



RELIGIOUS STUDIES LONG COURSE

REVISION MATERIAL B603

Syllabus

Answering Exam Questions

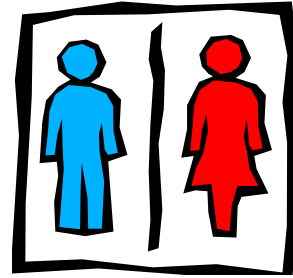
Religion and Medical Ethics

Religion and Human Relationships

Poverty and Wealth

Revision Ideas

Exam Questions



Syllabus

Christianity

Religion and human relationships

Roles of men and women in the family

- Roles of men and women in a Christian family
- Roles of men and women in the Church family

Marriage and marriage ceremonies

- Marriage ceremonies
- The ways in which the ceremonies reflect and emphasise Christian teaching about marriage
- Responses to civil partnerships

Divorce

- Beliefs about the ethics of divorce
- Beliefs about the ethics of re-marriage

Sexual relationships and contraception

- Beliefs about sexual relationships
- Beliefs about contraception

Religion and medical ethics

Attitudes to abortion

- Different attitudes towards abortion
- Reasons for different attitudes

Attitudes to fertility treatment

- Responses to issues raised by fertility treatment and cloning

Attitudes to euthanasia and suicide

- Different attitudes towards euthanasia
- Different attitudes towards suicide
- Reasons for different attitudes

Using animals in medical research

- Beliefs about the use of animals in medical Research

Religion Poverty and Wealth

Religious views of wealth and of the causes of hunger, poverty and disease

- Wealth
- Causes of hunger, poverty and disease
- Responses to the needs of the starving, the poor and the sick

Concern for others

- Biblical teaching about caring for others
- Understandings of 'charity'
- Different ways charity is put into practice

The uses of money

- Teachings about the use of money (e.g. gambling, lending)
- Giving to charity

Moral and immoral occupations

- Concept of moral and immoral
- Teachings about moral and immoral occupations
- Impact of teachings on believers

Answering Exam Questions

In your exam you will have to answer on 4 different topics on one paper. Each topic is divided into 5 sub questions. They are a), b), c), d) and e). You must answer all five for each topic from the same religion. You will only answer questions on Christianity.

Question A)

This part of the question is worth one mark and your answer should show your knowledge and understanding of a concept. So, for instance, you might be asked 'What is pacifism?' and your answer should show that you know what 'pacifism' means.

Question B)

This part of the question is worth two marks and asks for two ideas within a concept. So, for instance, you might be asked 'What are Christian attitudes to fertility treatment?' and you would need to respond to the trigger word 'attitudes' by showing that some Christians would think it was a good idea and explain why and also that other Christians would not agree to it and explain why.

Question C)

This part of the question is worth three marks and asks for three ideas within a concept. So, for instance, you might be asked 'What do Christians believe about the purposes of marriage?' and you would need to give three different ideas/ reasons why Christians believe marriage to be important.

Question D)

This part of the question is worth six marks and asks you to describe and explain a belief or attitude, while analyzing the reasons Christians respond in this way. So, for instance, you might be asked to explain Christian beliefs about giving money to charity. You would need to include relevant Christian teachings to support the ideas in your answer. Try to include biblical quotes, but you must make sure you explain what these mean in order to show the examiner that you have understood the teaching. For example, 'Love thy neighbour' means to 'treat other people as you would like to be treated yourself'. You will also need to use specific religious words in these answers when they are relevant. For example, when answering a question on medical ethics you may wish to refer to the phrase 'sanctity of life' which shows the belief that all life is created by God and so is special.

Question E)

This part of the question is worth 12 marks and asks you to show different points of view in response to the statement given. So, for instance, you might be given the statement 'Abortion is always wrong' and you would need to refer to a Christian point of view in your answer, showing that there are different Christian approaches to this statement and then give your own personal response. Try to make that response different, if you can, to the ones you have mentioned previously. It is very important that you do give your own point of view otherwise you will not achieve high marks. You will need to support the Christian ideas with reference to Christian teachings/ biblical quotes. Again, explain them in your own words to show your understanding.

Religion and Human Relationships

Key words and terms

Marriage: This is where a man and woman are united, legally joined together as man and wife, usually to live together or have children.

Cohabitation: This is where a couple live together without being married.

Promiscuity: where a person has a number of sexual partners.

Polygamy: When a man or woman has more than one wife or husband.

Monogamy: being married and faithful to one person.

Adultery: sex with someone other than your marriage partner.

Abstinence: abstaining from sex

Divorce: legal ending of a marriage

Annulment: A marriage is declared null and void, as if it never happened

Sacrament: Marriage is a physical act with a deeper spiritual meaning which is blessed by God



Love

The word love has many interpretations. The Ancient Greeks as a result had four main definitions to explain the different types of love.

1. STORGE

The love of objects



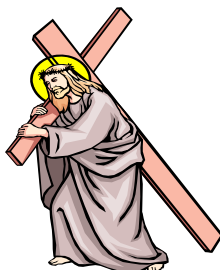
2. EROS

Sexual love.



3. AGAPE

Christian, unselfish love.



4. PHILOS

love between friends



Christians are supposed to show **Agape** for God and all of God's creation

Marriage

Sex Before Marriage.

Christianity teaches that Sexual intercourse should take place within marriage. Sex outside marriage is called adultery and it goes against the commandment,

“Do not commit adultery” (Exodus).

The Bible teaches that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit.

“Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you.. honour God with your body” (1Corinthians 6:19-20)

This suggests that if you allow many people to have access to it you are disrespecting God. Also there are several sexual sins listed in Corinthians that will stop you getting into heaven.

“Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.” (1 Corinthians 6:9-10)

The Catholic Church believes that every sexual act should be open to the transmission of human life because sex is a gift from God to allow us to populate the earth. “Be fruitful and increase in number” Genesis 1:28. They believe that sex before marriage is wrong.

The Church of England teaches that marriage is the proper place for sexual relations to occur as it ensures the couple are in a loving, loyal and fully committed relationship. At the same time some Christians in the Church of England recognise that cohabitation including sexual relations can show the same commitment as marriage and therefore will accept sex before marriage in committed and monogamous relationships.

‘True Love Waits’

The true love waits campaign is a programme for young Christians where they decide to remain a virgin until they get married. They take part in a ceremony where their parents will give them a ring to wear until they get married. When they get married they will give it to their husband or wife as a symbol of their purity. They also take vows. This is called a vow of **abstinence**.

Contraception.

The majority of Christian groups, including the Church of England, agree with contraception as long as it is agreed upon by both partners. The Bible does state that God said ‘Have many children’ but Christians today think this applied to a time when the population was small. Today in the world there is overcrowding and poverty and it would be unfair to bring children into such an environment. Family life quality is more important than quantity. Many Christians would find contraception acceptable if it did not allow conception to take place e.g. combined pill & condom but would not use contraception that allowed conception but prevented further development e.g. IUD, mini pill & morning after pill, if life starts at conception some would view these methods as early abortions.

Roman Catholic Church: Roman Catholics think that contraception goes against human nature. It is generally believed that “any use whatsoever of any method that stops the natural power of sex to generate life is forbidden”.

Contraception prevents conception and therefore it is against God's will. The only contraceptive method that is acceptable is the rhythm method, where intercourse takes place at a time when a woman is not as fertile.

Why get married?

Procreate
Unity
Raising Children
Pattern for Society
One
Sacred/Sacrament
Eternity/Everlasting

Mutual support.

To give one another comfort and companionship.

Sex:

Many people believe that marriage is the best context for people to enjoy sexual intimacy. It is also an expression of their love.



Commitment.

Many religions say you should get married to prove that you are committed to your partner.

To **unite** the couple and also their **families**.

To procreate.

To have children and to bring them up in a stable and secure environment.

Marriage and the Bible:

- Many Christians believe that it is part of God's grand plan, to unite and procreate. **'A man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh' (Genesis 2:24)**
Note the order - leave home then marry then have sex with his wife. Use this as an argument against sex before marriage.
- In Genesis 2 God says **man should not be alone** so he creates Eve for him.
- Because marriage is seen to be one of God's creations, it is protected as stated by one of the Ten Commandments. **"You shall not commit adultery" (Exodus 20:14)**
- Many Christians believe that you should marry a Christian. This is because it is believed that someone who does not share in the same belief may weaken your faith. **(See 2 Corinthians 6:14: "Stay away from people who are not followers of the Lord! Can someone who is good get along with someone who is evil? Are light and darkness the same?")**
- Only God has the power to separate a marriage. **"Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate." (Mark 10:9)**

Main features of a Wedding Service.

In Christianity marriage is seen to be a divinely blessed union. The marriage ceremony is usually a public affair. This is because traditionally marriage is seen to bond the two individuals involved and also their families.

Christians believe that marriage is part of God's plan and purpose for mankind.



The Service:-

For Christians the wedding service usually takes place in a church. This is because Christians believe that when they say their wedding vows in church, they are not only making promises to each other, but also to God. This is called a **sacrament**. The service is taken by a vicar, pastor etc. who will remind the couple

about the purpose of marriage. The couple vow to love, honour, comfort and protect each other and to be faithful as long as they live.

The taking of the wedding vows bind them in front of witnesses and in front of God. It is also a public declaration of their love for one another. The couple then exchange wedding rings as a symbol of their eternal love for each other. The ring is a never-ending circle which represents enduring love.



Wedding Vows

I,, take you,..... to be my husband/wife, To have and to hold from this day forward: for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part, according to God’s holy law: and this is my solemn vow.

These words show that marriage is for life & the couple are committing to stay together in the good times & the bad. They also offer the couple guidance about how they should live their life and reflect Christian beliefs about marriage.

Vow	Practical application	Christian belief
In sickness and in health	Supporting a partner with an illness. For example caring for your husband/ wife with terminal cancer.	Marriage is for life not just for good times. You vow to be united in the difficult times as well as good.
Till death us do part	Married until death. Do not get divorced.	Marriage is for life and that marriage cannot be ended by anything other than death.

Christian view of Divorce

Many Christians believe that marriage is a commitment made for life, which is reflected in the marriage vows 'for better for worse ... until death us do part' This means couple should seek to work through problems & ace that there will be difficult times in any relationship. Most Christians would recommend marriage counselling such as relate before considering separation or divorce.

"Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate." (Mark 10:9)

Most Christians believe in this however many understand that marriages do break down, and in some cases lead to divorce. Many Christians believe that in certain circumstances divorce is the best option. e.g. if the marriage has become violent or in the case of adultery. It could be seen as the **most loving/compassionate** thing to do and Jesus taught that a man could divorce his wife in the case of adultery as it breaks the marriage contract and one of the 10 commandments. The Church of England church will allow remarriage depending on the circumstances e.g. will re-marry the innocent party if their previous marriage partner had an affair & left them. Re-marriage in church is often down to the discretion of the minister involved.

The Roman Catholic Church is the exception to this. They believe that even if a state divorce has been granted the couple are still married in the eyes of God until one partner dies. Roman Catholics do not allow divorce but they do allow **annulment** which is when the marriage is dissolved (it is declared that the marriage did not exist in the first place), it is only permitted in certain situations such as someone being forced into marriage, if there is an inability to carry out marital duties, mental illness or if the couple never had sex. The only other option for Roman Catholics is separation.

Why do people get divorced?

Too high expectations.

Romantic ideas of what married life will be like.

Money problems.

Concerns about money can lead to arguments and tensions – a reason for divorce.

Divorce is **quicker** and **easier** today than it used to be.



Lack of commitment.

People are not prepared to work through difficulties. They are too willing to abandon their marriage at the first sign of trouble.

Social pressure.

TV and the media in general show extra-marital sex to be acceptable. There are also more opportunities for men and women to have affairs e.g. meeting people at work etc.

The Family.

Why do families exist?

- To provide support and to provide a secure environment to bring up children.
- To prepare us for adult life and teach us how to look after our selves.
- Family provides us with an identity, a history, a sense of belonging.
- Teaches how to live together happily with others.

Types of family.



Nuclear family: Two parents live with one or more children in the same house.

Extended family: Includes many generations living in the same house or very near by. It includes parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts and cousins.

Reconstituted family: Where a couple have divorced or a partner has died, and they have remarried bringing their children up in the new relationship.

One parent family: One parent brings up a child/children by themselves.

Christian idea of family:

Christianity teaches that the family is part of God’s plan for humanity. God is seen by Christians to be a loving, caring and forgiving father. e.g. the story of the Lost Son told by Jesus. (Luke 15:20) The fifth Commandment states that children should respect their parents (Exodus 20:12) It also says that parents should treat their children with respect. (Ephesians 6:4)

Roles of Men and Women in the Family

Traditionally Christianity has believed that the woman’s role is to be a wife and a mother and that the man should be the main wage earner and that he leads the family. However they have always suggested that men and women’s work is of equal value. Many Christians feel that these views are out of date and that men and women should not have such separate roles.

For Traditional Roles	Against traditional roles
“It is not good for man to be alone I will create for him a suitable helper” Genesis 2: 18	“There is neither male nor female you are all one in Christ” (Galatians 3:28)
Eve sinned first in the garden of Eden and therefore should not make decisions.	God created all humans in his image which suggests equality
Wives submit to you husbands as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of his wife as Christ is the head of the Church	Traditional roles do not reflect modern society. A man should be able to be a house husband and the woman go out to work if that is what is best for the family

Roles of men and women in the Church

In the Catholic Church only men can be religious leaders and they must remain celibate. They are married to God and must devote their lives fully to his work. Women can give out communion and visit the sick and those in need. A prominent Catholic woman was mother Theresa. The Church of England allows female vicars but bishops and the Archbishop are men. In both Churches the priest or vicar spends time preparing for and celebrating sacraments (Holy Communion, Baptism, Marriage and funerals). They also visit and work with people in their local communities (e.g assemblies at schools)

Homosexuality and Civil Partnership

Many Christians are against homosexuality. This is because of what the Bible teaches about sex. Some Christians may argue that that society is changing and that the Bible should be adapted to suit the times. In Biblical times Paul accepted many things that are no longer the norm, e.g. slavery and the status of women as second-class citizens. Likewise some people feel that the church's opinion needs to be updated to suit modern culture.

Arguments for and against:

FOR	AGAINST
Same sex relationships can be stable, loving and committed.	Leviticus 18:22 says 'No man is to have relations with another man.'
These feelings are the most natural feelings in the world so how can they be wrong.	It is against the natural purpose of humans to reproduce.
There are few references in the Bible about homosexuality and lesbianism.	The physical act itself is un-natural
All people are equal in God's eyes, therefore who are we to judge?	The story of Sodom Genesis 18-19
Christians are taught through Jesus' teachings to 'Love thy neighbour,' which means everyone, not just people whom you like or agree with.	Certain groups of Christians accept that people can be gay as long as they abstain from having sexual intercourse with someone of the same sex.

Civil Partnerships have been legal since 2005. It gives homosexual couple the same rights as a married couple and often takes place in a registry office. Legally in Britain a marriage has to be between a man and a woman therefore a civil partnership is not a marriage. Civil partnerships cannot currently be performed in a Church as both the Roman Catholic Church and the Church of England are against them. Many Christians disagree with homosexual sex and feel that children should be raised by their biological mother and father. There are some members of the Church of England who disagree and feel that the Church is failing to respond to an opportunity to celebrate and affirm love, fidelity and commitment. Also many Christians feel that the Church should reflect the equality that Jesus showed and that it is a human right to be able to marry whoever you want.

Religion and Medical Ethics

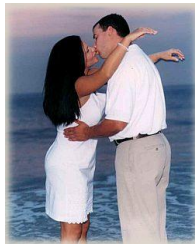
Sanctity of Life

You need to know the meaning of the term "Sanctity of Life". This is the belief that life is holy or sacred, that it belongs to God and is a gift which should be protected. Christians apply this idea to different moral issues.

When does life begin?

Many of the issues discussed in the area of medical ethics centre around the burning question of when life begins. Whether or not the foetus is a human life has consequences for choices about its future. If it's a human life it has rights. If it is not a human life, it has no rights.

There are many different arguments as to when life begins. Here are some of the most influential ones along with the reasons given for why they mark the beginning of life.

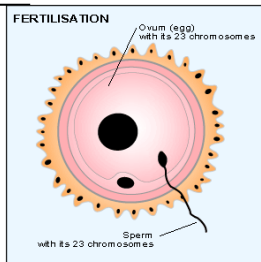


Stage 1: Sex

Some people in particular most Roman Catholics believe that as Sex is the beginning of the process it is also the beginning of life. Therefore this means that contraception is preventing life and therefore wrong.

Stage 2: Fertilisation

The second view point is that once the sperm meets the egg and fertilises it, then life begins. This is because sex doesn't necessarily lead to life but once fertilisation takes place life will undoubtedly begin. Many Christians (mainly Methodists or Church of England) will agree with this (but not all). This makes contraception that prevents fertilisation acceptable but not forms that kill the foetus after conception such as the morning after pill or the coil.



Stage 3: Heart starts to beat (4-5 weeks)

This view believes that as the heart is what keeps you alive then when it starts beating life begins. Some more liberal Christians might agree with this view point. This view believes that all contraception is right and abortion is acceptable before this occurs.



Stage 4: Baby can survive outside the womb (20 weeks)

This is the main medical opinion on the beginning of life as after this point abortion is no longer thought acceptable unless necessary. This is important as it marks the point when a baby could survive outside the womb and therefore is independent.

Stage 5: When the baby is born

Some people believe that while the baby remains in the womb it doesn't have its own life but is simply part of the mother. Therefore life begins with birth itself. This view would mean abortion is acceptable in any circumstance.



Abortion

What is abortion?

Abortion is the ending of a pregnancy through unnatural means before the birth of the baby. Abortion became legal in Britain after the Abortion Act in 1967. It is legal in Britain up to 24 weeks of pregnancy. You can have an abortion if 2 doctors agree and if it is thought that the pregnancy and birth will harm the mother's physical or mental health or if the unborn baby has a significant disability. It is legal to perform abortions up till full term (40 weeks) if the mother's life is at risk or if the unborn baby has a significant disability. Abortions are carried out in different ways depending on how pregnant the woman is. Most countries in Europe do not allow abortion after 12 weeks of pregnancy. There are several different groups involved in the debate over the right and wrong of Abortion.

Pro life: This is a movement that believes life should be preserved at all costs. Despite being non-religious many religious groups agree with their stand.

Pro choice: This is a movement that believes it is up to the mother whether she chooses to have an abortion or not.

Roman Catholic Church: This believes that abortions are always wrong. They think that it is murder as life begins at conception and **life is sacred** (special) and a **gift from God**. They will accept abortion if it is the unfortunate side effect of saving the life of the mother.

Church of England: They believe that abortions are almost always wrong but there are some circumstances when it might be acceptable and considered to most loving/compassionate thing. (These are marked below with 'CofE').

Arguments given for and against abortion

FOR

- ✓ **It's the Woman's body; it's up to her what she does with it.**
- ✓ The mother may not be able to support the child once born.
- ✓ **The child may have severe disability and not have a good quality of life (CofE).**
- ✓ The Mother's life may be at risk (CofE).
- ✓ **The Mother may have been the victim of rape (CofE).**
- ✓ The baby may be unwanted or be a reminder of an unhappy relationship.
- ✓ **The mother may not feel emotionally equipped to deal with the baby.**
- ✓ An abortion may be considered the most loving thing or the lesser of 2 evils in some circumstances



AGAINST

- × **The baby has a right to life.**
- × Why should the Woman's life be more important than the baby's.
- × **If she didn't want a child then she should have used precautions.**
- × The baby might not have a good life either for lack of money or because of a disability but still it may enjoy what life it can have.
- × **The mother could put the baby up for adoption if she couldn't cope with it.**
- × Life is a gift from God and shouldn't ever be taken away (Sanctity of life).
- × **Only God has the right to decide whether someone lives or dies.**

What does the Bible have to say about abortion?

There is no direct teaching about abortion in the Bible, although there are many references to the sanctity of life that a Christian could use to make their decision about abortion.

The Lord said to me, "I chose you before I gave you life, and before you were born I selected you to be a prophet to the nations."

Jeremiah 1:4-5

This quote seems to give the foetus the same status as a person. A foetus, just like a person, has been created by God- in Jeremiah's case for a special purpose. Jeremiah was a prophet of God. The quote below also seems to give the foetus a status equal to that of a person.

You created every part of me: you put me together in my mother's womb.... When my bones were being formed, carefully put together in my mother's womb, when I was growing there in secret, you knew I was there- you saw me before I was born. The days allotted to me had all been recorded in your book, before any of them ever began."

Psalms 139:13; 15-16

Some Christians, perhaps because of the above two quotes see abortion as the murder of another human being, and this is something which the Bible expressly forbids-

Do not commit murder.

Exodus 20:13

On the other hand, you can find other instances in the Bible where it is suggested that Christians should always do the most loving or compassionate thing.

"So in everything do to others what you would have them do to you" Matthew 7:9

Many Christians also feel that it is wrong to judge others.

"Do not judge or you too will be judged" (Matthew 7:1)

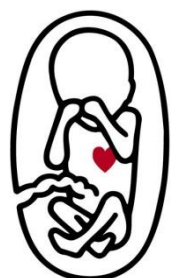
What do Christians say about abortion?

Some famous quotes are included below-

If you do make a mistake, don't destroy the life... because also to that child God says: I have called you by your name, I have carved you in the palm of my hand: you are mine. **Mother Teresa**

Abortion has been considered to be murder since the first centuries of the Church, and nothing permits it to be considered otherwise. **Pope Paul VI (1970)**

Society of Protection for the Unborn Child (**SPUC**) is a campaign group that campaigns against abortion and tries to raise awareness by speaking in schools and publishing leaflets.



Suicide

Suicide is the act of a person consciously (willingly) ending their own life.

There is **no one reason** why people take their own lives. It is thought it is usually as a result of problems building up to the point where a person can see no way out of the negative situation.

Social and family pressure. Certain personality traits and mental health problems can make it more likely that someone feels suicidal. Examples include being unemployed, feeling excluded or socially isolated, and recent interpersonal life events or difficulties with parents, peers or partners.

Most people who end their life by suicide have suffered from **depression** (though it is not true that most people suffering from depression feel suicidal).

The Church and Suicide

In the past it was considered a **serious sin** by the Church. People who committed suicide were not allowed to be buried on God's holy ground. So a separate place in the graveyard was set out for them.

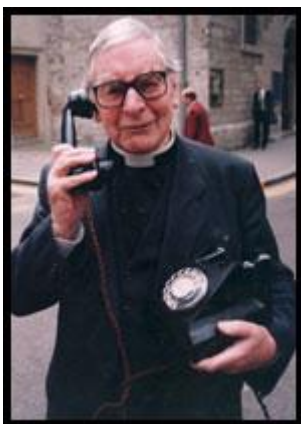
Today most Christians are **more understanding** about the causes of suicide and such a practice as above is extremely rare. Instead of blaming or condemning the person they will work to support people when they are alive and suffering with their problems.

However, most Christians still believe that **suicide/the decision to end your life is still wrong**. However, they do recognise a person who kills themselves has gone beyond the stage of being able to make sensible decisions.

They would argue against suicide by saying;

- **God chooses when we should die;** it is wrong for us to end our own lives.
- In the New Testament Paul said that **the body is like a temple of God** and must be treated with the same respect. Therefore suicide is treating the body with disrespect and killing a part of God.
- **We suffer pain for a reason.** Many Christians believe that pain and suffering brings us closer to God as he will in the end save us from it. God is trying to teach us something through suffering and by committing suicide we are refusing to learn something God is trying to teach us.
- **Suicide is selfish** on the people left behind. It is often much harder to get over a suicide caused death because we may blame ourselves. Comments is **"Do not murder"**.
- One of the 10 commandments Christians believe that suicide is a kind of murder even if the victim and perpetrator are the same person.

What can be done to help?



The Samaritans was set up in 1953 by the Reverend Chad Varah, a Church of England priest, after a young girl in his parish committed suicide because she had no one to talk to about her problems.

It is a 24hr organisation that people can contact to share their problems and find solutions through talking to others.

It is not a Christian charity and does not condemn those who are contemplating suicide. It is not there to give religious answers or convert people to a faith.

Many Christians may choose to volunteer for the charity as a way of helping those in distress. It allows them to put their Christian beliefs of AGAPE (unconditional) love into action.

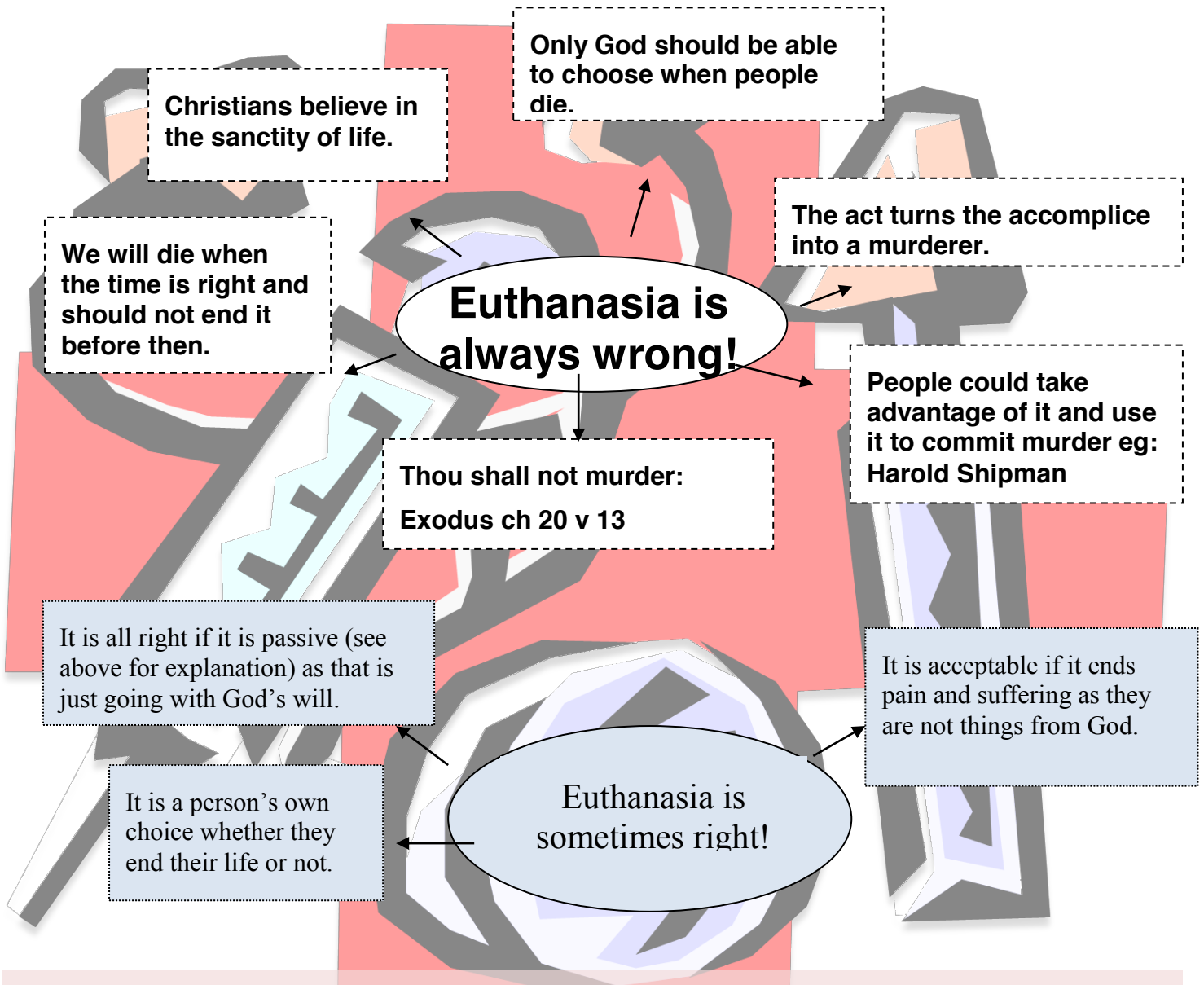
See <http://www.samaritans.org/default.aspx?page=7546>

Euthanasia

Euthanasia is the taking of your own life with the assistance of another when terminally ill. It is illegal in Britain. It is also known as assisted suicide. Euthanasia can be divided into two categories.

Active – this is when someone physically takes an action to end a life such as a lethal injection.

Passive – this is when the person will die naturally anyway but is being kept alive by artificial means, then what is keeping her alive is stopped (ie: turning off a life support machine).



The Christian viewpoint on Euthanasia is mixed just as it is on abortion. The two viewpoints are summed up by two important statements.

1. **Thou shall not kill** – This is one of the 10 commandments which are of vital importance to a Christian.
2. **Christians believe in compassion**, that you should always be kind and caring to people. (Story of the adulteress where Jesus says you shouldn't judge unless you are innocent John ch 8 v 2-11)

The Christian Viewpoint:

*Most Christians believe Euthanasia in general is wrong but some think it is acceptable in some circumstances. Usually it is **Roman Catholics** who believe it is always wrong and more moderate views are found amongst **the Church of England** or **Methodists** particularly in reference to passive Euthanasia..*

IVF / Cloning

IVF and cloning are two examples of **reproductive technologies**. This means scientific ways of creating human life, removed from the normal method of conception (or becoming pregnant). Today, because of the many people who have trouble conceiving naturally, and because of the tremendous leaps in scientific knowledge, IVF and Cloning are becoming important social – and therefore religious – matters.

What is IVF?

In Vitro Fertilisation – this refers to the medical act of taking a woman's egg and man's sperm combining them in a lab and then placing the fertilised egg back into the woman.

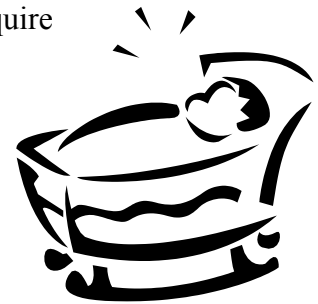


What is cloning?

The act of making an exact genetic replica of a living being.

Why are some Christians against reproductive technology?

- It goes against the natural order of things (ie: the way God intended it to be).
- There are many children needing adopting out there so why go through this process when other children are in care homes.
- If God intended them to have children he wouldn't have made them infertile.
"The Lord had closed Hannah's womb"
- IVF can lead to multiple births and then the baby's often die or some require aborting to save the others.
"Though shalt not kill"
- Experiments in these areas have involved taking aborted cells from foetuses and testing on them – this is testing on and killing living beings.
- If God had meant us to become cloned it would happen naturally.
- It could easily be misused to create specific human beings
- Just because we can do something doesn't mean we should.



Why are some Christians for them

- If God didn't intend us to use IVF then he wouldn't have given us the resources to achieve it.
- God commanded us to "go forth and multiply". Surely God would want us to fulfil this purpose in any way we can.
- God gave us free will, we should use it.
- Jesus healed both technologies give us the opportunity to heal.
- God designed man and woman to create life and have a family.
- The Catholic Church sees the family as a sacrament (something special).
- Cloning can help to find cures for medical diseases such as Alzheimer's which affect many people.

Generally Christians are divided on IVF as it is not the natural way of having children. As is often the case Roman Catholics are stricter and think it is going against God's plans. The Church of England sees it more that it is simply us using God's gifts to help people who are suffering from infertility which is not from God.

Most Christians however agree over cloning and other forms of genetic engineering that it is mostly wrong. This is because it is 'playing God' and also because it involves testing and killing of undeveloped foetuses which many see as living beings.

Animal Testing for Medical Research

Using animals for medical testing is a fact of the modern world, but many people are uncomfortable with it. People display different responses to the question, often depending upon the *reason* for the research.

What is tested on animals?

- Beauty products



The Armadillo

Scientists have been able to create a cure for leprosy using research on Armadillos.

Pigs have been used in stroke research, and the use of Pig cells are being trialled in the treating of patients suffering from brain disorders including Parkinson's disease.



Rabbits have been used to test eye make up products.

- Drugs / medicine



Jelly fish

Possible treatments for Cancer found by studying the chemicals found in jellyfish.



Monkeys have been used to see the effects of obesity on the body.

Rats are used to test sweets before they are sold to customers.



- Medical research on biological make up



Dogs were used in space travel tests. Unfortunately they died painful death within hours of take off.



Guinea Pigs.

Research has seen advancement in Vitamin C, tuberculosis, blood transfusion and antibiotics.

The LAW says that animal testing is legal if:

1. there is no alternative method available
2. all details about research, animals involved and purpose are given .
3. the scientists and facilities have been checked and show no sign of cruelty to the animals.

Christian Perspectives on Animal Testing

Both the Church of England and Roman Catholic Faith believe that it is ok to test on animals if it is in order to save the life of human beings. They believe that animals can be used because:

- **‘rule over every living creature that moves on the ground ‘ (Genesis 1).** This means that **humans must act as fair and just masters**, and also as *stewards* (looking after the earth)
- Jesus taught that **‘ you are worth much more than many sparrows’ (Matt 10:30)** This means that humans are ultimately more valuable than animals, and decisions should be taken to protect human life above all else.

The Churches argue that God created animals and they should be treated with respect, they should not be subjected to unnecessary suffering.

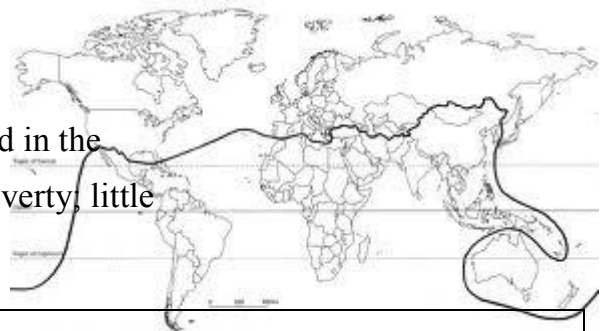
Animal testing is OK	Animal testing is WRONG
Millions of animals are killed for food every year - if anything, medical research is a more worthy death	Some animals suffer as a result of the tests. They are subjected to unnecessary pain and horrible living conditions.
Research on animals has lead to lives being saved.	Psalm 24 teaches that all creatures belong to God.
God taught that Humans have dominion (control) over animals.	Humans and animals have different biological make-ups. So how can we be sure that the results will be the same.
Animals do not have a soul and therefore will not have the chance to have a relationship with God so it doesn't matter if they die.	There are many other just as successful ways of testing new products and treatments.
If products weren't tested, then how could we be sure they were safe?	Christians are taught to be stewards of the earth and should therefore look after all animals.

Poverty and Wealth

CAFOD	Catholic Agency for Overseas Development - a United Kingdom-based international aid agency working to alleviate poverty and suffering in developing countries.
Charity	The voluntary giving of help to those in need, typically money but could refer to resources, food or time
Debt	The state of owing money
Developing Country	Developing country is a term generally used to describe a nation with a low level of material well-being
Exploitation	The use of another personal for personal gain (this references their circumstances also)
Human right	A right justifiably belonging to all people, e.g. freedom of speech or right to live a life without oppression
Immoral	An action that does not conform to social standards of what is right
Life expectancy	The average period of time a person might live
LEDC	Lesser economically developed country
MEDC	More economically developed country
Moral	An action that conforms to social standards of what is right
Money	A means used in order to exchange
Occupation	Job or profession
Poverty	<p>The state of being extremely poor</p> <p>Absolute poverty – A standard of poverty based on a minimum level of survival (food, money, work, resources, healthcare); below which families should not be expected to exist.</p> <p>Relative poverty - Living at a lower standard of living in comparison to those surrounding you.</p>
Tearfund	Tearfund is a UK Christian relief and development agency which works in 90 countries.
Wealth	An abundance of valuable possessions and/or money

World Poverty

The image on the right is of the Brandt line. It was formulated in the 1980's and shows how the world is divided by wealth and poverty, little much has changed.



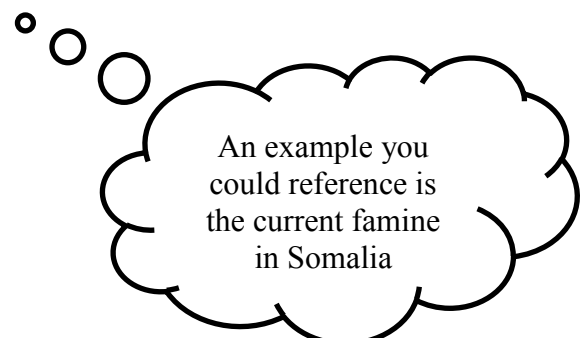
North	South
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25% of world's population	75% of world's population
80% of world's income	20% of world's income
Life expectancy excess of 70	Life expectancy below 40
Over 90% of world's industry	Over 20% suffer malnutrition
96% of world's registered patients (belonging to registered health care)	50% have little chance of formal education

Absolute Poverty

Absolute poverty is characterised by malnutrition, illiteracy, disease, high infant mortality rate, and low life expectancy. Statistics for absolute poverty are:

- > 1/5 of world's population live in absolute poverty
- > living on approximately £10 a year
- > 35,000 people starve to death everyday



Causes of Poverty



Debt of fairtrade/

Lack of education

Natural Disaster

Lack of Health care

AIDS

Lack

This can refer to personal borrowing of money or when governments borrow money. When a government is paying back a loan many suffer as fewer funds go into

Natural disaster causes mass destruction to property but also can cause loss of life. After a disaster many suffer losses and so no one family can support another. Examples are hurricanes, earthquakes and

AIDS and HIV have dramatically spread in LEDCS due to lack of formal education and registered healthcare. Transmitted sexually, often from husband to wife, AIDS leaves children

The United Nations planned to ensure all children primary education by 2015 but for many children in LEDCs this is not possible. Without education they are illiterate and unskilled. A child is very unlikely to be able to create a new opportunities

In poorer countries health care is not readily available – and if it is it comes at a cost. Families are unable to pay resulting in death from easily cured ailments such as diarrhoea. Children become orphan and remain stuck in poverty

Unfair trade cripples many impoverished countries as big businesses from rich nations make massive profit by unfair trading.
Dumping – rich countries sell products in poor nations for less than local producers can.
Labour rights – due to western demand

You should be able to explain these causes of poverty but you also be able to explain the *cycle of poverty*. When people live in poverty there is usually not one cause but many contributing causes, once a family is subject to those causes they can become 'trapped' in a cycle of poverty.

E.G: African countries suffer the worst drought in the world; it is difficult to support your family by growing your own food. In order to support their families people get on others farms, this can mean that due to their desperation they are exploited and work for very little pay. With a lack of formal education to help them, people borrow money at interest from charlatans and loan sharks. This leads to them to being in debt to their borrower, which they cannot afford to pay back.

Christian teachings on Poverty

The Christian teachings regarding poverty in this unit split into 2 categories:

➤ **The needs for the poor, sick and starving**

This part looks at whether or not Christians should help those in need and who they should help.

➤ **Caring for others**

This part looks at how Christian organisations care for other and why they care for others.

You may be asked questions that are asking about one of these areas,

E.g. Describe Christian teachings about concern for the poor. (6marks)

Explain why Christians might think some charities are more important than others. (6marks)

However you may be asked a question that wants you to use these ideas together, especially in Part E's.

E.g. 'Charity begins at home' Discuss.

1.1 Christian teachings – the needs of the poor, sick and starving

Through the teachings and message of The Bible all Christians learn that loving all people, especially those in need, is their *Christian duty*. The love Christians are expected to show replicates the love of God and the love of others demonstrated by Jesus Christ - unconditional. Christians fulfil this as the glory of God is within all of us, irrespective of our position in life, the country we are born or material possessions. They should honour God with their actions and so should give freely; the practicality of this may be money, food or support.

DO UNTO OTHERS AS YOU WOULD HAVE THEM DO UNTO YOU

USING TEACHINGS OF JESUS, CHRISTIANS LEARN TO CARE FOR THOSE IN NEED

THROUGH CARING FOR THE NEEDY WE CONTINUE THE WORK OF CHRIST

YOUR SUPPORT OF THOSE WHO ARE IN NEED WILL GRANT YOU ENTRY TO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

The Parable of the Sheep and Goats

At the end of the world everybody will stand in front of God and he will separate people like a shepherd separates his sheep from the goats.

He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

Then Jesus will say to those on his right "Come to Heaven with me because when I was hungry you gave me something to eat, when I was thirsty you gave me a drink, when I was a stranger you invited me in and when I needed clothes, you clothed me. When I was sick, you cared for me and when I was in prison you came to visit me!"

Then those on the right will say "But Lord, when did we see you hungry, or thirsty, or visit you in prison?"

Jesus says "Whenever you did this for the least of my brothers you did this for me."

Then Jesus will say to those on his left "You are cursed and will go to Hell to be with

also great. It also affirms the consequences of not doing so.

Then Jesus will say to those on his left "You are cursed and will go to Hell to be with the Devil and his angels. When I was hungry you gave me nothing to eat, when I was thirsty you gave me nothing to drink and when I was sick and in prison you did not look after me"

They will answer "But Jesus when did we see you like this?!"

Jesus will answer "Whenever you did not do this the least of my brothers you did not do this for me"

Church believe it is the responsibility of developed nations (MEDC's) to actively support developing nations (LEDC's). CAFOD – Catholic Agency for **Overseas Development** - works exclusively in developing countries.

~~PART E WARNING!!~~

Some part E questions appear that question *who* Christians/people should care for. It has been argued that because in this parable Jesus states "the least of my brothers" this refers specifically to Christians and Christian nations, as those who have chosen to follow Christ become a brother or sister to Him.

The Church of England believes part of their Christian duty is to defend the weak by standing up for injustices that contribute to the suffering of those who are poor, sick and starving. The Church of England has many missionary organisations – people who travel to other countries to spread their faith and help those they come across. The Great Synod is the national governing assembly for the Church of England. The Great Synod has promoted the work of Make Poverty History.

Helpful teachings

<p>"Sell your possessions and give to the poor." Luke 12:33 <i>Straight</i></p>	<p>"If one of your country men becomes poor and is unable to support himself help him...so that he can continue to live among you. You must not lend him money at interest or</p>	<p>"He who gives to the poor will lack nothing, but he who closes his eyes to them receives many curses." Proverbs 28:27</p>	<p>Jesus taught: "Blessed are you who are poor, for the Kingdom of God is yours. Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied. Blessed are those of you who weep now, for</p>
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<i>forward instruction to care for others needs before your wants</i>	sell him food at profit” Leviticus 25:35-37 <i>States it is immoral to profit from others poverty</i>	<i>By ignoring the poor you will not fulfil Christian duty and will not enter the Kingdom of Heaven</i>	you will laugh” from the Sermon on the Mount <i>Those who have been tested and still love God will go to Heaven.</i>
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Additional information for use in Part E’s –this is not essential but **the Christian teaching previous are!**

Significant people who have recognised the needs of the poor, sick and starving

From Bob Geldof’s diary July 1985:



“I must show you this. There is a child I think maybe it’s four months old. The doctor says “No it’s two years old.” It squats on baked mud a tattered dusty piece of cotton hangs from one shoulder onto its distended stomach. It’s face is huge. A two year old face on a four month old body. The eyes are moons of dust and flies caked by tears so big they don’t dry until they reach the naval.

It’s mother is squatting also, behind and slightly to his left. She is faint. She falls over a lot. I notice hundreds falling over.

The child stares. Between its legs flows a constant stream of diarrhoea. The immediate earth around its legs is damp with it. I am watching a child die. In total silence and surrounded by its family it eventually begins to shit out its own stomach.

I am tired with grief and despair and a consuming rage for humanity.

He dies soon. He just dies. Big deal. A jumble of bones and dry skin, wet eyes, flies and shit. His mother hasn’t noticed. She is too weak. Eventually they will come and tie his hands and legs in the approved manner, wrap his weightless body in anything and he will be buried hurriedly in a fruitless attempt to lessen the disease that flies ceaselessly through the scorching air.”

This is a diary entry made during the month Bob Geldof spent time in Ethiopia before Live Aid. Live Aid was co organised by Bob Geldof and raised money for the Ethiopian Famine which, at the time was killing hundreds of thousands. Live Aid final figure for money raised was 150 million pounds. Live 8 in 2005 was a series of concerts to raise awareness of Make Poverty History and pressure G8 leaders to increase aid to poor nations. This worked and 50million was pledged from G8, double that of 2004.

Desmond Tutu

Below is an open letter from Archbishop Desmond Tutu to New York's Trinity Church urges the church to support the Occupy protest in Duarte Park. The *Occupy* movement is an international protest movement that seeks to make the economic structure and power relations in contemporary society fairer.



“Yours is a voice for the world not just the neighborhood of Duarte Park. Injustice, unfairness, and the strangle hold of greed which has beset humanity in our times must be answered with a resounding, "No!" You are that answer. I write this to you not many miles away from the houses of the poor in my country. It pains me despite all the progress we have made. You see, the heartbeat of what you are asking for--that those who have too much must wake up to the cries of their brothers and sisters who have so little--beats in me and all South Africans who believe in justice.”




The message from Desmond Tutu is clear regarding the power the Church has to continue to fight against injustice. The “No!” he speaks of is the voice of those who are not willing to allow power and wealth to belong to the few, while most are powerless and poor.

1.2 Christian teachings – Caring about

Christians believe in showing agape, meaning selfless love, to all people. When first translated into English it was translated to the word ‘charity’. This translation highlights what is meant by charity

to a Christian. Agape is unlimited, indiscriminate and free flowing, when applied to charitable actions they should be the same (unlimited, indiscriminate and free flowing).

Charity means voluntarily giving to the needy, this could be money, food, resources or time. The Bible teaches, “Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ” Galatians 6:2, Christians continue the work of Jesus Christ by doing charitable work; they share to troubles of those in need. Here are 3 charities who show caring for others, you should find a specific relevant example of their work on the lead up to the exam.

	
<p>CAFOD is the official Catholic aid agency for England and Wales.</p> <p>We work with partners in more than 40 countries across the world to bring hope, compassion and solidarity to poor communities, standing side by side with them to end poverty and injustice. We work with people of all faiths and none.</p> <p>We work with more than 500 partners overseas, and with partners in the UK - all working to reduce poverty. Inspired by Scripture, Catholic Social Teaching and the experiences and hopes of people living in poverty, CAFOD works for a safe, sustainable and peaceful world.</p> <p>CAFOD put their Christian love into action by responding to emergencies all over the world in disaster relief efforts. They support those suffering in the disaster zones as well as those who have been evacuated.</p>	<p>Christian Aid is a Christian organisation that insists the world can and must be swiftly changed to one where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty.</p> <p>We work globally for profound change that eradicates the causes of poverty, striving to achieve equality, dignity and freedom for all, regardless of faith or nationality. We are part of a wider movement for social justice.</p> <p>We provide urgent, practical and effective assistance where need is great, tackling the effects of poverty as well as its root causes.</p> <p>The Church of England missionaries closely work with sufferers of HIV and AIDS in Africa, to alleviate their suffering and educate others to prevent the spread of HIV and AIDS</p>
 <p>(CTBI)</p>	<p>To help the churches live as Churches Together, a number of small organisations have been created to ease their way. There is one in almost every town or community to help them to work together locally. There are larger groups in the regions and for each of the four nations of Wales, Scotland, Ireland and England.</p> <p>Many areas of work are best tackled for Britain and Ireland as a whole rather than in the separate nations. It is also important for those involved in similar activities in different parts of Britain and Ireland to keep in touch even when working separately. Churches Together in Britain and Ireland is the instrument that facilitates that process.</p> <p>CTBI are an organisation that brings local churches together to deal with local issues, but also leaders of national Churches to deal with issues in Britain and Ireland. Currently CTBI are connecting Christian Churches to deal with issues such as migration and supporting asylum seekers. They provide a forum for individual churches to share ideas and come to a collective conclusion.</p>

PART E WARNING!!

You may be asked a question that asks you to evaluate who should receive ‘charity’; it may even specify “You should look after your community first”. You should be able to explain that the work of Christian charities is not only directed at ‘foreign countries’, local churches support their local

area and Churches Together help individual churches support one and other for the greater good of Britain and Ireland.

In all cases these charities show caring for others as a direct instruction from The Bible. The Bible teaches “Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ” Galations 6:2, a Christian charity should show commitment to replicating the awesome love of God by sharing the problems of those who need care. CAFOD are fulfilling the law of Christ in Somalia as their supporters have donated more than £4.7 million, which they are spending in the most highly affected areas.

Helpful teachings

Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver”

2 Corinthians 9:7

Giving should be a pleasure; it should lift your spirits not burden you.

If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words but with actions and in truth.” 1 John 17-18

Love should be expressed through care and kindness towards others. Love is not words, empty and hollow, but purposeful when illustrated. You can love God and ignore His creations suffering.

Christian teachings on Wealth

Christians recognize we need money to survive in this global climate but warn that “love of money is the root to all evil” *Timothy 6:10*. Jesus taught to be wary of money as being rich can encourage greed – “Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” *Luke 12:15*. Once we become greedy we forget our duty to God and to others. Christians believe they will be judged by what they do, not how rich they are. Jesus taught wealth can make us happy in this life but we can’t take it with us in the next, all we take is the sum of our good deeds.



A good teaching to use is “No man can have 2 masters. He will hate one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both money and God”. It reminds Christians that they may use money but not become devoted to it, God and God’s will must always be their chief priority.



The Christian response to gambling mirrors this. Both the Catholic Church and the Church of England believe excessive gambling is a detriment to society and families. The Catholic Church think that gambling itself is not wrong – a Church tombola raises money for charity or good causes. However, when gambling leads to neglecting ones duty to family or others then it is unacceptable. The Church of England notes gambling as a lead to ‘the poor paying for what they can least afford.’

Some Christians believe it is their duty to look after their family but that they should then give as much as they can to the less fortunate. On the other hand, some Christians give away all their money so that they can better focus on God. It is for this reason that monks and nuns give away all their material possession and take a vow of poverty.

Many Christians believe that they should *tithe*, that is give 10% of what they earn to God. Some Christians give this money directly to the church through the weekly collection and the Church then uses it for its upkeep and for charitable purposes.

Alternatively, a Christian might work out a tenth of their income and divide it up themselves, giving some to the Church and the rest to their favourite charities. These charities could be Christian run or secular; it does not matter as long as they feel they are using the money in a way that God wants.

A teaching that supports giving everything and tithing - As he looked up, Jesus saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins. "I tell you the truth", he said, "this poor widow has put in more than all the others. All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on." (*Luke 21:1-4*)

Wealth in the Church

Some Christians believe it is wrong for the Christian Church to be so wealthy when so many are starving in the world. Jesus told his disciples not to take possession with them when they went out preaching so that their words and actions may become accessible to those who have nothing. Some Christians believe there is nothing wrong with the Christian Church being wealthy and think we should show our devotion to God through beautiful things.

It has been claimed that the Catholic Church are one of the richest organisations in the world. The assets and net worth of Vatican City is estimated at \$1billion, the budget of the *Vatican City* is \$130 million annually. The Vatican has billions of shares in the most powerful international corporations such as Gulf Oil, Shell, General Motors, and more. At a conservative estimate, these shares amount to more than 500 million dollars alone. However the Catholic Church does use much of its money gained from such ventures on charity work, as well as Vatican expenses

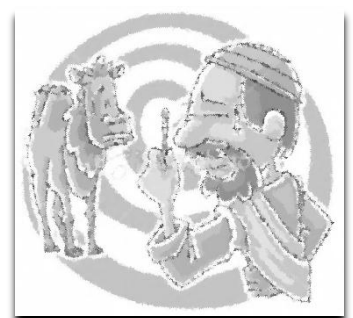
PART E WARNING!!

You may get a question uses of money and your right to spend money, particularly earned money, as you see fit. Remember money can be used for good and evil. Christians do not think money itself is evil, but it tempts us to be selfish.

The Bible also teaches: **Luke 18:25**- 'For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of God'

What might this mean? Why is it more difficult for the rich to get to Heaven?

Look at the picture on the page previous (of the man being dragged 2 ways) imagine how big the bag of money is if you are rich in compassion to poor.



Which side would drag you harder if you were rich?

Christian teachings on Moral and Immoral work

The Bible does not have a definitive list of ‘good jobs’ and ‘bad jobs’ but the values that they hold may affect the job they choose. Obviously they will not want a job that breaks the 10 commandments but in turn they would want a job that supports their Christian duties.

PART E WARNING!!!

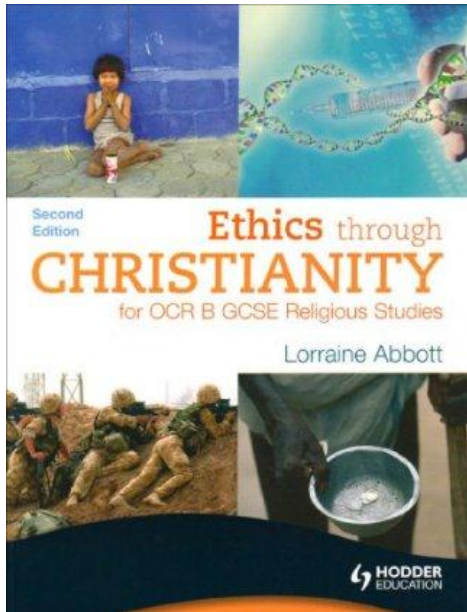
You may get a question on types of occupation, ‘a job is a job’ style. You will have to evaluate Christian morals and beliefs to categorise ‘acceptable jobs’ and ‘immoral jobs’ but this is no easy task (see below). Ensure you have an opinion on immoral jobs too.

	Immoral and not acceptable	Moral and acceptable
UN soldier	“do not kill” is one of the 10 commandments. This job might easily present a situation where you have to take a life. Christians would not support the use of war to resolve a conflict.	Christians should protect the weak. This job allows you to fight for civilians who are facing injustice and help them break from oppression and suffering.
Animal tester	Genesis states that we are to “be stewards” over animals, this means we are to look after God’s creatures for Him. To make them suffer is wrong.	God gave us dominion of animals. The Catholic and Church of England support animal testing, if reasonable, to benefit human life.
Gambler	The bible teaches “money is the root to all evil”. Gaining money this way will result in you neglecting you Christian duty.	Christians recognise it is not always wrong. As long as you are not greedy and still love God. (2 masters)
Doctor	In many case a doctor may face a moral dilemma, a procedure which conflicts with his faith. For example abortion, euthanasia, organ transplant etc.	Christians believe in sanctity of life. Therefore we should use the human intellect God gives us, especially to prolong life. (this could also stretch to end suffering and create new life)
Stripper	The Bible teaches, “your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit”. Your body should save your body for your marital partner and honour it as an image of God.	A Christian’s ultimate duty is to their family. If it helps you provide for your family then though it is immoral it is better than allowing you family to perish.
Sunday worker	“Honour the Sabbath day and keep it holy” is one of the 10 commandments. This job means you are breaking a commandment as you use it not a holy day but a working day.	Some Christians argue God is in your heart and mind. You can focus on him anywhere. You have a duty to provide for your family.

Revision Tips

The following resources would be useful to consider

1. Ethics Through Christianity for OCR B GCSE Religious Studies, Lorraine Abbott, Hodder Education
ISBN: 9780340984123



2. <http://www.mmiweb.org.uk/gcsere> Students can find relevant sections under Christian Perspectives
3. <http://www.request.org.uk/issues/issues.htm> All sections are relevant but when you click on them students need to pick out the relevant sections.

Study Tips

1. Break down your study into sub-topics. For each sub-topic identify the following
 - Key words, definition and facts ie law
 - Different Church opinions
 - At least 2 teachings to support each point of view
 - A point of action for each opinion
 - Your opinion
2. Each sub-topic should take you at least an hour although some sub-topics will overlap and therefore be easier.
3. Here is a list of sub-topics to help you

Men and women in the family

Men and women in the church

Marriage

Civil Partnership/Homosexuality

Divorce

Remarriage

Sex before marriage

Contraception

Abortion

Fertility Treatment

Cloning

Euthanasia

Suicide

Use of Animals in Medical Research

Wealth

Causes of Poverty

Care for others

Charity

Uses of money (tithing, gambling, charity)

Moral and Immoral Occupations

4. When you have made your notes/revision cards/mind maps all you have to do is REVISE REVISE REVISE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Exemplar

Abortion

Key Words

Fetus, termination, sanctity of life, pro-life, pro choice

Definition

The termination of a pregnancy

Law

The Abortion Act in 1967 made abortion legal in Britain (excluding Northern Ireland) if

- 2 doctors agree and it is carried out "before the time of viability" (now 24 weeks)
- To continue the pregnancy would put the mother or other members of the family at greater risk.
- It is necessary to avoid permanent injury, physical or psychological to the mother.
- There is real risk that the baby would be born handicapped or deformed.

Abortion is allowed up to full term for disability or if the mother's life is at risk

Different Opinions

Roman Catholic	Church of England
<p>RC's disagree with abortion under all circumstances. The only exception is if the mother's life is at risk.</p> <p>This is because from the very first moment of existence they believe that each human being has the rights of a person among which is the right to life</p> <p>Roman Catholics believe life begins from conception therefore termination is murder at any time during pregnancy</p> <p>"Do not commit murder"</p> <p>They believe in the sanctity of life. This means that all life is sacred and a gift from God. Therefore to take it away is wrong and interfering with God's plans.</p> <p>"when I was growing there in secret, you knew I was there- you saw me before I was born"</p> <p>Action Campaign against abortion e.g. SPUC Promote adoption</p>	<p>C of E are against abortion but recognize that sometimes abortion can be the lesser of two evils or the most compassionate thing.</p> <p>C of E accept that if the mother's life is at risk, if there is risk of severe disability or if the pregnancy is a result of rape then an abortion may be the most loving thing to do.</p> <p>C of E use the example of Jesus' compassion/Agape to use as an example of how to behave. He saved an adulterous woman from being stoned to death and showed compassion to many who had been exiled from the community.</p> <p>"Love one another as I have loved you"</p> <p>Action offer spiritual, moral and practical support to those who have to meet the challenge of parenthood in difficult circumstances</p>

I think.....

I am pro-choice as I believe that a woman should always have the choice about whether she continues with a pregnancy and it is too easy to overlook the mothers human rights and concentrate only on the fetus'. On the other hand I do feel that it is too easy to have an abortion in this country. Although there are many valid reasons for an abortion e.g rape I think that in some circumstances people should have to take responsibility for their action e.g. two consenting adults not using contraception. I also feel that the abortion law should be changed and that abortions should not take place for social reasons after 12 weeks of pregnancy.

Exam Questions

Christianity

- (a) What is meant by 'marriage'? [1]
- (b) How might Christians prepare for a wedding? [2]
- (c) Name three key elements which might form part of a Christian wedding. [3]
- (d) How may a Christian marriage ceremony reflect belief? [6]
- (e) 'Divorce is wrong.'

Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer. [12]

Total: [24]

Christianity

- (a) What is fertility treatment? [1]
- (b) Describe Christian attitudes towards fertility treatment. [2]
- (c) What does Christianity teach about abortion? [3]
- (d) Explain Christian attitudes to the use of animals in medical research. [6]
- (e) 'Every woman has the right to have a baby.'

Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer. [12]

Total: [24]

Christianity

- (a) What is meant by the term 'charity'? (1)
- (b) What careers would a Christian consider good? (2)
- (c) What do Christians believe about gambling? (3)
- (d) Explain why a Christian might give money to charity. (6)
- (e) 'Everyone should give to charity' Discuss (12)

Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer. [12]

Total: [24]