

The BIG CHECKLIST

*How well do you know each of the units? Use these lists of general and specific pointers to ask yourself what you **do** and **don't know**, what the teacher **has** and **hasn't covered**.*

1 THE NATURE OF GOD

OVERALL

This Topic is concerned with the fundamental question of belief in a Divine Being. Candidates should be aware of the differing ways in which the religions studied understand this concept. Candidates should also be aware of the ways in which symbols are used by religions to describe God and aid worship.

The nature of God

Reasons people give for belief in God

The authority of sacred texts for believers

Ways in which, according to believers, God can be known –

revelation through scripture and through God's intervention in the world

SPECIFICS

Christian beliefs about the nature of God;

Reasons Christians give in support of their belief in God;

The authority of the Bible for Christians;

Belief in God intervening in the world through miracles and in the person of Christ.

This belongs to:

2 THE NATURE OF BELIEF

OVERALL

This Topic is concerned with the ways in which religious believers try to respond to God and to develop spiritually.

Private and public worship

Prayer, meditation and contemplation

The use of food and fasting as a response to God

Beliefs about the use of art, architecture and music to aid worship

The use of symbol to express belief in God

SPECIFICS

Worship in the church and at home;

Prayer and contemplation;

The use of food and fasting by some Christians as a response to God;

The architecture of the church; the use of music and art in Christian worship;

The ways in which symbols are used in Christianity to express belief.



JUST TICK
THEM OFF
IF YOU
THINK YOU
KNOW THEM



3 RELIGION AND SCIENCE

OVERALL

This Topic is concerned with religious views about the origins of the world and of humanity, and the extent to which these views can be compatible with scientific theories. It also addresses *religious understandings of the relationship between humanity and the rest of the planet.*

Religious ideas about the origins of the world and of humanity

Scientific ideas about the origins of the world and of humanity

Religious ideas about the purpose of humanity

The relationship between people and the rest of the planet – environmental issues

SPECIFICS

Christian ideas about the origins of the world and of humanity;

Scientific ideas about the origins of the world and of humanity: very basic understandings of the Big Bang theory, and of Darwinian evolutionary theory;

Christian views about what sets people apart from animals;

Christian ideas about stewardship; Christian responses to environmental issues.

4 DEATH AND THE AFTERLIFE

OVERALL

This Topic is concerned with religious concepts of life after death.

Understandings of the distinction between ‘body’ and ‘soul’

Understandings about the afterlife

The concept of reward and punishment

The ways in which funeral rites reflect belief about life after death

SPECIFICS

The ways in which Christians understand the distinction between ‘body’ and ‘soul’;

Understandings of heaven, hell and purgatory;

The concept of God as judge, the relation between moral behaviour and the afterlife;

Christian funeral rites, and the ways in which these reflect belief and aim to support the bereaved.

5 GOOD AND EVIL

OVERALL

This Topic is concerned with the ways in which religions understand the nature and origins of good and evil, and the ways in which religious believers cope with problems of suffering.

An understanding of ideas about supernatural forces of good and evil

Religious approaches to the question of why there is evil and suffering in the world

Understandings of ways of coping with suffering

Religious approaches to the purpose of moral behaviour

SPECIFICS

Different beliefs about God and the Devil or Satan;

Christian responses to the problem of evil: the suffering of Christ;

Coping with suffering through acceptance and prayer;

Discovering the right way to behave through the Bible, the example of Christ, the conscience;

The reasons why Christians try to follow a moral code.



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6 RELIGION AND HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS

OVERALL

This Topic is concerned with religious responses to ethical questions raised by human relationships.

Understandings of the roles of men and women within a family

Issues related to marriage and divorce

Marriage ceremonies and the ways in which they reflect belief and provide guidance

Issues related to sexual relationships and to contraception

SPECIFICS

The roles of men and women within a Christian family;

Christian marriage ceremonies, and the ways in which these

reflect and emphasise Christian teaching about marriage;

Christian beliefs about the ethics of divorce;

Christian beliefs about sexual relationships and contraception.

7 RELIGION AND MEDICAL ETHICS

OVERALL

This Topic is concerned with religious responses to ethical questions raised by medical issues.

Attitudes towards abortion and fertility treatment

Attitudes towards euthanasia and suicide

Issues of the use of animals in medical research

SPECIFICS

Different Christian attitudes towards abortion;

Christian responses to issues raised by fertility treatment;

Christian attitudes towards euthanasia and suicide;

Christian beliefs about the use of animals in medical research.

8 RELIGION AND EQUALITY

OVERALL

This Topic is concerned with religious responses to moral issues related to equality.

Different views and teachings about prejudice and equality in relation to race and gender

Attitudes towards other religions

Forgiveness and reconciliation

SPECIFICS

Biblical teaching about equality;

Christian attitudes towards racism;

The role of women in Christian society;

Christian attitudes towards other religions: missionary work, evangelism, ecumenism,

Christian beliefs about the status of non-Christian religions;

Christian beliefs about forgiveness and reconciliation.



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9 RELIGION, POVERTY AND WEALTH

OVERALL

This Topic is concerned with religious responses to moral issues related to poverty and the use of money.

The causes of hunger, poverty and disease

Attitudes towards the poor and needy, giving to charity

Teachings about the use of money (e.g. gambling, lending)

Moral and immoral occupations

SPECIFICS

The causes of hunger, poverty and disease;

Christian teaching about concern for the poor and about the right uses of money;

Giving to charity in Christianity;

Christian teaching about moral and immoral occupations.

10 RELIGION, PEACE AND JUSTICE

OVERALL

This Topic is concerned with religious responses to moral issues of war, peace, violence and justice.

Attitudes towards war

Attitudes towards violence and pacifism

Issues of crime and punishment, government and justice

SPECIFICS

Christian attitudes towards war: the Just War;

Christian attitudes towards the use of violence and towards pacifism;

Christian beliefs about the treatment of criminals;

Christian responses to social injustice.



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