woman has her pain in _____ increased, the man has to work hard, and the serpent loses his _____.

How to view the story.

Some people think that this story is true, others think that it needs some i_____.

Here are some of the most common ideas.

F_____ think that it is literally true.

Others think that it tells them the o_____ God created, but 'day' is not our concept of a day.

It could tell people that G_____ created everything, but not what order.

It is like a p_____ – a story with a meaning. It is designed to tell Christians and J_____ that God c_____ the world. However it does not tell them how he did it, just that what he did was 'g_____.'

There are also some non-religious ideas about it. These might include...

It is just m_____ up.

It was designed to answer an unanswered q_____. Now we have s_____ there is no need for it

The Big Bang.

- The Big Bang Theory is a s_____ account of how the universe began.
- This means it is the best *evidence-based* explanation we have at present for how e_____ began.

Around 13.7 b_____ years ago...Everything – matter, energy, time and s_____ - began. Then there was a massive e_____. Over time the material from the Big Bang began to c_____ down and clump together. These clumps of gas, and space dust formed galaxies, s_____, and, eventually, planets, o_____ of which is ours.

Evidence for the Big Bang.

Stars and galaxies are moving further a_____ from each other at a known rate of speed – 'Red Shift.' This implies they were once MUCH c_____. (If you imagine everything rewinding you get to a point where everything must have exploded).

The relative abundance of elements with everything we need to make the u_____ seems to have been created with the Big Bang. e.g. the proportion of Hydrogen and Helium is exactly what it should be if there was a Big Bang.

Background r_____ from the Big Bang is still around now (it's the fuzzy noisy stuff you get on TV sets that don't have digital).

Fundamentalists and the Big Bang.

- It's not in the B_____ – Scripture is e_____ free and science is w_____!
- Evidence is circumstantial – no proof. Science has been w_____ in the past.

- Thus the Big Bang Theory just that – a t_____. There are others...
- It d_____ God as creator/designer, and therefore removes the sense of p_____ from creation
- Belief in Bible more i_____ than scientific evidence.

Other Christian Responses.

- The Big Bang Theory confirms idea that universe had a b_____.
- Big Bang might be God's method of c_____, this cannot be ruled out.
- The fact of creation is more important than the way in which it h_____.
- God may have created the World in 6 day/stages – the Big Bang o_____ of them.

Many Christians see n___ contradiction between the B_____ account and S_____ accounts. They answer different questions – Science tells us h_____, but religion tells us w_____.

The Value of the World.

Many religions think that the world is b_____
Many people say that the world inspires a_____, w_____ and amazement.

Christians and Jews think that the world is valuable, because of the C_____ S_____. They believe that God can r_____ things about himself through the world around us.

Stewardship – This is the idea that God is the o_____ of the world. He has given us the position of m_____. As such, we have a responsibility to l_____ of the world around us, as this is what G_____ wants us to do. Much like a manager in a company, we cannot just do what we w_____, as this will displease God.

Dominion – Whilst most Christians accept the concept of S_____, a few think the idea of D_____ is more important. This is the idea that since we are God's best creations, (we are the only creatures with a s_____) we are fully in charge. The Bible says that we should rule over the animals and subdue them, so these Christians might think we can do w_____ we want.

The use and abuse of the environment.

The key ideas of how we should respond to the world are

- God c_____ the universe.
- We are given the j_____ of r_____ the world.
- We are allowed to use the e_____ for our own good.
- God gave human beings the r_____ to care for it.

These ideas are contained in Genesis 1.

So God created H_____ beings, making them to be like himself. He created the male and f_____, blessed them, and said, 'have many c_____, so that your descendents will live all over the earth and bring it under their c_____. I am putting you in c_____ of the fish, the birds, and all the wild animals. I have provided all kinds of g_____ and all kinds of fruit for you to eat; but for all the wild animals and b_____ I have provided g_____ and leafy plants for food ' – and it was done...the Lord God placed the man in the Garden of E_____ to cultivate it and _____ it.

A Summary.

- As humans were are in charge of the world. We a___ seen as better than animals (we have dominion) but we are also in a p_____ of great responsibility. (Stewardship.)
- Whilst we are permitted to u_____ the resources the world provides, we are not permitted to a_____ the world.

For many religious people this is abuse of the world is all too regular t_____. We must look for s_____ development.

Examples of sustainable power are W_____, S_____, and Wave power. These are very environmentally friendly, but can be unreliable, as they depend on the weather to w_____.

The Assissi and Ohito Meetings.

These meetings brought together religious leaders from five different world r_____. They met in A_____ in 1986 and in O_____ in 1995. They concluded that being in c_____ of creation is a big r_____. It does not give humans the right to abuse, spoil, waste or d_____ the environment.

Pollution.

Air pollution. This is caused by f_____, car emissions etc. It could be a major cause of G_____ W_____, otherwise known as the Greenhouse effect.

Water Pollution. This could be caused by people dumping their w_____. However, the most usual cause is farmers using f_____ and p_____. These get into the water and make the algae g_____ much quicker, and k_____ the fish.

Land Pollution. This is usually caused by people not taking responsibility for the disposal of their own r_____. It can cause health problems in h_____, and can often kill or deform a_____.

Christians are seen as S_____ of the world, meaning that they do not o_____ it, but are responsible for looking after it for G_____. This means that they should naturally work towards r_____ pollution.

Pope Francis wrote a long, open letter to the world about the environment. It was called, 'On the Care of our Common Home',

It's key ideas include.

1. We all must work together to protect our planet.
2. The climate is a "common good"
3. Creatures are not just resources, but have value in and of themselves.
4. Creation does not just mean nature, it is also about God's loving presence.
5. All of creation speaks of God's love.

Psalms 24:1 says The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it.

Home Church is a Christian organisation that encourages churches to interact with their local communities. It has encouraged big town centres, where Christians and other community members have a chance to meet and share a common goal.

The Use and Abuse of Animals.

In modern society animals are used for many things. Examples might be

For a pet.

As a form of transport.

To help with work eg a pet dog.

To help a human with a disability Eg a guide dog.

To test a new product or conduct experiments.

For sport. Eg Horseracing.

For entertainment.

For food.

Genesis 7:2 says "You shall take with you of every clean animal by sevens, a male and his female; and of the animals that are not clean two, a male and his female; This shows Christians that animals are obviously important to God, as these instructions were given to Noah to save the animals from the flood.

Genesis 9:3 says "Every moving thing that is alive shall be food for you; I give all to you, as I gave the green plant. This quote means that many Christians think that it is acceptable to eat meat.

Stewardship is the idea that God is the owner of the world. Humans are like his managers. We are to look after the world on his behalf.

Dominion is the idea that we are free in control of the world. There are a few Christians who might argue that this means that we can do exactly what we want.

Genesis 1 says 'I will make humans to have *dominion* over the fish in the sea, the birds of the air, the cattle, and all the wild animals on the Earth. Humans will spread over the Earth and *subdue* it.'

You can see from this that there is not just one view about animal treatment in Christianity. Most Christians will see Scripture as more important than doctrine. A lot of Christians will eat meat, but will be concerned with the fair treatment of the animal before its death.

Quite a lot of Christians will accept animal testing if there is no other alternative. The Bible does make it clear that humans are 'better' than animals, as they are the ones with a soul. (God gave Adam the breath of life.) Therefore it may sometimes be acceptable to sacrifice the life of an animal to save the life of a human.

The Origins of Human Life.

In the Bible it claims that humans were created on the sixth day. They were created by God, and it gives the impression that they are a 'completed creation,' not something He was intending to create.

Later in the book of Genesis, more information is given.

18Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him." **19**Out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the sky, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called a living creature, that was its name. **20**The man gave names to all the cattle, and to the birds of the sky, and to every beast of the field, but for Adam there was not found a helper suitable for him. **21**So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh at that place. **22**The LORD God fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man.

Science.

- Science generally uses the Theory of Evolution to explain the origins of life.
- This theory says that as the earth cooled down, the conditions became right for life.
- The first life was simple celled creatures, but they evolved and changed in different ways into the creatures we have today.

This theory was made famous by Charles Darwin. He actually set out on a voyage to prove the world was created by God. However, with the fossils he saw, and the different varieties of creatures on different islands he came up with a very different conclusion.

He said that for a species to survive it must be able to adapt. If your species cannot adapt, it becomes extinct.

Within a species, only the 'fittest' creatures (the b_____ a_____) survive long enough to reproduce. The creatures pass on what is g_____ about them to any future generations. Every generation is more adapted to its environment.

Christian views.

F_____ reject Evolution, as they believe that the B_____ is literally t_____. Therefore E_____ must be f_____.

Other Christians are more prepared to accept Evolution, although how they do it varies. Some might say that the Creation Story is to tell us that God created everything 'g_____' But it doesn't tell us e_____ how he did it.

Some might say that the Creation Story tells us w_____ the world was created, but not necessarily h_____.

Some might say that E_____ is God's means of creation. His h_____ did not look like today's human, but that doesn't matter.

Abortion.

Purposeful t_____ of pregnancy with intention other than to produce a live born infant or to remove a d_____ foetus.

The loss of a pregnancy by a_____ means. The public often refers to "abortion" as any artificial means to induce the loss of a pregnancy.

In summary, an abortion must be something that is d_____ to the lady on p_____ to prevent her having a live child.

Most people, including C_____ take a relative approach to a_____. This means that whilst they think abortion is a 'b_____' thing, they are willing to accept it in some s_____.

There are 2 other views on abortion.

Pro life people believe that the b_____ should always be b_____. They are therefore against abortion in a_____ circumstances.

Pro choice people believe that the woman or the couple should always be free to get an a_____ if they make the c_____ to.

Abortion is allowed up to 24 w_____ if certain criteria are met, although most people who know that they want/need an a_____ will try to do it as q_____ as possible.

5 circumstances where a lot of people may accept abortion are

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

3 reasons that some people may never accept an abortion are

- 1
- 2
- 3

Catholics are a _____ abortion in all situations. They are p_____l_____. The book of Jeremiah says "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." This shows that G_____ could have a p_____ for that b_____, and by aborting it you are ruining his p_____.

Other Christians may hold similar or d_____ views. Many modern P_____ use the teaching 'L_____ your n_____'. This means that they would try to imagine themselves in the position of the w_____ who wants an abortion and try to understand why she feels this way. In cases such as r_____, an abortion could be seen as the 'lesser of two evils.' This means that although it is an 'e_____' act, it is kinder to all concerned, rather than continue the p_____.

Euthanasia.

Euthanasia is the act of bringing about the e_____ and g_____ death of a person, usually someone who is terminally ill or in g_____ pain. For this reason it is often called a 'mercy k_____'. Euthanasia is i_____ in the United Kingdom.

2 types

Active euthanasia = Killing someone by accelerating their d_____ by giving them extra drugs / painkillers or the lethal injection - also known as 'assisted s_____'.
'

Passive euthanasia = Withdrawing m_____ help from people who are being kept alive artificially.

3 categories.

Non voluntary - When a person is too _____l to give consent but the d_____ believe it is for the best.

Voluntary - When the person gives their c_____ for their life to be ended.

Involuntary - When the person does not give their consent, because they do not w_____ to, or they are not a_____.

Individual Christians will have different thoughts about e_____.

Some Christians might agree with it in some situations.

Jesus taught 'Do unto others as you would have them do to you.' Perhaps helping people out of _____ is the right and most l_____ thing to do.

Jesus taught to be compassionate and caring to others: 'Love your neighbour' All Christians will feel compassion for the terminally i_____, and a few Christians might support their efforts in trying to achieve a 'h_____ death'.

Important note.

More Christians are likely to agree with p_____ Euthanasia than active. This is because the death could still be seen as n_____. They are not actually doing anything to k_____ the person.

Other Christians will disagree with E_____

Roman Catholics are opposed to all forms of euthanasia. They believe it would be breaking the 6th commandment 'Thou shall notk_____'. They believe very strongly in the s_____ of Life: God grants life, only G_____ should take it away.

All Christians believe in life after d_____. Because of this, the majority of Christians do not accept that ending life prematurely is a_____. Suffering may be serving some p_____

Placing someone in a h_____ might be a more caring thing to do than h_____ them kill themselves.

Death and the Afterlife.

This is the final section of each topic area. It is covered in more detail elsewhere.

The Existence of God and Revelation.

Words which describe belief/unbelief.

Atheist – Someone who d_____ n_____ believe in God.

Theist – Someone who d_____ believe in God.

Agnostic – Someone who is n_____ sure.

Monotheist – Someone who believes o_____ God.

Polytheist – Someone who believes in m_____ than one God.

Free-Will – Humans have free will. They can decide how to a_____ and what to b_____.

Arguments for and against the existence of God.

The First Cause Argument.

This is also called the 'C_____ Argument.' It says that:

1. Something can't come from n_____, everything has a c_____.
 2. There must be a f_____ c_____.
- C This first cause is G_____. God e_____.

This argument has many 'for' and 'against' points, which you will need to decide upon for yourself. Some examples are:

For.

If there is no first cause, where did e_____ come from?

If we accept a first cause, who else could it be apart from G_____?

For our life e_____ we can see that something can't come from nothing.

Against.

Does there have to be o_____ cause of everything? Why not m_____ causes?

Does everything h_____ a cause?

Could c_____ be circular?

Why does the argument seem to j_____ to G_____ in the conclusion.

Link this argument with the account of c_____ if you are asked to discuss it.

The Design Argument.

This argument says that:-

1. The universe shows e_____ of design.
 2. There must be a d_____.
- C The designer is G_____. God e_____.

This argument has many 'for' and 'against' points, which you will need to decide upon for yourself. Some examples are:

For.

The universe does seem really well s_____ to our needs. Could it be d_____?

If there is a designer who else could take on such a task but G_____?

Against.

Why not l_____ of designers?

The universe could be here by c_____.

If we accept that there is a d_____, why should it be G_____?

Link this argument with all accounts of C_____ too, if you are asked to discuss it.

The Argument based on Miracles.

This argument works with the idea that miracles h_____, and require an explanation. The explanation is, of course, G_____.

Part 1 Miracles h_____ in our world.

Part 2 This requires an e_____.

Conclusion. God is the explanation, G_____ exists.

You will need to know a m_____ story for this part of the course too. Summarise one on the next 3 lines.

You also need to consider for and against points of this argument.

For.

If miracles do happen, then they are h_____ to explain. God would certainly e_____ them!

If God created the l_____ of n_____, then it would make sense that only he could break them.

Against.

We cannot prove that miracles h_____ anyway.

No one will accept a miracle unless they have s_____ it for themselves.

You cannot just use God as an e_____ for things if you cannot find anything else that fits!

General Arguments for and against the Existence of God.

You can really write about what you want for this section, as long as it makes sense. Here are some examples.

For

The world seems d_____.

Prayers have been a_____.

You have had a r_____ or a religious e_____.

It seems l_____ to you.

Against

They see no n_____ for God in their life.

They were not b_____ up as r_____.

They prayed and n_____ happened.

The problem of s_____.

They cannot really find or see any e_____ that God exists.

General and Special Revelation.

General Revelation – God is revealed through things a_____ us, eg nature/religious leaders/sacred texts/prayer/through people/worship.

Special Revelation – God is revealed through s_____ or particular events, eg miracles/dreams/worship/prayer.

The most famous example of a SPECIAL revelation is the story of SAUL who was a J_____, who became PAUL the C_____.

Saul hated Christians and k_____ them. He pursued them to foreign cities in his attempts to wipe them out. One day, whilst he was travelling to the city of Damascus he saw a brilliant l_____ from heaven, brighter than he had ever seen. He fell to the g_____, and he heard the voice of J_____, asking why Saul was persecuting him. The men with him could see the light, but could not hear the v_____.

Saul went to the city, but he had been b_____. A follower of Jesus called Ananias came and cured him, and his sight returned. Saul then became a C_____, and changed his name to Paul.

Types of Revelation.

Miracles.

Miracle. An event contrary to the L_____ of N_____. Some think it has a supernatural or Divine cause.

You will need to think about the advantages and disadvantages of a Miracle as a form of revelation. (A way of finding out information about God.) There are too many of these to list here, so I have included a few to help you.

Advantages.

1. How else do we explain m_____?
2. If we believe in God, then it is easy to believe he p_____ miracles.
3. God would surely want us to be h_____, and most 'miracles' make at least a small number of people happy.

Disadvantages.

1. If you see a miracle who will b_____ you?
2. Why should miracles come from G_____?
3. In time we can explain more and m_____ about our world. What seems like a miracle now might be easily e_____ in 50 years time!

Nature

People may feel that they can get to know God through the w_____ around them. This seems obvious, because if you believe that God made the w_____, there will be aspects of the world which show what he is l_____.

Eg –You could see that God valued b_____ whilst looking at a particularly impressive sunset, or see that God was p_____ whilst in the middle of a storm.

Advantages.

1. The information is a_____ to all who choose to respond.
2. It makes sense that a creator would put some of himself into his c_____.
3. God may choose to r_____ himself in lots of different ways..

Disadvantages.

1. IF God didn't create the world, it cannot show us a_____.
2. Why doesn't everyone get revelations all the t_____?
3. Sometimes the world could give us contradictory i_____ about what God is like.

Conscience.

The human conscience can be defined as an inbuilt sense of what is r_____ and w_____. No vone knows exactly where our conscience comes from, and there seems little d_____ that it is affected by our upbringing. However, SOME C_____ claim that their conscience is the voice of G_____.

Advantages.

1. Everyone has a c_____.
2. We cannot prove that conscience is not the v_____ of G_____.
3. We can choose to r_____ to our conscience if we wish.

Disadvantages.

1. We cannot p_____ that conscience IS the voice of God.
2. People's consciences may tell them d_____ things.
3. Psychopaths do not have a conscience – does this mean God has g_____ up?

Worship.

Prayer, Meditation (d_____, q_____ thinking) and charismatic worship (worshipping together, with music and preachers) all count as worship. What can be revealed about God depends upon the worship involved and the individual person.

Sacred Texts/Scripture/Holy Books.

Another way God is revealed is through Sacred Texts.

You will need to know about the ways which believers may choose to read these texts.

Idea 1 - The Fundamentalist View.

The texts are from God and free from e_____.

Everything in the texts is t_____, and it should be used to effect how they live their lives.

Idea 2 - The texts need interpretation.

The writers were inspired by things around them which they believed to be w_____ of God. The writers had a d_____ understanding of God than most people. They put their ideas down on paper, but they were only h_____ so they may be m_____ in places. The writings include symbolism and metaphors, and therefore need to be i_____. It does not matter that stories contradict each other as it is the m_____ of the story that is important.

Again, you need to consider the advantages and disadvantages of using Sacred Texts as Revelation. There are many advantages and disadvantages which you can work out for yourself. I have included a selection to help you.

Advantages.

1. The information is available to all who wish to h_____ or read it.
2. Many think that Holy Books come from G_____, so they are good authority.
3. Holy books have been passed down through g_____, so maybe the story they tell IS important.

Disadvantages.

1. Who w_____ the books?
2. Who d_____ what went into the Holy Books?
3. Why would God need a book if he can c_____ people in other ways?

What can be revealed about God in a revelation?

Keywords.

T_____ – God is beyond and outside of the world. He is not limited in what he can do.

I_____ - God is involved in the world and not separate from it. He can have a direct effect.

P_____ - God is an individual being, like a human. This limits his power, but makes him more accessible and approachable.

I_____ - God does not have any human characteristics. This means we can't really understand what he is like.

O_____ - all powerful

O_____ - all knowing

B_____ - all loving.

Transcendent – Advantage = He is not limited by the l_____ of n_____. He can do anything.

Disadvantage = It will be difficult to have a personal r_____ with Him.

Immanent – Advantage = It is easy to have a p_____ relationship with him.

Disadvantage = He is l_____ by our world.

Personal - Advantage = He can answer p_____, and we can know things about him.

Disadvantage = He cannot be e_____ at once.

Impersonal – Advantage – He can be anything we w_____ him to be.

Disadvantage = We can never know a_____ about him.

The Value of Revelation and Enlightenment.

Revelation can completely c_____ someone's life. A good example to use to prove this could be the story of N_____ C_____.

Nicky was part of a l_____ family and did not get much attention. He rebelled at s_____ and was punished physically by his f_____. He was sent to live in N_____ Y_____ with his brother. Whilst there he became involved in a gang called the M_____ M_____. He was so mean and cruel he became the gang leader. A preacher called D_____ W_____ felt he was sent by God to help members of the gangs. He eventually managed to c_____ Nicky, who in turn converted many other g_____ members.

This shows us that revelation has the potential to c_____ somebody who is not religious.

It could also start a new r_____ if people think that have new m_____ from God.

It may s_____ or weaken someone's faith.

It may encourage some to completely c_____ their life.

How do we know if revelation is real?

If the revelation has not h_____ to you, and you don't believe in God, there really is no reason for you to a_____ any revelation.

For people who want to actually check whether to accept a revelation or not they may want to consider

1. Does it actually fit in with the r_____ world?
2. Does it fit with other r_____?
3. Does it fit with the rest of the r_____?
4. Does it have the power to c_____?

5. Is the person r_____?
6. What might the person have to g_____ from 'faking' a revelation?

Obviously there is still no p_____ that the revelation is real, but looking at these things may really h_____ someone to make their decision.

Some common problems with accepting revelations include

- I_____. Different people will interpret their experiences differently.
- Different r_____ say different things about G_____.
- Revelations may tell us d_____ things about God.
- We have no way of t_____ if something is genuine.
- They may c_____ each other.

If revelations are not real, then you will need to be able to consider the alternatives. These will include

- Drink
- D_____
- W_____ thinking
- M_____ illness
- Genuine m_____
- Epilepsy
- Fakes for f_____ gain.

Religion, Peace and Conflict.

Introduction

The reason for going to war always comes down to settling d_____. This could be reasonable disputes, or the disputes could be to do with the g_____ of the leaders of a country who want resources or m_____.

Conflict is when two people or groups or p_____ are against each other. Therefore it can be anything from an a_____ all the way to a w_____.

Peace is more d_____ to define. It should be obvious that p_____ is a lack of conflict, but it is so much more than that. It is about people being in a situation where they can feel h_____ and contented, because there is no threat to them. It is about the a_____ as well as the actions of people. Religious people wish for w_____ peace, so everyone can be content.

Isiah 2:4 says 'He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.'

This means that Christians should look forward to a time when all disputes are ended. People will be so sure of this peace that they will turn their weapons into tools, as they are no longer needed.

Justice is fair behaviour or treatment.

Forgiveness is to stop feeling angry or resentful towards (someone) for an offence, flaw, or mistake.

Reconciliation is the restoration of a friendly relationship.

After a war, people must seek to ensure that justice has been done. This will allow for forgiveness to take place. Once people are forgiven it leaves the way open for reconciliation between the former enemies.

Violent Protest and Terrorism

- The right to peacefully protest is considered to be a fundamental democratic freedom.
- The law in the UK allows individuals and groups to protest peacefully to demonstrate their point of view.

Examples of protests could include sit-ins and marches, letters of complaint, boycotting certain things, or in some cases breaking the rules or law that they believe is unfair.

- By law, a march or group protest is allowed. However the police can request alterations to the route or even apply to a court for an order to ban the march.
- They may do this if they feel that the march might intimidate other people or if they predict that violence will be involved.

An unplanned protest that descends into violence is called a riot.

In 2011 there were riots in London. They were originally about the police shooting a man in Tottenham. It remains unclear whether this man was carrying a gun or not, and many people thought his killing was unjust.

However, as the riot increased, many people joined in because they felt they could get away with it, rather than because they cared about the original cause. This led to shops being looted and businesses destroyed.

Religious Protest.

M_____ L_____ K_____ was a famous Christian who was the leader of the Civil R_____ movement in the 1950s and 60s. He wanted equal rights for b_____ people, yet he did not believe in using v_____ to get them. Many of his ideas came from G_____. He urged his followers to break unfair l_____ but to always be polite and p_____. He was in j_____ a number of times, but did not back down. Through protests such as the B_____ Boycott, the law was eventually c_____.

Martin Luther King's peaceful protests reflect the b_____ shared by many Christians that protest to achieve what is right is acceptable, provided v_____ is not used.

No religion promotes violence in their t_____, and all are generally agreed that conflict should be a_____ if at all possible.

Within religions there are different teachings on when v_____ and c_____ may be justified.

Christians often have to make the difficult decision between 2 quotes when considering their attitudes to this topic.

L_____ your n_____ would suggest that you should help protect any innocent p_____.

However, 'Do not k_____' might stop many Christians going to join a w_____, whatever it was for.

In the past, Christians have got round this issue by h_____ the war effort with jobs like d_____ and a_____ drivers, rather than actually getting involved in the f_____.

Terrorism.

- A much more serious form of violent p_____ is terrorism.
- This is where an individual, or a group who share certain b_____, use terror as part of their campaign to further their cause.
- Their violence usually deliberately targets c_____ and takes place in p_____.

Suicide bombers, car b_____, and gunmen shooting into c_____ of people are all tactics of terrorism. Terrorists believe that by k_____ people in this way, the rest of society will become more aware of their c_____, will be s_____ of them and push the authorities into giving way to their demands.

It is very important to remember that whilst a t_____ may associate their cause with a religion, including Christianity, no r_____ promotes or accepts terrorism.

Most Christians consider terrorist acts of violence to be w_____, especially as the victims are usually i_____ people going about their normal daily business.

Reasons for War.

There may be many different reasons for war. Sometime they will be reasons given by the country, but sometimes people will have i_____ reasons for wanting to join in with a war. These could include s_____ their country, making their f_____ proud or even wanting to be viewed as a h_____.

Some people find it difficult to understand why _____ would fight in a war, or why their c_____ wants to go to war.

In the UK, full time personnel, volunteer personnel and conscripted people have all been used.

Full time personnel are people who actually join the f_____, such as the a_____ or n_____.

Volunteer personnel are people like the TA who support the forces in their spare time, and would fight if they were n_____.

Conscripted people are people who are t_____ that they are going to fight. They are not given an option and usually conscription would be all the men in the country within a certain a____ group.

As mentioned there are lots of causes of war. However it is said that they will all fall into 3 categories. These are G_____, S_____, D_____ and R_____.

Greed.

Timothy says 'For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.'

This means that people should not want loads of m_____. Having a lot of money will actually distract people from their r_____, and cause them problems.

Self Defence.

There is little guidance in the B_____ about this. However the quote 'L_____ your N_____' means that a lot of Christians think that it could be justified to protect i_____ lives.

Retaliation.

Retaliation is f_____ back when someone attacks you. This is more extreme than s_____ d_____ as it would usually use more f_____ than what is necessary to protect yourself. It is difficult to tell whether a country is retaliating, acting in self defence or starting the c_____ in the first place. Romans says 'Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone.'

Nuclear War and Weapons of Mass Destruction.

Nuclear weapons = a b_____ or missile that uses nuclear e_____ to cause an explosion.

Weapons of mass destruction = a w_____ that destroys a large a_____ and everything in it.

Chemical weapons = releasing things like g_____ or other chemicals to k_____ people.

Biological weapons = releasing certain b_____ or germs to k_____ people.

Many people feel that any of these kinds of weapons can never be j_____, as they cannot have o_____ target. By definition they d_____ everything in a certain area. They cannot distinguish between i_____ people/civilians and the a_____ forces, nor can their target be small enough for it to be justified.

Obviously many C_____ would agree with this too. They may disagree about whether WAR can be justified, but m_____ if not all Christians think that the use of these weapons cannot be justified.

However Christians do have d_____ views about whether nuclear weapons should be allowed or not! Some Christians do not have a problem with countries actually h_____ nuclear weapons, they just oppose their u_____. (So they are ok as a deterrent.)

Other Christians feel that simply h_____ the weapons is very serious and something that needs to be dealt with.

CCND

- Christian CND is a specialist section of the Campaign for N_____ Disarmament with its own separate membership. CCND provides a focus for C_____ who want to witness on the basis of their _____ against nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass d_____ – and for peace.
- Over the years, they have organised at the local, national and international level many conferences and m_____ as well as acts of p_____, liturgies and services at military bases and government sites. Being seen publicly is only one aspect of their work: they are also engaged in letter w_____, lobbying and educating for peace and disarmament.
- In some parts of the country they have l_____ groups, and we work closely with all Christian justice and peace organisations, on nuclear issues as well as working alongside C_____ for Nuclear Disarmament.

Exodus 21.

‘But if there is serious injury, you are to take life for life, ²⁴ eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot’

For many Christians this quote justifies s_____ d_____. However, it does suggest that you should n_____ use nuclear weapons as the force used can never be p_____.

Just and Holy War.

Just War: A war that the C_____ Church defines as a_____; this must fit certain criteria.

Holy war: Fighting for a r_____ cause or God, probably controlled by a religious l_____.

Just War.

All r_____ oppose war. However many of them believe f_____ is justifiable if it is only course of action that will prevent real _____.

Over many years Christian thinkers developed conditions for a 'J_____ War' Augustine (a Christian leader in the Middle Ages) came up with the JUST WAR t_____. The Christian thinker St. Thomas Aquinas also added to this list.

The United Nations added to this and produced a list of reasons to j_____ going to war.

The Theory.

The war must be fought for a JUST CAUSE JUST – the war must be started for a good reason – e.g. self-defence, and not because of greed

The war must be lawfully declared by a PROPER AUTHORITY, a government or the United Nations. The politicians must make the most important decisions

It must be fought with the intent to ESTABLISH G_____, or fought with good intention. It must be fought to restore _____.

The force used in the war must be P_____ to the cause.

It would not be proportional to drop a nuclear weapon on a s_____ country for invading a small island. SUFFICIENT FORCE to w_____ is all that is required.

A war is just if it is begun as the LAST R_____

All non v_____ means of solving the conflict must have been tried and failed before you turn to w_____.

There must be a REASONABLE CHANCE OF S_____.

You cannot go to war and w_____ the lives of brave soldiers for something which you have very little chance of w_____, lives should not be wasted.

There must be CONTROLLED V_____. Every effort must be made to make sure that as little violence as possible is used to achieve victory and methods should AVOID KILLING C_____, those not in the military should not be harmed

War must only occur when the GOOD OUTWEIGHS THE E_____ that has lead to the war.

Holy War.

Most people today find the idea of 'holy war' a c_____. Killing thousands of people seems far from h_____.

However, in ancient times people believed G_____ was on their side and had called them to fight his e_____.

In the O_____ T_____ there are many accounts of battles fought under God's protection.

The Crusades were seen by both Christians and Muslims as holy wars, defending places sacred to their f_____.

Holy wars have religious aims or goals. They were authorised by God or by a spiritual leader and because of this those who take part will receive a reward such as going to heaven when they die.

Religious leaders may declare holy war to defend their religion or their followers who are being persecuted in another country.

Some holy wars have been fought to strengthen the faith or win back a country that used to follow the beliefs of a particular religion.

Pacifism and Peacemaking.

Pacifism is the belief that violence and war cannot be justified. Pacifists believe people should use non-violent means to end conflict in times of war. People who are firmly opposed to warfare are called Conscientious Objectors. They may refuse to fight but they may help in other ways such as driving ambulances.

There is much discussion about whether Jesus was a pacifist or not. Jesus said phrases such as 'turn the other cheek' and 'He who lives by the sword dies by the sword.' However he also got very angry and turned over tables when he discovered that people were trading in the Temple.

The Quakers are a group of Conscientious Objectors, who are famous for being pacifists. They recognise there is evil in the world but believe evil cannot be overcome with violence which will lead to more evil.

Quakers also believe that there is something of God in everyone and to achieve results you should appeal to this aspect of people's nature and fight evil with peace, truth and love.

They believe Jesus taught about peace and love not war. They believe that people can fight injustice and aggression but in a non-violent way.

Religious Responses To The Victims of War

There are many very serious consequences of war. Some examples may include

Injuries and deaths

Cost

Captivity/liberation

Victory/defeat

Contamination of l_____ and w_____

Famine and d_____

Refugees

Destruction of b_____ and land.

There are 2 ideas very relevant to C_____ responses to the victims or w_____. The quote 'L_____ your n_____' suggests that Christians should be compassionate to v_____ of war. This may involve p_____ for them, sending them m_____ and resources or even joining an aid organisation to go and h_____. However it often involves giving support to a c_____ that supports them.

The other teaching is the story of the G_____ Samaritan. This story tells Christians that they should help a_____ in need, including those who are opposed to them.

Organisations to mention include

Christian Aid.

C_____ A_____ aim to bring aid to e_____ poverty. They work to establish basic human rights and fairness in s_____, in the hope that wars will not be seen as necessary. They support local organisations because they believe that l_____ people, if well provided for, are likely to be the best people to deal with p_____. Their main fundraising activity is Christian Aid W_____. This happens in May each year. Special envelopes are distributed to homes in the UK and then collected with a d_____ inside.

Caritas.

C_____ is a Catholic organisation. In 2015, they provided f_____ and s_____ for refugees fleeing war in Syria. They also provided translators and l_____ services for the refugees so they would know their r_____ and options in order to make informed decisions.