Religious studies revision pack for Religion and Life.

Animal Rights

Planet Earth

Prejudice

Early Life

War and Peace

Young People

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This pack is not designed to replace your own revision. You should use this as an added extra!

Make sure you prepare yourself well in advance of the exam. Revise in the way that suits you and make sure you cover ***EVERYTHING*** that you have been taught.

Ask your teacher for help if you are stuck on any topics. There will be revision classes – make sure you know when these are.

READ THE QUESTION - what is it asking you for?

HOW MANY MARKS IS IT WORTH?

ANSWER THE QUESTION - don’t waffle on!

CHECK YOUR ANSWER MAKES SENSE

DON’T PANIC!

**Religion and animal rights**

* **How should we treat animals?** What status should animals have in comparison to humans?
* **Do animals have rights?** Animal rights’ groups and protesting; Animal welfare groups (WWF, RSPCA) monitor the treatment of animals – cruelty and neglect of animals is a criminal offence.

*How do different religions view animals?*

**Christianity:** God created the world and put humans in charge – STEWARDSHIP and RESPONSIBILITY.

**Hinduism:** Sanctity of all life – all living things in the cycle of birth, death and rebirth as the soul is reborn so humans have a duty to protect animals.

**Islam:** The world belongs to Allah and so humans must care for animals and treat them with respect.



**Zoos, safari parks and aquariums**

**Advantages and disadvantages?**

Breeding to save rare species from extinction and research into animals...

BUT not always a suitable environment for wild animals...

**Pets** – Most Muslims do not have pets as animals must not be kept in limited spaces BUT can keep working dogs for hunting or guarding their home. ALL faiths expect humane treatment of animals.

**Transport and work -** Animals used to transport people and goods, use of guide dogs and sniffer dogs. Religious views state that animals must be cared for, not beaten or overworked. The use of animals for therapeutic (healing) effect is supported.

**Sport –** Should we use animals in hunting and bullfighting? Should greyhound and pigeon racing remain legal?

**Vegetarianism –** Why are some people vegetarians or vegans? Many Buddhists, Hindus and Sikhs are vegetarian – why is this? Muslims and Jews have food laws which tell them which animals they may eat and how to kill them (Halal and Kosher). There are no specific religious teachings for Christians.



**Animals for food**

Should we eat meat? What are the issues surrounding this?

**Factory farming –** animals being kept in a confined space

Are there any advantages to this?

**Free-range farming –** animals are allowed to roam freely

What are the advantages of this?

**Slaughter and transport of animals –** How should this be done? THINK Halal for Muslims.

*What are the fur and ivory trades? Why do people object to wearing fur?*

The ivory trade is illegal everywhere HOWEVER limited sales have been carried out where the animals have been said to have died.

Does this encourage poaching though?

**Animal experiments**

Testing for medicinal or cosmetic purposes? Why do people agree or disagree with this?

Genetic modification – what does this involve? What are the advantages and disadvantages of it?

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**Cloning**

Creating an organism that is the exact genetic copy of another.

BUT *thousands of animal embryos are destroyed while trying to clone them.*

**RELIGIOUS VIEWS –** Some are against genetic modification and cloning as they think scientists are ‘playing God’ and interfering with nature. Others may say it is ok if they help to save lives.

Animal Rights

Exam question alert!

(a) Give **two** ways in which animals and humans are different. *(2 marks)*

(b) Explain why some religious believers are vegetarians. *(4 marks)*

(c) ‘Religious believers should not keep animals as pets.’

What do you think? Explain your opinion. *(3 marks)*

(d) Explain the attitudes of religious people towards the cloning of animals. Refer to religious teaching in your answer. *(3 marks)*

(e) ‘Religious believers should do more to protect animal rights.’

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to religious arguments in your answer. *(6 marks)*

(a) What is factory farming? *(1 mark)*

(b) Give **two** reasons why many religious believers are against the fur and ivory trade.

*(2 marks)*

(c) ‘Religious believers should not eat meat.’

What do you think? Explain your opinion. *(3 marks)*

(d) Explain the attitudes of religious people to experiments on animals. Refer to religious teaching in your answer. *(6 marks)*

(e) ‘Animals are not as important as humans.’

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to religious arguments in your answer. *(6 marks*)



**Religion and planet Earth**

* Creation stories
* Stewardship
* Greenhouse effect – global warming, waste, emissions
* Pollution
* Destruction of natural habitats
* Natural resources
* Climate change
* Looking after the world
* Religious responses

Planet Earth

Exam question alert!

(a) Explain what is meant by global warming. *(2 marks)*

(b) Explain **two** reasons why many religious believers are concerned about climate change. *(4 marks)*

(c) ‘Planet Earth is God’s world.’

What do you think? Explain your opinion. *(3 marks)*

(d) Explain actions religious people might take to look after the planet. *(3 marks)*

(e) “It’s more important to enjoy life than to worry about using up the world’s resources.”

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to religious arguments in your answer. *(6 marks)*

(a) What is conservation? *(1 mark)*

(b) Give **two** reasons why many religious believers are against deforestation. *(2 marks)*

(c) ‘Recycling is good stewardship.’

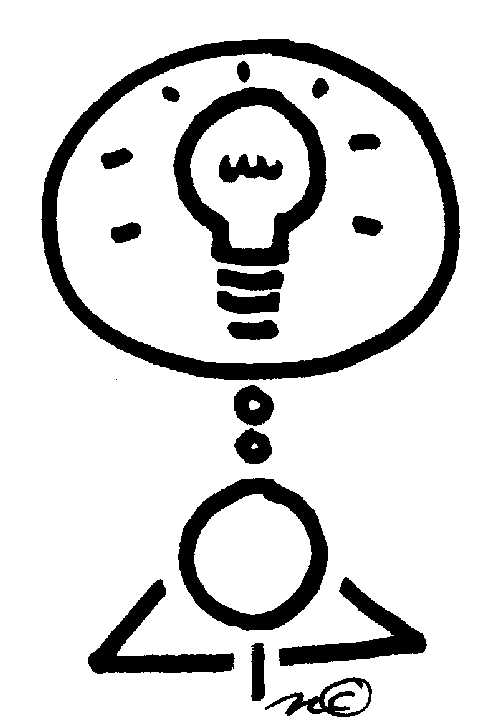
What do you think? Explain your opinion. *(3 marks)*

(d) Explain the attitudes of religious people to global warming. Refer to religious teaching in your answer. *(6 marks)*

(e) ‘The Earth is ours; we can do what we want with it.’

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to religious arguments in your answer. *(6 marks*)

**Religion and prejudice**



***Types of prejudice***

Race and colour - Racism

Gender – Sexism

Religious prejudice

Ageism

Disability

Class, lifestyle and looks

**PREJUIDCE** – thinking badly of people because of the group they belong to

**DISCRIMINATION** – actions that occur due to prejudice

***Why are people prejudiced?***

Fear and uncertainty can lead to scapegoating

Lack of education can lead to ignorance

Background

Media influences

They have been victims of prejudice



***Religious attitudes to prejudice***

**TOLERANCE**

Respect for the beliefs and practices of others

JUSTICE

Bringing about what is fair

HARMONY

Living in peace with others

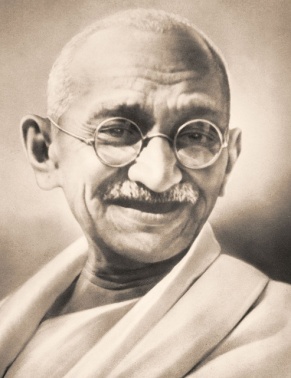
***Response to prejudice***

Sex Discrimination Act 1975

Race Relations Act 1976

Disability Discrimination Act 1995

Equality Act 2006



The life and work of a famous person who has fought prejudice and discrimination

**Mahatma Gandhi –** Hindu who fought against prejudice in South Africa and India

**Martin Luther King –** Christian who was involved in the US civil rights movement

**Desmond Tutu -**  Christian who fought against apartheid in South Africa

Exam question alert!

(a) What is stereotyping? *(1 mark)*

(b) Give **two** reasons why many religious believers are against discrimination. *(2 marks)*

(c) ‘Religious believers should do more to fight prejudice.’

What do you think? Explain your opinion. *(3 marks)*

(d) Explain the attitudes of religious believers to racism. Refer to religious teaching in your answer. *(6 marks)*

(e) ‘Fear is the greatest cause of prejudice.’

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to religious arguments in your answer. *(6 marks*)

***Make sure you can describe examples of prejudice and discrimination that a religious believer (Gandhi, King or Tutu) faced.***

***You may need to explain HOW their beliefs influenced their actions.***

***Have you got religious teachings in your book?***

**Religion and early life**

**Abortion** = the termination of a pregnancy involving the deliberate removal of a foetus from the womb before it is viable

**CONCEPTS:**

* **SANCTITY OF LIFE** – life is a precious gift from God so is sacred (holy) and worthy of the highest respect. It isn’t up to us to take life away from anyone, it is up to God
* **QUALITY OF LIFE** – being able to experience life & communicate with others, being fulfilled & content in yourself. If a person was kept alive artificially or was in constant pain some would describe this as a poor quality of life

**Reasons FOR abortion**

* It’s cruel to bring a severely disabled child with a poor quality of life in to the world
* It’s the mother’s body so it’s her decision
* The mother’s individual circumstances need to be considered
* The foetus isn’t a person yet but the mother is
* The risk to the mother’s health outweighs the rights of the baby
* It is a matter for an individual’s conscience

***Reasons AGAINST abortion***

* The foetus is a child with a soul from the moment of conception
* Life is sacred, given by God so only God can take it away
* The unborn baby has the same rights as anyone else so should be protected
* Every baby is unique – no-one can know its value
* Abortion can be used as birth control or for social reasons



For a legal abortion to take place two doctors need to agree that:

* the mother’s physical or mental health is at risk
* the mother’s life is at risk
* her existing family will suffer
* the child will be born with a severe disability

Abortion is legal in Britain up to 24 weeks in the pregnancy but if woman’s life is at risk or the child has a severe disability, abortion can take place at any time

**RELIGIOUS VIEWS ON ABORTION**

*CHRISTIANITY:*

* **Roman Catholic** – abortion is wrong under all circumstances

*‘You shall not kill by abortion the fruit of the womb.’*

*The Pope said, ‘Life must be protected with the utmost care from the moment of conception; abortion & infanticide are abominable crimes’*

* **Protestants** – accept abortion if the foetus has a serious disability, if the mother’s life is in danger or if pregnancy was a result of rape.

Many believe it is up to the individual’s conscience to decide based on the Christian concept of love. The rights of the unborn child have to be balanced against the mother’s rights depending on the circumstances.

*Every human life is unique and should be respected & protected but its life is not absolutely paramount. Sometimes abortion is the lesser of two evils*

*ISLAM:*

Muslims oppose abortion in all cases except where the mother’s life is in danger. Everything is the will of Allah - **‘Insha Allah’**. Abortion for economic reasons is forbidden.

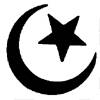
Some Muslims believe that the foetus is ensouled at 120 days so abortions before that time are not killing a living person.

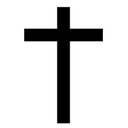
**Hadith**

‘No severer of womb ties will ever enter paradise’

**Part of God’s plan**

‘I chose you before I gave you life and before you were born’





**Qur’an**

‘Do not kill your children in fear of poverty. We shall provide for them and you. Killing them is a big sin’

**Ten Commandments**

‘Do not commit murder’

**Sanctity of life**

‘So God created human beings, making them to be like himself’

Exam question alert!

(a) What is adoption? *(1 mark)*

(b) Give **two** situations in which abortion is legal in Britain. *(2 marks)*

(c) ‘Children are a gift.’

What do you think? Explain your opinion. *(3 marks)*

(d) Explain why some religious believers are against abortion. Refer to religious teaching in your answer. *(6 marks)*

(e) ‘A woman should have an abortion if she knows that her baby will have a poor quality of life.’

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to religious arguments in your answer. *(6 marks*)

**Religion, war and peace**

**Why do people go to war?**

* Defend their country, beliefs, religion, freedom or way of life
* Defend an ally or protect a weaker country
* Remove their own leader or government (Civil war)
* Gain land or reclaim territory
* Gain wealth, power or natural resources
* Stop atrocities such as genocide or depose a dictator

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*What is peace? What is justice? What is the sanctity of life?*

*How do these relate to the context of war and peace?*

PACIFISM – the belief that violence against other human beings is wrong

***Pacifists believe that:***

Killing goes against teachings in sacred writings. War causes suffering, bitterness and hatred. War damages the environment and wastes lives and resources.

Christian pacifists – Quakers – follow the example of Jesus who taught his followers to live and work for peace.

WHAT IS A JUST WAR? WHAT IS A HOLY WAR?

Christian thinkers developed conditions for a just war. These include: just cause, lawfully declared, good intention, last resort, reasonable chance of success, fought by just means.

Holy wars have religious aims and goals. They are authorised by God or a religious leader. Those who take part believe they will gain a spiritual reward. Leaders may declare a holy war to defend their religion or followers who are being persecuted.

*What do religions teach about war?*

What is the UN and NATO’s role in keeping the peace?

What is terrorism? Can it ever be justified?

How does war affect its victims?

How can the Red Cross and Red Crescent protect the life and dignity of people in a war?

**What are weapons of mass destruction?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS** | **CHEMICAL WEAPONS** | **NUCLEAR WEAPONS** |
| - Have bacteria or viruses in them that can lead to disease or death  - If they enter the food chain or water supplies, it would lead to illness and death on a massive scale.  - BANNED under the Geneva Conventions | - Used in World War I by UK and Germany  - BANNED IN 1925 BUT still being manufactured and stockpiled.  - Can cause choking, burning paralysis and destruction of the environment | - Cause huge devastation, especially afterwards due to radioactive fallout  - Used by USA in World War II in Japan  - If used, would create a nuclear winter and 50% increase in ultraviolet radiation, destroying life on Earth. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **ARGUMENTS FOR AND AGAINST NUCLEAR WEAPONS** | |
| FOR | AGAINST |
| - Possession acts as a deterrent  - Countries which possess them are unlikely to attack each other  - Makes a country vulnerable if they are disposed of altogether | - Possession poses a risk to humanity  - Destruction caused cannot be justified for any reason  - Use goes against all principles of the ‘Just War’  - All religions oppose the use of them and support disarmament |

Exam question alert!

(a) What is meant by a ‘Holy War’? *(1 mark)*

(b) Give **two** reasons why countries might go to war. *(2 marks)*

(c) ‘No one who is religious can be a terrorist.’

What do you think? Explain your opinion. *(3 marks)*

(d) Explain why some religious believers are prepared to fight in a war. *(6 marks)*

(e) ‘Wars do not solve problems; they only create them.’

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to religious arguments in your answer. *(6 marks*)

**Religion and young people**

* Religious birth and initiation ceremonies
* The influences of the home and upbringing on a person and the decisions they make
* The importance of the moral codes in a religious believer’s life
* Activities and special events which are provided for young people by religions
* The ways young people worship
* Key celebrations and festivals that involve young people
* Membership and coming-of-age ceremonies
* Problems and benefits associated with young people and belief
* Role of schools in the religious education of young people.

Exam question alert!

(a) What is meant by the generation gap? *(1 mark)*

(b) Give **two** reasons why many young people join a religion. *(2 marks)*

(c) ‘Religion should not be taught in schools.’

What do you think? Explain your opinion. *(3 marks)*

(d) Explain, using examples, why faith groups provide special activities for young people.

*(6 marks)*

(e) ‘It is difficult for young people to follow a religion in today’s world.’

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. *(6 marks*)

**How to answer 3 mark evaluation questions**

You will be asked what you think about a statement. The frame below is an example of how you could set it out to get FULL marks.

**“This is a controversial statement.”**

**What do you think? Explain your opinion. (3 marks)**

I think that.....

I think this because....

I also think this because...

**OR**

I think that...

However sometimes I think that...

Overall I think that...

**You DO NOT need to write down what a religious person thinks.**

**You DO NOT need to write down an alternative point of view.**

**You can get 3 marks for writing 3 simple statements OR by having 1 idea and developing it well.**

**How to answer 6 mark evaluation questions**

‘Animals are not as important as humans.’

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to religious arguments in your answer. *(6 marks*)

**Let’s break the question down.**

‘Animals are not as important as humans.’

**Do you agree?**

*Say if you agree or disagree with the statement.*

**Give reasons for your answer,**

*Explain it in detail OR several short statements to get up to 3 marks!*

**showing that you have thought about more than one point of view.**

*To get 4, 5 or 6 marks, you MUST have a balanced argument. What might other people think? Argue it well and EXPLAIN your answers.*

**Refer to religious arguments in your answer.**

*If you do not do this, you CANNOT be given more than 3 marks. What might a religious person say about the statement? Why might they say this?*

*MAKE SURE YOU SUM UP THE ARGUMENT*

***OVERALL, I THINK THAT…***