Revision Guide for RPSE
AQA RS UNIT 3: Religion and Morality

There is ONE examination
Wednesday 23rd May 2012 AM

You will answer 4 questions.
Each question has 5 parts which must ALL be answered.

To revise:
- Religious attitudes to matters of life
- Religious attitudes to the elderly and death
  - Religious attitudes to drugs abuse
- Religious attitudes to crime and punishment
  - Religious attitudes to world poverty

World religions key words reminder:

Christianity: Jesus, Bible, Old Testament, New Testament, Church, minister, vicar, priest, Catholic, Church of England, Protestant, confession, forgiveness, 10 Commandments,

Islam: Qur’an, Allah, Muhammad, mosque, Imam, ensoulment, Shari’ah,

Buddhism: temple, Buddha (person), karma, enlightenment, ahimsa – no harm, Dhammapada,
TOPIC 1 Religious Attitudes to Matters of Life

Key words:
Fertility treatment – medical procedure that helps an infertile couple (a couple having difficulties with producing a child) to have a child
Artificial insemination – where sperm is produced by masturbation, collected and inserted into the vagina of a woman in the hope that she will become pregnant
Artificial insemination by husband (AIH) – this is where the sperm used comes from the husband or partner of the woman hoping to become pregnant
Artificial insemination by donor (AID) – this is where sperm is donated by a male volunteer
Surrogacy – this is when a woman carries a baby for another couple where the female partner is unable to. Sperm from the intended father is used via artificial insemination. The surrogate mother hands the baby over to the intended couple once the baby is born
Cloning – the scientific method by which animals or plants can be created which have exactly the same genetic make-up as the original, because the DNA of the original is used
Saviour siblings – a brother or sister genetically created so that their stem cells can be used to save an ill child
Embryo Research (embryology) - The study of human embryos. An embryo is the fertilised egg which at 12-14 days can be implanted into the wall of a womb
Human-animal hybrid – an embryo made from human DNA and animal eggs for purposes of experimentation

Religious attitudes towards...

Surrogacy / Fertility Treatment

- Surrogacy involves artificial insemination which involves masturbation. Judaism and the Catholic Church forbid masturbation
- Buddhists believe that the inability to have children can cause great suffering and therefore a surrogate mother is showing loving kindness (compassion) towards others
- Most Muslims see fertility treatment, including surrogacy as knowledge granted to people as a gift from Allah
- Some Christians accept fertility treatment as a part of God’s gift of medicine but see the use of AID as adultery

Saviour siblings

- Some embryos are destroyed while producing saviour siblings. For some Christians, Jews, Muslims, Sikhs, Hindus and Buddhists this is classed as murder because it brings about the premature end to life of those embryos
- Some religious groups feel that the life of the saviour sibling is devalued as they are made to produce spare parts for another: the life of a saviour sibling may be seen as a consequence of the illness of another as opposed to being a child that was wanted as an individual
- Buddhists believe that we should try to minimise psychological harm as well as physical harm. Some Buddhists fear that a saviour sibling’s psychological well-being is not considered, especially if the saviour sibling fails to serve its original purpose (to save their sibling)
- Some feel that the ability to produce saviour siblings is a gift from God

“For you created my inmost being, you knit me together in my mother’s womb,” Psalm 139:13
Artificial Insemination by Donor (AID)

- Christians, Jews, Muslims, Sikhs and Hindus see marriage as a divinely blessed relationship between a man and a woman. They argue that no other person should enter this special relationship, therefore some liken AID to the sin of adultery (cheating on your partner).

- Artificial insemination by donor could allow single women or lesbian couples to become pregnant outside of a traditional marriage. For those who see the marriage of a man and woman as a blessing, such a use of AID would be acting against the will of God.

- All faiths teach that we should prevent harm to our fellow human. Some argue that it may be upsetting for a child to discover that they were born from a donation and may never know their biological father. It can leave the child with many unanswered questions and a possible crisis of identity.

- Most religious groups would be concerned if AID was very costly. If a donor was earning lots of money then it suggests his motives are selfish and if couple are desperate for a child they may be exploited. Buddhists consider the intentions of your actions to be very important. If you act in a thoughtless and harmful manner then you will earn bad karma.

- Some from all faiths believe that if a donor acts to help a childless couple then they are showing great care and consideration for their fellow human. Buddhists would argue that good karma can be gained from selfless acts, while other faiths believe that a God will reward their kindness.

Embryo Research (including cloning, genetic engineering, hybrids)

- Many Christians, Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and Jews believe that embryo research is encouraging scientists to take on the role of God the creator. For them, cloning or creation of animal-human hybrids disrespects God’s design and will expose creation to human error.

- People from all religious groups are concerned by what happens to the embryos. By law embryos must be destroyed after 14 days. However, many consider life to begin at conception and therefore destruction of embryos is considered to be murder.

- Christians and Jews believe that all human life is created in the image of God. This makes all humans equal and important. For many, testing on embryos is disrespectful as it fails to see their potential to become human beings with minds and emotions.

- All religions are concerned by the idea that testing embryos could lead to ‘designer babies,’ where parents could choose the gender and characteristics of their child. The fear is that humans would no longer be equally valued and prejudices would emerge in society.

- Some Christians, Sikhs, Jews, and Buddhists are of the opinion that embryo testing could lead to cures for disease. To minimise the waste, many have suggested that those embryos not used in IVF treatments could be used in experimentation.
When life begins

- **Before conception** - Buddhists, Hindus and Sikhs believe a pre-existing life force enters the body at conception.
- **Conception** - Most Catholic Christians believe that life begins at the moment the sources of life (egg and sperm) meet.
- **120 days after conception** - Muslims take their guidance from the Quran in which it states that the foetus gains a soul after 120 days of conception. Some feel that this may be the case as at this time the foetus develops organs, a nervous system and brain activity.
- **Viability** - A baby can survive (with a great deal of medical help) if born prematurely at 24 weeks.
- **Birth** - Jews believe human life starts at birth, until then the foetus relies on its mother’s body.

Transplants

- Most religious groups would argue that organ donation is kind and generous act to another human that would please God and/or gain good karma. Donation must done freely and without reward so that people are not exploited.
- Animal organs are now being used in transplant. Muslims and Jews may be opposed to the use of pig organs, as their religious scriptures ban this meat from their diet, regarding it as ritually unclean.
- Many Muslims believe that their body will be raised after death. Some do not want to harm the body, as they believe it will join them in the afterlife. Others believe that as Allah is merciful he would restore their body if they had used it for the good of another.

Example Questions

a) Explain briefly what is meant by ‘in vitro fertilisation.” (2 marks)

b) Explain why some religious people might be in favour of in vitro fertilisation (IVF). (3 marks)

c) “Religious believers should not use surrogacy” What do you think? Explain your opinion. (3 marks)

d) Give two reasons why a religious person might oppose artificial insemination by donor (AID) (4 marks)

e) “It is God not people, who is in charge of matters of life.” Do you agree? Give reasons and explain your answer, showing you have thought about more than one [point of view. Refer to religious arguments in your answer. (6 marks)
Topic 2 Religious Attitudes to Matters of Death

Key Vocabulary:
Ageism- prejudice and discrimination against the elderly.
Senior citizen- A term used to describe an elderly person. Most commonly a senior citizen is one who is considered to be over 65 years old, or of retirement age (also 65 years, though set to rise in coming years).
The Generation Gap- the difference between the old and young in how they perceive the world.
Death- The end of life. Death has been determined in many different ways.
Medical science considers death to come when the patient is brain dead, they have no mental activity. A person in this state may be connected to life support machines, although they will not recover brain function.
Euthanasia-Literally translates as ‘good death’ and is used to describe the deliberate ending of life for the purpose of relieving pain and suffering. Euthanasia is illegal in the UK. A person who helps another to commit suicide is breaking the law.
Hospice- A home providing care for the terminally ill, those near the end of life.
Palliative Care- Healthcare that aims to relieve and prevent the suffering of patients. Medications and treatments are palliative if they relieve pain and suffering, though they do not cure the disease.

Issues of Aging:
- Some elderly face poverty as they struggle to live on the state pension and benefits. (Roughly £130 per person or £198 for a couple per week who rely on state provision)
- Greater risk of illness as the body deteriorates
- The body becomes less mobile and many are no longer permitted to drive meaning they become dependent on others to get around.
- Loneliness
- Ageism
- Being pressured into retirement.

Living arrangements:
Home—Many elderly people try to keep their independence through using support services and family assistance. These might include, social services, NHS district nurse visits, ‘meals on wheels’, supermarket home delivery etc...
Living with family
Community options—some elderly people move into:
- sheltered housing where they may rent a small flat within a complex, which has a communal area for socialising.
- residential homes provide security and care when people are no longer easily able to look after themselves.
- care homes provide accommodation and assistance to elderly people who are unwell.
- hospices provide care for an elderly person if they have a terminal illness and is close to death.
Attitudes of religious believers towards aging and the elderly:

We should respect our elders

- Jews and Christians both turn to the 10 Commandments found in the Book of Exodus, found in the Hebrew and Christian Bible. “Honour your father and mother” (Exodus 20:12)
- Muslims are also taught in the Quran to respect those older than them. The eldest person in the family is the head of the Muslim household. “...show kindness to your parents, If either of both of them attain old age in your dwelling [house, show them no sign of impatience, nor rebuke them [tell them off]; but speak to them with kind words. Treat them with respect and tenderness and say: “Lord, be merciful to them. They nursed me when I was an infant.” (Qur’an 17:23-4)
- Hindus believe in fulfilling their duty (dharma) to God. A Hindu’s duty changes at different stages of life. As a child they should be dutiful to their elders, and take the opportunity to learn from their wisdom.

- We have a duty to care for all human beings, particularly the vulnerable
- Christians look to the parable of the ‘Good Samaritan’ in which Jesus teaches that we should extend kindness and help to anyone in need, regardless of their background.
- Jews and Christians are both taught to "Love your neighbour as yourself" (Leviticus 19:18 & Luke 10:27) and recall that God made all people in His image (Genesis). Therefore, we should appreciate that we are all of equal worth to God and should be value His gift of life.
- Hindus believe that there is a piece of God in all of us. They call this the atman, which is often likened to the western idea of the soul. By realising that God is in all people, Hindus are taught that we are all connected. We should have mutual respect and see good relationships with others as a means of coming closer to God.

Euthanasia:

All forms of euthanasia are illegal in the UK. However, doctors in the UK agree to the General Medical Council’s guidelines that they should: Listen to patients and respond to their concerns and preferences...Respect patients’ right to reach decisions with you about their treatment and care. (General Medical Council)

Some doctors have said that in respecting patients’ wishes, we must also respect their right to die. Some other European countries have taken a different view. The Swiss organisation Dignitas assists those with a terminal illness to die.

Types of euthanasia:
- Voluntary Euthanasia- Performed because the patient has asked for the help of another to end pain and suffering. (i.e. A person suffering who is paralysed from the head down and asks for a drug to quicken their death)
- Involuntary Euthanasia- Performed without the patient being told. (i.e. a patient in a coma)
- Passive Euthanasia- Occurs when a patient does not receive the medical attention needed to keep them alive. (i.e. a feeding tube is disconnected, only pain relief rather than life saving drugs are given.)
- Active Euthanasia- Occurs when a patient is given pain relieving drugs, in the knowledge that the drugs will also kill the patient.
- Compulsory Euthanasia- Performed in all cases where a patient has a type of illness or is of a certain age. THIS GOES AGAINST ALL LAWS OF EQUALITY and would be considered MURDER.
Attitudes of religious believers towards euthanasia:

- **Only God has the right to give and take life**
  
  - Muslims state that only Allah decides how long each of us will live, ‘no person can ever die except by Allah’s permission and at an appointed time’ (Qur’an 3:145).
  
  - Christians regard life as a gift from God. They believe that God created all life, as is stated in Genesis 1. Accordingly, some believers would say that only God has the right to take away what He has given. The apostle Paul wrote to the early believers ‘You do not belong to yourself’, (1 Corinthians 6: 19) expressing that the body and mind exist only thanks to God.

- **We should show care to others, not help them to die**
  
  - Buddhists try to control their mind with meditation. Some might say that if the pains of the body are causing emotional pain then a person is no longer in control of their mind. For many Buddhists, euthanasia is not the answer, instead the solution is found in meditation and pain relief.
  
  - Christians follow the example of Jesus. Jesus suffered on the cross for humans. His example demonstrates that human life is full of suffering but that kind actions towards others are their own reward. Some believers were inspired to set up The Hospice Movement with the aim of caring for those who are dying with dignity.

- **We should not hurry death, but trust in God/ law of karma**
  
  - Muslims follow the example and teachings of Mohammad who they believe to be God’s Final Prophet. It is recorded that the Prophet said, “There was a man who got a wound, and growing impatient (with its pain), he took a knife and cut his hand with it and the blood did not stop until he died. Allah said, ‘My Slave hurried to bring death upon himself so I have forbidden him (to enter) Paradise.’ “ (Sahih Bukhari 4.56.669) For many Muslims, this is a clear indication that euthanasia is unacceptable.
  
  - Muslims say that we can know God through His 99 names of perfection. One name is the Most Merciful. Some believers would say that a truly merciful God would not let a person suffer more than they could stand. Therefore, euthanasia does not show faith in a perfect God.
  
  - In Buddhism, the law of karma states that thoughts and actions have consequences either for this life or the next. If we think and behave well then we will benefit from the results. On the other hand, if we have bad thoughts and are bad in our actions then we will suffer. Some Buddhists say that ending our life early can interfere with karma. By ending suffering in this life, a person could be entering a life of far worse suffering. Nobody can escape the consequences of karma.

- **We should avoid any action that brings about harm to humanity**
  
  - Buddhists try to live by the teaching that all people should avoid behaviour and thought that causes harm. Their belief in no-harm is referred to as ahimsa. For some believers, euthanasia involves not only harming the person who will die; it also leaves mental scars on those who have helped them to end their life.

- **Euthanasia may be the kindest action to show a fellow human**
  
  - Jesus taught two great commandments, ‘Love God’ and ‘Love your neighbour as you love yourself.’ (Matthew 22: 33-34) This simple message is interpreted by some believers as allowing euthanasia when it is kindest action available to help another. Pope John Paul II declared that this reading of the Bible was not acceptable when he said, ‘True compassion leads to sharing another’s pain; it does not kill the person whose suffering we cannot bear.’ (Evangelium Vitae 1995)
  
  - In the history of Buddhism monks have committed suicide in order to help others. The founder of the religion is said to have accepted that sometimes people must die to assist those in need. However, it is only an enlightened person that can sacrifice their life, as they are acting with the best of intentions because they have perfect control over their mind.
Example questions:

a) Explain briefly the meaning of ‘ageism’. (2 marks)

b) Explain why some religious people might want to avoid putting an elderly relative in a residential home for the elderly. (3 marks)

c) ‘Elderly people from religious families should be looked after by their families.’ What do you think? Explain your opinion. (3 marks)

d) Give two reasons why a religious person might be against euthanasia. (4 marks)

e) “Beliefs about life after death don’t matter when you are considering how to look after the dying.” Do you agree? Give reasons and explain your answer, showing you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to religious arguments in your answer. (6 marks)
Key Vocabulary:
Drug – a substance that when taken alters the mind or body
Drug abuse- using drugs in a way that harms the user.
Cold Turkey- Trying to beat addiction by just stopping taking drugs.
Addictive- causing physical or mental dependency which is difficult to overcome.
Illegal drugs – Drugs which are illegal to possess, sell or use, put into three classifications according to their potential harm and addictiveness.
Legal drugs- Substances that can be purchased legally. Some have age or other restrictions. EG alcohol, cigarettes.
Over-the-counter drugs- Drugs that are freely available at the chemist, or in the supermarket. home providing care for the terminally ill, those near the end of life.
Performance enhancing drugs – Drugs used to improve physical or mental capabilities
Prescription drugs – controlled drugs only legally obtained through a doctors consent or prescription.
Rehabilitation (Rehab) – process where addicts are helped to defeat their addiction to drugs.
Social Drugs – legal drugs which are still addictive, but are acceptable in many areas of society (nicotine, alcohol)
Teetotal – a person that abstains or does not drink alcohol at all.

Drugs: Heroin, Ecstasy, LSD, Cocaine, Crack cocaine, Amphetamines, Cannabis, Anabolic steroids, tranquilisers, caffeine, alcohol, nicotine, solvents
These are classified according to how addictive and how damaging they can be. Punishments are set for possession, and for supply (dealing): they are determined according to how much is found on a person.

Religious attitudes towards the body:
• None of the world religions permit the use of illegal drugs. (A small minority within faiths may do for specific reasons but this is rare)
• This is due to the negative influence of drugs on the lives of addicts and those around them.
• Christianity – the body is a temple of God (1 Corinthians 6:19) and the sanctity of life – that it is a gift from God.
• Islam – the body is loaned by Allah for us to inhabit – Allah creates it specially.
• Buddhism – the teaching of ahimsa (do no harm) includes oneself. Buddhists also require a clear mind to be able to meditate and achieve enlightenment. This is one of the Five Precepts – Do not take intoxicants.
Cannabis – a debate

Cannabis is currently a class B drugs.
It has always been illegal but there are some who think it should be a class C. This would reduce the punishments. There are those who think it should be legalised.

Arguments for cannabis being illegal:
- It can lead users onto ‘harder’ substances.
- It is addictive and has an effect on the body
- It is widely recognised to be linked to psychosis – mental health problems are commonly associated with long-term use.
- Addiction to cannabis can prevent people contributing to society in a positive way.
- Every year lots of people need medical attention from the NHS due to use of cannabis.

Arguments for cannabis being legalised:
- Lots of people already use it; too many to be punished according to the current system
- It can help those suffering with particular disorders – multiple sclerosis is the main one. (a disorder of the nervous system)
- If it is legalised it can be controlled (quality and strength monitored) and it can be taxed giving the government more income.

Negative impacts of taking illegal drugs:
- effect on health,
- stealing to pay for growing cost of addiction
- risk of getting caught and punished
- breakdown of family and friendships
- risk of driving under the influence of drink or drugs
- inability to hold down a job or other activity

There are those substances that are commonly used in society: alcohol and nicotine

Why do people choose to smoke?
Calming/ relaxation, looks good/adult, highly addictive, others around them do it, gives confidence, enjoyable, grown up in a smoking household so it is acceptable, they think it keeps weight down, deny that it will cause harm.

Why do people choose to drink alcohol?
Enjoy the taste, enjoy being drunk, goes well with meals, others around them do it and it’s a form of socialising, gives confidence,

Religious attitudes to alcohol and smoking:

| Alcohol is the mother of all evils and it is the most shameful of evils. “ Hadith |
| And be not drunk with wine.” (Ephesians 5:18) |
| Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit” (1 Corinthians 6:19) |
| Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.” [Proverbs 20:1] |
| Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with dissipation, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you unexpectedly like a trap.” (Luke 21:34) |
| Allah says, “..make not your own hands contribute to your destruction..” (Qur’an 2:195); “..nor kill yourselves.” (Qur’an 4:29). |
| O ye who believe, liquor, gambling, idols and divining arrows are but abominations and Satanic devices. So turn wholly away from each of them that you may prosper. (Qur’an 5:91) |
Jesus’ first miracle in the Bible was changing water into wine. Many Christians see this as making alcohol acceptable in some circumstances and in moderation.

Jesus used wine as a symbol for his blood at the Last Supper and most Christians repeat this in the Communion ceremony today. (Although some Churches do not use alcoholic wine for this)

Many Christian Churches work with those who are suffering with alcohol (and drug) addiction and teach that its negative effects are far too serious for it to be acceptable. The Salvation Army particularly are known for their work with alcoholics.

Although Christians do choose to smoke, it is widely considered inappropriate and a waste of money because it is damaging to the body. However, most Churches leave smoking up to the individual to decide.

In Islam alcohol is haram (forbidden) as it means you cannot be concentrating on Allah if you are under the influence of alcohol.

As smoking is harmful it is frowned upon, but it is not forbidden in Islam, except during the fast of Ramadan.

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**Methodists should seriously consider total abstinence from alcohol.** (Policy document of the Methodist Church)

**Members must refrain from alcohol and tobacco use.** (Document of the Salvation Army)

**The State has a duty to protect its citizens from the dangers of alcoholism** (Official teaching, Catholic Church)

For anyone whose life is affected by drugs or alcohol many religious believers will prefer to offer support and compassion rather than judgement and condemnation:

“Whatever you did not do for one the least of these (poor, naked, hungry etc), you did no
t do for me.”
(Matthew 25:45)

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**Another contentious issue: Taxes**

Although alcohol and tobacco are harmful, they are both heavily taxed and therefore give the government an income. Taxation is used as a way to try and put people off using the substances to excess.

Some of this income is used for the National Health Service where those who do use to excess receive treatment.

The argument is that only 30% of the taxation is used to fund the NHS and therefore smokers and drinkers are funding other areas for the government.

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Example questions:

a) Explain briefly the meaning of the word ‘drug’. (2 marks)

b) Explain why some religious people might be against drinking alcohol. (3 marks)

c) “Religious believers should not smoke.” What do you think? Explain your opinion. (3 marks)

d) Give two reasons why religious believers oppose illegal drugs. (4 marks)

e) “Taking drugs should be a matter of individual choice and nothing to do with anybody else.” Do you agree? Give reasons and explain your answer, showing you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to religious arguments in your answer. (6 marks)
**Topic 4 Religious attitudes to crime and punishment**

**Vocabulary**
- **Crime** – an offense that it punishable by law eg. stealing.
- **Crimes against the person** – an offence that harms a person
- **Crimes against property** – offences that are damaging items that belong to others eg. Vandalism
- **Crimes against the state** – an offence aimed at damaging the government or country
- **Corruption** – dishonesty that leads to wealth
- **Death penalty** – capital punishment: using execution as a form of punishment for crimes
- **Imprisonment** - putting a person in jail for an offence
- **Justice** – bringing about what is fair and right or making up for what has been done wrong
- **Parole** – releasing a prisoner early for good behaviour and accepting responsibility for their crime. They are monitored and helped back into society.
- **Probation** – an alternative to imprisonment which involves support from an officer to avoid re-offending.

- **Criminal law** – when a crime has been committed, the state law has been broken.
- **Civil law** – disputes between individuals or parties eg: disputed wills, divorce, broken contracts.

**Religious offences**
These may or may not be crimes in a country. They are found in the teachings of the religion eg: “Though shall not covet (desire) your neighbour’s wife.” (Exodus 20:15). Blasphemy is insulting God or sacred things and making images of God. In Muslim countries it is often a religious and a state offence.

**Religious attitudes towards the aims of punishment**
- **Christianity** – Most Christians do NOT support retribution, but do accept the need for punishment. Many Christians see the need to challenge the causes of criminal behaviour. They also emphasise the need for forgiveness.
- **Islam** – it is a responsibility to punish to keep order in society. Some punishments are set in the Qur’an and must be given. The idea of public humiliation and the victim receiving retribution are also important in Islam.
- **Buddhism** – society must be protected from the actions of criminals, but do not teach retribution. They teach loving-kindness and compassion. Excessive punishment would be wrong.

- “As for the thief, male or female, cut off their hands: a punishment by way of an example.” (Qur’an 24:2)
- “If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents forgive him.” (Luke 17:3)

**Forms of punishment:** Capital punishment/death penalty, imprisonment, community service, fines, electronic tagging, probation or community orders.

**What is the point (The Aims) of punishment:**
- **Deterrence** – to stop people committing crimes by seriousness of punishment
- **Retribution** – to get even with people or to get back at people for committing a crime
- **Protection** – to keep society safe from dangerous people who commit crime
- **Reparation** – to make-up for the crime they have committed, to repair it
- **Reformation** – to change the character of the criminal so they can make a positive contribution to society.
- **Vindication** – a demonstration of the power of the law and that it must be respected.
Death penalty / capital punishment
The act of executing someone for their crime. Used in the United States usually by lethal injection, but can be electric chair.

Issues:
- Do humans have the right to take another life?
- It is irreversible – mistakes can be made
- Costs – expensive to run prisons, but also to execute.
- It can be considered inhuman to kill another
- It can be a good deterrent but there are still those who offend in society that use it

Religious attitudes to prison:
Religious people are often involved in prison reform. Chaplains from many religions visit prisoners and help prisoners’ families. Through history in the UK many Christians have been involved in improving conditions in prisons so they are a place for reformation and improvement rather than further suffering. Elizabeth Fry (Quaker).

Today there are many people in prison who have mental health issues and are in need of care rather than punishment. Howard League for Penal Reform.

“If anyone is killed unjustly, we have granted the right of retribution to his heir.” (Qur’an 17:33)

“You have heard that it was said, ‘eye for eye and tooth for tooth.’ But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also.” (Matthew 5:38-39)

“Anyone who strikes a man and kills him shall surely be put to death.” (Exodus 21:12)

Example questions

a) Explain, using an example, what is meant by religious offence’. (2 marks)

b) Give three ways in which a young offender might be punished by the law. (3 marks)

c) “Prisoners should be given religious teaching.” What do you think? Give reasons for your opinion. (3 marks)

d) Explain two of the aims of punishment. (4 marks)

e) “Greed and selfishness are the main causes of crime.” Do you agree? Give reasons and explain your answer, showing you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to religious arguments in your answer. (6 marks)
Key words:

- **Economically Developed Country (EDC)** - Country where people enjoy a good standard of living due to the country’s wealth.
- **Less Economically Developed Country (LEDC)** - A country where the majority live in poverty.
- **Emergency Aid** - Help given immediately following a disaster. (i.e. food, water, shelter etc.)
- **Sustainable Development** - Help designed to build a community which can then care for itself. (i.e. teaching new skills, introducing fair-trade schemes)
- **Long-term Aid** - Help that will benefit a community for a long time. (i.e. drainage systems, water pumps, building and resourcing of schools, machinery to set up in business etc. . . .)

**Causes of World Poverty:** Complex. There are a number of factors and these will differ depending on the country, region or even individual’s circumstances. Major contributing factors to world poverty:

- **Climate** - the general trend in weather found in a place and impact on basic needs. EG: in times of low rainfall crops can fail and in severe drought this may result in starvation. Hurricane and cyclone conditions damage property and leave people without shelter and possessions.

- **Climate Change** - Global warming is increasing the likelihood of drought as dry areas appear to be getting drier. In areas like Bangladesh where much farming is carried out along the river deltas, rising sea levels are causing flooding which lead to loss to crops and lives.

- **Debt** - LEDCs have tried to borrow their way out of poverty with loans from international banking groups. Money is loaned and must be paid back with interest. The amount of interest charged has often meant that LEDCs have been unable to repay loans and have incurred mounting debt. This is a vicious cycle that holds them in poverty as they must borrow to pay loans.

- **HIV/AIDS** - The Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) attacks the body’s natural defences until it is no longer able to fight-off infection. At this point we say that a person has Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). HIV is spread in bodily fluids in various ways eg: sexual activities, blood transfusions, sharing of needles and from mother to child. In Sub-Saharan Africa around 15-28% of the population is believed to be living with HIV/AIDS. Drugs are expensive and not always available. AIDS sufferers often catch infections: leads to loss of work; difficulty caring for family.

- **Natural Disasters** - Natural disasters occur in LEDCs AND EDCs, LEDCs are worse affected: lack of funding and expertise to recover. Location of many LEDCs makes them more prone to disasters such as volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, tsunamis and landslides. Natural disasters: immediate fatalities but also long term problems eg: rebuilding the community; preventing the spread of disease as sanitation (drainage and fresh water) and shelter is restored.

- **Politics and Corruption** - Unstable leadership/government can mean people’s needs are neglected: trade and public services are not a priority. In times of war it is often the younger generations that are caught up in fighting and killed, leaving the community without a workforce. Conflict can create homelessness and refugees. In these circumstances individuals may have left with nothing but the clothes on their backs. In countries where payment of tax is not enforced or is kept by corrupt government officials, money does not filter down to most in need. This leaves the gap between rich and poor can grow ever bigger.

- **Population Growth** - Birth rates tend to be higher in developing countries due to lack of contraception, a desire to have children as they can provide for the family or traditions in which men inherit family wealth so a male is desired. Resources are spread thin for the families and the nation. People may live in cramped conditions and parents of large families can struggle to meet the costs of feeding, clothing and educating their children.

- **World Trade** - People trade goods across the world to the highest bidder. In Britain much of our food is imported from LEDCs. LEDCs are forced to produce their own food but are in competition with farmers who wish to sell the crops from their land to wealthy countries who can offer them more money. Of course people from LEDCs must buy products that they need and this can result in huge debt as they try to compete with the global market.
Muslim and Christian attitudes towards...

Key words:

Justice - Muslims and Christians believe that we should treat one another in a manner which is fair. They judge what is fair based on the example set by their God and God’s messengers on earth. Muslims and Christians both believe that their actions will be judged by God in the afterlife.

Compassion - Compassion is the feeling of sympathy for another person’s suffering. Muslims and Christians believe that all humans have been created by God, and as a consequence are of equal worth. Believers should therefore show concern for others as they demonstrate their love and commitment to God.

Stewardship - Muslims and Christians believe that God has created this world. A steward traditionally refers to a person with responsibility for caring for a person or place. As God’s highest creation, Muslims and Christians believe that it up to them to act in the best interest of the world and all who live there.

Treatment of the Poor and Use of Riches -

MUSLIM

Islamic Relief is a charitable organisation set up by British Muslims which works all around the world helping to reduce poverty and respond to natural disasters. www islamicrelief org uk

- All Muslims are taught that giving to the less fortunate is a duty (NOT CHARITY) they must perform if they are able. It is called Zakat and it is part of a Muslim’s commitment to fighting injustice in the world. Zakat is designed to transfer money from rich to poor so as to promote equality. A Muslim must give 2.5% of their surplus money away, after essential living expenses have been deducted. This money should be used to help the needy. This makes a Muslim’s money purified. In giving, a person has fought-off the sin of greed. Zakat literally means growth or purification because it is thought to cleanse the giver of their selfishness. Most Muslims in the UK pay it to the local mosque. A committee then decides on how it should be spent.

- Muslims are taught in the Qu’ran that all wealth rightfully belongs to Allah. Giving is therefore seen as a test to the Muslim. If a person keeps their wealth rather than sharing it with the needy, then they are seen as stealing from Allah. The Qur’an teaches Muslims that Allah decides on how much money a person has and Allah will judge everybody on how they use that money.

- Ramadan is the holiest month in the Islamic calendar. During this time Muslims fast during the daylight hours. The Prophet Muhammad encouraged people to fast as by going without food and water a Muslim may come to a deeper understanding of the how the poor experience life. At the end of Ramadan, Muslims celebrate the festival of Id-Ul-Fitr. At this time Muslims are expected to give generously to the poor whom they have been identifying with through their long fast.

- Sadaqah is any good deed that is done for the sake of Allah, rather than for selfish reasons. Sadaqah can be practised at any time and in any place. It may involve a Muslim giving their time, their talents, their money or their prayer. It can even be something small like a smile or picking up litter.

- The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) said: ‘He who goes to sleep on a full stomach while his neighbour goes hungry is not one of us.’

- The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) is said to have told his wife Aisha to, ‘Respect the poor and love them irrespective of them being in a state of poverty. If you bring the poor and needy closer to you, Allah will bring you closer to him.’

- The Qur’an teaches Muslims that every life Allah has made is to be treasured, ‘Whoever saved a life, it would be as if he saved the life of all mankind. (5:32)
Christian

See the work of Christian Aid, a charitable organisation set up by church leaders following World War II. Today, Christian Aid is helping to reduce poverty through campaigning for global action and providing help on the ground for the least fortunate. [http://www.christianaid.org.uk/](http://www.christianaid.org.uk/)

- Central to the teaching of Jesus is the message to ‘Love your neighbour as you love yourself.’ This inspires many Christians to charitable work in an effort to alleviate the suffering of others.
- Christians are taught through the example of Jesus to value spiritual not material wealth. Jesus said, ‘Do not store up riches for yourself here on earth. Instead store up riches in heaven.’ Material wealth is only of good if it is used selflessly to help the less fortunate. Jesus explained that a person who is obsessed with money cannot serve God; they are a slave to their riches.
- According to the Bible, the earliest Christians tried to put Jesus’ teachings into action: ‘All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need.’ (Acts 2:44-45)
- It is written in the Bible that Jesus performed a miracle in which he fed 5000 people who wanted to hear his teachings with only five loaves and two fishes. (Matthew 14) This miracle demonstrates Jesus’ love and concern for the welfare of the community. Material possessions are used for the benefit of all. While Christians may not perform miracles in charitable work, they do see the power of people coming together to share in talents and resources.
- In the parable of ‘The Rich Man and Lazarus’ Jesus showed that riches are not admired by God when he told the story of a selfish man who enjoyed the finest things in life, while a beggar outside his house was not even allowed the rich man’s scraps that were offered to the dogs. Following the death of both men, Jesus tells how the beggar is cared for by angels while the rich man suffers in hellish fires. Though the rich man begs for help he receives none for he has not shown this sympathy in his own life.
- The Bible warns against keeping your riches to yourself: ‘People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil.’ (I Timothy 6:9-10)
- The perils of selfish wealth are said to keep Christians from God. ‘It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle that for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of God.’ (Luke 18:25)
**Fairtrade**

**Muslim**
- The Qur’an tells employers to pay their employees fairly. *‘Give just measure and weight, nor withhold from the people the things that are their due.’* (7:85) *‘Allah shows mercy to a man who is kind when he sells, when he buys, and when he makes a claim.’* (Hadith of Bukhari)
- Charging interest on loans is forbidden in Islam. It is considered to exploit people for profit. Without charging interest, the poor are more likely to be able to pay back the money they have borrowed. Muslims are encouraged to turn loans into gifts when those they have lent to are unable to repay debts.
- Islam also teaches that contracts between employers and employees must be made.

**Christian**
- Fairtrade was first established in Britain in 1992 by the Christian charities CAFOD and Christian Aid alongside Oxfam, Traidcraft and the World Development Movement.
- There are many teachings in the Bible that are believed to support Fairtrade, the book of Amos is regularly cited. **The Prophet Amos** - The Bible tells of how a simple sheepherder became a messenger of God who warned the people of Israel that they had grown greedy and would be punished by God if they did not show compassion for the poor, disabled and enslaved. Amos accuses the people of Israel of ‘trampling’ and ‘exploiting’ the vulnerable for personal gain in business. It is clear that this behaviour goes against God’s desires for how humanity should treat one another.
Example questions:

a) Name a religious organisation that helps to reduce suffering caused by world poverty. (1 mark)

b) Explain how the concept of stewardship encourages believers to help relieve world poverty. (4 marks)

c) “Religious people should do more to help the poor.” What do you think? Give your opinion. (3 marks)

d) Explain the meaning of “Less Economically Developed Countries”. (2 marks)

e) “Emergency aid is more important than long-term aid.” Do you agree? Give reasons and explain your answer, showing you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to religious arguments in your answer. (6 marks)
Hints and tips:

Read the whole exam paper first!

We have NOT studied Rich and Poor in Britain – do NOT attempt this question.

Now choose 4 of the other 5 questions to answer. 
You should now spend 20-22 minutes on each of the other questions (all 5 parts!) 
Do NOT spend too long on one question, move on and come back to it if you have time.

What to write:

- Write in full sentences.
- Use the vocabulary you have learned
- Do not answer with “Religious people can choose to do whatever they want – it’s their own choice.” Etc. You are being asked the reasons for the choices that they are making – what would influence them in their decisions?
- Try to refer to religious teachings you have learned – even if you can’t remember them exactly. It is not a scripture exam.