

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of exam: \_\_\_\_\_

Eduqas  
Religious Studies  
Component 2: Study of Christianity

Part 1: Beliefs and Teachings  
Part 2: Practices



## **Beliefs and Teachings**

### **State two Christian beliefs about God? (2)**

- All powerful (omnipotent)
- All loving (Omnibenevolent)
- Everywhere (omnipresent)
- Omniscient (all knowing)
- Trinity – Father, Son, Holy spirit
- Transcendent (outside this world)
- Infinite
- Creator
- Judge

### **What do religious believers mean by omnipotent? (2)**

- The all-powerful, almighty and unlimited nature of God

### **What do religious believers mean by omnibenevolent? (2)**

- The state of being all loving and infinitely good – a characteristic often attributed to God

### **What do religious believers mean by trinity? (2)**

- The three persons of God: God the father, Son and Holy Spirit

### **What do religious believers mean by incarnation? (2)**

- The way in which God becomes “flesh” or human in the form of Jesus

### **What do religious believers mean by atonement? (2)**

- The belief that Jesus’ death on the cross healed a rift between humans and God

### **What do religious believers mean by the word resurrection? (2)**

- The belief that Jesus rose from the dead on Easter Sunday, conquering death

### **What do religious believers mean by the word sacraments? (2)**

- An outward sign on an invisible blessing by God, for example baptism and Eucharist

### **What do religious believers mean by the word evangelism? (2)**

- Preaching of the gospel to others with the intention of converting others to the Christian faith

### **What is meant by theodicy? (2)**

- Arguments given about why evil and suffering exists in the world and there can also be a God

### **What is meant by Eschatology? (2)**

- Beliefs about the last things; death, judgement and heaven and hell.

### **Give two reasons why Christians would identify the last supper as being an important event in the event in the life of Jesus (2)**

- He predicts his death on the cross
- It is the basis for the Eucharist
- Jesus gives his followers a new covenant
- He also promises eternal life in heaven for those who believe in him

### **Describe two reasons why the fall is important for Christians? (2)**

- It represents the point at which the perfect relationship between humanity and God was broken
- Because of this event Christians believe all humans were born with original sin.
- It was the reason why it was necessary for Jesus to die on the cross

### **5 mark questions:**

#### **Describe why Christians believe God is omnipotent? (5)**

- Stories in the old testament – Ten plagues, parting the red sea, freeing the slaves
- The creation story – God creating the universe and everything in it
- The virgin birth - Holy spirit conceiving the son of God through Mary
- The new testament - Miracles – performed through Jesus
- Modern day miracles
- Answered prayers

#### **Describe the nature of God for Christians (5)**

- God is omnipotent (all powerful)
- God is omnipresent ( everywhere)
- God is omniscient ( all knowing)
- God is omnibenevolent (all loving)
- Transcendent (outside of this world)
- The trinity
- Alpha and Omega (first and last of everything)

#### **(b) Describe the role of Word and Spirit in creation. [5]**

- Most Christians believe the reference to the 'Word' in John's gospel is a reference to Jesus.
- Some Christians believe the reference to the 'Word' is a reference to the creative plans and purpose of God in his creation of the universe.
- All Christians believe God is the creator of the world and universe as stated in the creeds; 'creator of heaven and earth'.
- As part of the Trinity, Jesus is involved in creation and pre-exists creation of the world and universe.
- Jesus (the Word) is present at the beginning of creation and before the incarnation. Credit reference to Word and Spirit in Genesis 1 – 3. John 1vs 1-5

*'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. 4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.'*

**Describe the crucifixion of Jesus (5)**

- Jesus was executed by the Romans
- The soldiers mocked Jesus and put a crown of thorns on his head
- Simon of Cyrene helped him carry his cross
- He was crucified at a place called Golgotha
- Two criminals are crucified with him – one mocks Jesus, the other accepted Jesus as the son of God
- Jesus is mocked by people in the crowd.
- Jesus prays while on the cross
- Jesus asked God to forgive them, *“Forgive them father, for they do not know what they are doing”*
- Jesus dies on the cross at the ninth hour, the sun stopped shining and the curtain of the temple torn in two.

**Describe the resurrection of Jesus (5)**

- Jesus came back to life three days after he died on the cross.
- On the Sunday after Jesus’ death his female followers visited his tomb.
- They found the stone that was covering the entrance of the tomb rolled away.
- The tomb was empty except for a cloth.
- Two men appeared in gleaming clothes.
- They said to the women that Jesus was not here, he had risen.
- The female followers told the Apostles the news that Jesus was risen.

**Describe how Christians achieve salvation (5)**

- Catholics believe by taking part in the sacraments (baptism and confession)
- Other Protestant Christians believe through having faith in Jesus - *“I am the way, the truth and the life, No one comes to the father except through me”*
- Repenting sins

**Describe Christian beliefs about the afterlife (5)**

- Heaven is where God and angels are located
- Some Christians believe heaven is an actual physical place
- Other Christians believe it is a spiritual place, more of a state or a condition
- Most Christians believe hell is a place of suffering
- It is either to be believed to be wither physical or spiritual
- Most Christians believe the real torment of hell is separation from God’s love. To be in hell is not to be in the presence of God.
- Roman Catholics believe in purgatory where the souls goes to be cleansed of sins before it goes to heaven

**(b) Describe Christian teaching about the role of humans. [5]**

- Christian teaching about the role of humans is derived from the Old and New Testaments.
- One of the most important of roles is to be a follower of Christ, and worship God and evangelise.
- People must love God and love their neighbour.
- People must exercise stewardship over the earth.

- People have been given dominion over the earth.
- People must procreate.
- Reference Genesis 1-3: *26 Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."*
- *27 So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.*
- *28 God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."*

**(b) Describe traditional Christian beliefs about heaven. [5 marks]**

- There are different beliefs amongst Christians. Some Christians still hold traditional views whilst others hold more contemporary views.
- The Bible describes heaven as a place where morally good people enjoy eternity in the presence of God ("In my Father's House are many rooms." Parable of the Rich Man & Lazarus).
- The Bible teaches that people are judged worthy to go to heaven (Parable of the Sheep and Goats) by the lives they have led.
- Traditionally, heaven was seen as a physical reality.
- Traditionally, it was seen as a place above us (often depicted as in or beyond the sky) .
- Traditionally, it was seen as a place where St. Peter met each deceased person at the pearly gates ("To you, Peter, will I give the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven").
- Traditionally, heaven was seen as a paradise (often a garden) with angels and saints.
- Some Christians believe that people have glimpsed heaven in out-of-body experiences.

**(c) Explain Christian beliefs about the oneness of God. [8]**

- Christians believe there is only one God, this is known as monotheism.
- God is one but he exists in three persons, which is known as the Trinity.
- God is 'three in one' known and experienced in different ways: God the Father. God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.
- Christians are often blessed in church services with a reference to the belief in the Trinity. Catholics will often bless themselves making the sign of the cross and praying 'In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit'.
- Jesus said that he and God were one (John 10:30).
- Jesus spoke about his special and unique relationship with God, saying he was the way, the truth and the light and no one would come through the Father except through him (John 14:6-11).
- Reference to the Commandment relating to the worship of one God.

**(c) Explain different ways in which Christians interpret the Bible. [8]**

- Fundamentalist Christians adopt a literal approach to interpretation of the Bible and believe the Bible is literally true.
- Liberal Christians interpret the Bible in a non-literal way; this approach may regard some details in the Bible as being symbolic or metaphorical rather than being literally true.
- Credit examples used to demonstrate diversity in approach, e.g., use of the term 'day' in the creation story.
- Christians have diverse beliefs about how the Bible should be interpreted because Christians interpret the Bible in different ways; one reason for this is because there are a variety of translations of the Bible.
- Christians have diverse beliefs about how the Bible should be interpreted because the Bible is an ancient text, written over 2,000 years ago and understanding of the Bible needs interpretation.
- Most Christians would agree that the Bible is the Word of God though they may differ in their interpretation of that.

**Explain why suffering causes a problem for believing in God (8)**

- If God was omnipotent, he would have the power to stop evil and suffering, but he doesn't so he is not omnipotent.
- If God was omniscient, he would be able to see the evil and suffering and stop it, but he doesn't so he is not omniscient
- If God was omnibenevolent, he would not want us to suffer as he loves us, but he doesn't so he is not omnibenevolent
- He is either not omnipotent, omniscient or omnibenevolent or simply he does not exist

**Explain what the story of Job teaches Christians about suffering (8)**

- Sometimes suffering is sent as a test
- Even if you are holy and good-living you may suffer
- Some people, like Job's friends, consider suffering is a result for past sins
- God has control of all
- We may not understand why we are suffering
- It is wrong to question God's actions

**Explain why the Apostles' Creed is important for Christians (8)**

- The creed is a statement of beliefs which all Christians adhere to, whatever the tradition of denomination.
- It states that God is a powerful creator
- It explains the importance of Jesus – Crucified, buried and rose again
- It explains the Christian belief in the afterlife and how God will judge of the day of judgement
- It states there is one holy and universal church

**Explain why Christians believe in the trinity (8)**

- Jesus himself referred to himself as the father
- Jesus is god incarnate

- The Holy spirit at Pentecost – speaking in tongues
- The holy spirit changing and guiding people in their lives e.g when St Peter went from a coward to showing courage after receiving the holy spirit at Pentecost
- The Holy Spirit, God the father and Jesus all present at the baptism of Jesus.

#### **Explain why Christians believe Jesus was divine (8)**

- He is the incarnation – “God in human flesh”
- He performed miracles
- He was born of a virgin through the power of the Holy Spirit
- His crucifixion and resurrection
- His ability to raise the dead
- The voice of God appearing at his baptism
- The transfiguration of Jesus in front of his apostles

#### **Explain the Christian teaching about the Crucifixion of Christ (8 marks)**

- The death of Jesus was part of a divine plan
- The death of Jesus was necessary to allow the resurrection to take place
- The crucifixion of Jesus was an act of atonement for the sins of people
- The crucifixion is part of the process for the redemption/salvation of humanity
- Reference to Biblical texts, such as Luke 18:31-33 <sup>31</sup> - *Jesus predicts his death*
- The crucifixion was a fulfilment of Old Testament prophecy

#### **Explain why there are differing interpretations of the Genesis creation account? (8)**

- Some fundamentalist Christians believe the story to be absolutely true in every detail – literal interpretation
- Some Christians do not doubt it as it is the word of God
- Other Christians believe the story to be more symbolic and myth like in nature
- Some believe a day in the literal sense – 24 hours, therefore reject the Scientific theory
- Many other Christians see the term day as representing a longer period of time, so 7 days actually means millions of years.
- Some believe in both scientific big bang and creation story – Maybe God started the big bang

#### **Explain why Christians believe heaven is important (8)**

- Christians believe heaven is to be in the presence of God
- Christians believe that heaven will be a paradise
- Christians believe heaven is a reward for a life of faith and good works
- There is a diversity of viewpoints about heaven within different Christian traditions – literal vs state of mind
- Reference to Biblical texts, such as Luke 23:43

#### **Explain why Christians believe the Resurrection of Jesus is important. [8]**

- The Resurrection of Jesus is important because it is a miracle.
- The Resurrection of Jesus is the greatest miracle.
- Miracles are a sign of God's power.

- This event demonstrates Jesus is God.
- It fulfils a prophecy made by Jesus before his death.
- Christians believe Jesus' Resurrection defeats death.
- The belief in the Resurrection of Jesus is a fundamental belief of the Christian religion stated in the Christian creeds.
- It precedes the Ascension of Jesus to Heaven.
- 1 Corinthians 15:3-8 12-14: *3For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, 5and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. 6After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. 7Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, 8and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born. 12But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? 13If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. 14And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith.*

## **15 mark Questions**

**(d) 'The most important Christian belief is that God is omnipotent (allpowerful).'**

Discuss this statement, showing that you have considered more than one point of view. (You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.)

Marks for spelling, punctuation and the accurate use of grammar are allocated to this question. [15 marks + 6 SPaG]

The focus of the question is whether it is the most important belief.

- It is important because Christians believe that God's omnipotence is shown in creation, God created the world and everything in it.
- It is important because Christians believe that God's omnipotence is shown as he continues to act in the world today and sustains the world.
- God's omnipotence is demonstrated in Exodus 7:11 when he spoke to Moses and helped him to free the Jewish people from slavery.
- Another line of argument might be that other beliefs about God are equally or even more important. The belief that God is omnibenevolent is also important, shown by him sending Jesus to save the world from sin – specific references may be made to John 3:16.
- The belief in the Incarnation of God as Jesus is the most important because it is a uniquely Christian belief.
- There are many passages in the Bible that reference that God is omnibenevolent. Specific reference may be made to Psalm 86:15.
- St Paul speaks of God's omnibenevolence, referencing his love for humanity, a love which humans will always have that cannot be conquered (Romans 8:37-39).
- Some would argue that omnipotence cannot be an attribute of God, because if God is all powerful why does evil and suffering exist? Epicurus (and others) concluded that a god who is both omnibenevolent and



omnipotent cannot exist alongside evil and suffering.

- The Trinity is a key belief in Christianity, the beliefs and teachings about the oneness of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Specific references may be made to John 10:30 and John 14: 6-11.
- Another line of argument could be that God's omnipresence is more or most important. Christians believe that God is omnipresent and is acting in the world today through the Holy Spirit.
- Beliefs held by Christians about God's omniscience could be more or most important.
- The belief in the existence of God is the most important belief as without that all other beliefs are pointless

**'Religion can't help people who are suffering.'**

**Do you agree? Give reasons or evidence for your answer, showing that you have thought of more than one point of view. You must include reference to religious beliefs in your answer.(15)**

- Medical support will have more effect on those suffering from an illness.
- Practical help is of more use than religion.
- For some people it is because of religion that people suffer.
- For some people their faith gives them support and inspiration.
- The belief in the power of prayer.
- The importance of the power of prayer.
- Religion can't provide answers to Ultimate Questions like 'why do innocent people suffer?'
- Some believers may consider suffering is part of a divine plan and shouldn't be helped.
- Stories from Sacred Texts can give support and inspiration, e.g. suffering of Jesus.

**“Beliefs about heaven are the most important Christian beliefs.”**

**Discuss this statement showing you have considered more than one point of view. (You must refer to religion and belief in your answer)  
[15 + 6 SPaG]**

**The focus of the question is whether they are the most important beliefs.**

- Heaven may be considered the most important Christian belief because the belief in heaven gives Christians hope that death is not the end.
- It may also be considered the most important belief because it shows God's omnibenevolence.
- Heaven is an important belief because it provides comfort when Christians have lost loved ones.
- The belief in heaven is important because the Bible describes it as paradise where Christians will spend eternity with God, this gives Christians hope.
- Christian beliefs about Jesus may be more important, as Christians believe without Jesus' sacrifice heaven would not be a possibility.
- Beliefs in heaven may be the most important belief as this belief will impact how Christians live their lives, Christians will follow the Bible and Jesus' teachings to ensure they are worthy of heaven after death.
- Christian beliefs about creation may be important as this demonstrates God's omnipotence.
- Beliefs about the Trinity may be more important as they explain the nature and oneness of God.

- Beliefs about salvation and atonement may be considered equally as important as these beliefs link with beliefs about heaven.

**“The Bible need to be adapted to suit the modern world”**

**Do you agree? Give reasons or evidence for your answer, showing that you have thought of more than one point of view. You must include reference to religious beliefs in your answer.(15)**

- Many teachings in the Bible are outdated and written during the a period of time when women had little rights – St Paul – *“Women should remain silent in the churches”*
- Holy books are often interpreted so general message might be followed but not every word
- Many issues of religious life aren’t referred to in sacred scriptures – e.g abortion and Euthanasia
- Some are not expected to be taken literally – maybe poetically or allegorical
- It depends upon interpretation
- Sacred texts are often believed to be divinely inspired – “word of God”
- Some Christians would say even when Science seems to contradict some of the stories that appear in the Bible, the bible account is still correct.
- Sacred scriptures are eternal and their messages and relevance don’t change
- It is important in religion to obey even those things you don’t agree with

**For Christians, the Bible is the most important source of authority.' [15]**

**Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view. (You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.)**

*Marks for spelling, punctuation and the accurate use of grammar are allocated to this question.*

- The Bible is the revealed word of God and is the most important source of authority for many Christians.
- There are other important sources of authority for Christians, such as personal conscience.
- The Bible cannot be the most important source of authority because it is out of date.
- Many Christians look to other sources of authority, such as local religious leaders.
- Many Christians look to world leaders of Churches, such as the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Pope.
- Because some Christians believe the Bible is not literally true it has to be interpreted in a modern context.
- The Bible cannot be a source of authority on some modern issues.

**“Jesus was an ordinary man” (15)**

**Do you agree? Give reasons or evidence for your answer, showing that you have thought of more than one point of view. You must include reference to religious beliefs in your answer.(15)**

Christians believe Jesus was the Son of God/God incarnate

- Christians believe Jesus was also human
- some people believe Jesus was simply an ordinary man who preached a particular ethical code some people do not believe Jesus performed miracles
- Christians believe Jesus was able to perform miracles
- Some people do not believe that Jesus rose from the dead
- Christians believe Jesus rose from the dead
- Jesus was born, lived as a man and died
- Some people regard Jesus simply as an historical figure.
- Some people (e.g. Muslims), believe that Jesus was an important prophet from God but not God incarnate
- Some people would say Jesus is one of the most influential figures who ever lived and, therefore, not ordinary
- Ordinary people don't have millions of followers and the influence to change people's lives and communities, but belief in Jesus continues to do such things
- Ordinary people are not worshipped two thousand years after they lived like Jesus is

**"Christian beliefs about hell are out of date"**

**Do you agree? Give reasons or evidence for your answer, showing that you have thought of more than one point of view. You must include reference to religious beliefs in your answer. (15)**

**Agree:**

- An all loving God (omnibenevolent) would not want to send people to hell
- God would forgive everyone – no need to send people to hell
- Hell is just a place where there is no God
- Hell is state of mind rather than physical place
- Modern scientific evidence proves there is no heaven in the sky and hell underground
- Catholic teachings suggest you can cleanse your sins in purgatory and still go to heaven
- Little description in the Bible

• **Disagree:**

- Traditional beliefs hell is a literal place.
- It teaches Christians that there is punishments for their sins
- Teachings in the Bible
- Parable of the sheep and goats
- Parable of the rich man and Lazarus

**d) 'For Christians, the resurrection of Jesus is the most important belief.' Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view. (You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.) [15]**

- For Christians the most important belief is belief in God, stated as the first belief in the Apostles' Creed, 'I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.'
- The resurrection of Jesus is the most important Christian belief because Christians believe the resurrection of Jesus is evidence Jesus is the Son of God.

- The resurrection of Jesus is evidence death has been defeated and is the basis of the Christian belief in resurrection and eschatological beliefs.
- It is not possible to say which belief is the most important belief, as a number of Christian beliefs are recorded in the Christian creeds.
- Of all the miracles recorded in the gospels the miracle of Jesus' resurrection is the greatest.
- The incarnation is the most important belief because Christians believe God becomes Man, 'God made flesh' in the person of Jesus Christ.
- The most important belief is belief in the Christian belief of the Trinity; Jesus' resurrection is only one aspect of this belief.
- It could be argued that the most important belief is to love one's neighbour
- It could be argued that the most important belief is in humans as stewards of God's creation

## **Christianity Practices**

### **(a) State two ways in which Christians may worship God. [2]**

- Sing hymns
- Prayer (either alone or as a community)
- Reference to specific acts of worship, e.g. Eucharist
- Carrying out acts of charity
  - Pilgrimage

### **(a) State the meaning of evangelism [2]**

- Preaching the gospel to others in hope of converting them
- To spread the Christian faith
- Preaching the good news
- Shows the way Christians live their life, not just talking about their religion

### **(a) State two ways in which Christians may work for reconciliation. [2]**

- Different denominations working together
- Inter faith dialogue in a pluralist society
- Through the ecumenical movement and worldwide council of churches

### **(a) What is meant by sacraments [2]**

- An outward sign of an invisible blessing from God, for example baptism and Eucharist
- Christian rites
- Actions, words and objects are physical sign of receiving God's blessing

## **5 mark questions:**

### **(b) Describe how Tearfund helps those in need. [5]**

- Tearfund is a charity that provides emergency aid in many parts of the world
- Tearfund provides development aid in some of the poorest parts of the world
- Tearfund raises public awareness of social issues, such as poverty and discrimination
- Tearfund campaigns against the causes of poverty
- Tearfund provides practical help in order to act out teachings of Jesus
- Tearfund encourages self-help for individuals and communities

**(b) Describe a celebration of baptism. [5]**

- Baptism traditionally takes place in a church or chapel.
- An order of service is used.
- A font or baptismal pool is used for baptism.
- Baptism is usually performed by a priest or minister.
- In infant baptism a baby traditionally is dressed in white.
- Parents or godparents make promises to bring up a child within the Christian religion.
- Some denominations, such as the Church of England, present parents or godparents with a candle.
- In Infant Baptism water is traditionally sprinkled on the head of a baby.
- In Infant Baptism the Sign of the Cross is made on the forehead.
- In Believer's Baptism full immersion in a baptismal pool may take place.
- Baptism is usually witnessed by family, friends and the church community.

**(b) Describe what Jesus taught about prayer (5)**

- Jesus' teaching about praying in private
- Length of prayer
- Humility in prayer
- Persistence in prayer

**(b) Describe how Christians celebrate Christmas (5)**

- During advent Christians may attend carol concerts and attend nativity plays as part of the celebration of Christmas.
- Christians sing Christmas carols in church services.
- Christians may decorate their homes, and may include a crib or nativity scene.
- Christians may exchange Christmas gifts.
- Christians may exchange Christmas cards, especially with cards which have religious images and messages.
- Christians attend additional church services on Christmas Eve, such as 'Midnight Mass', and on Christmas Day and St Stephen's Day (Boxing Day).
- Christians may make a donation to charity.
- Churches may provide practical support for those in need, such as individuals and families living in poverty and the homeless.

**(b) Describe how Tear Fund help those in need (5)**

- Tear Fund have raised public awareness of social issues and poverty
- Campaigns against the causes of poverty
- Gives practical help to act out the teachings of Jesus to help others
- Encourages self-help for both individuals and communities
- Setting up sports clubs for teenagers and children in Colombia
- Offer mentoring to equip them with life skills

**(b) Describe how Open Doors help those in need (5)**

- Distributes bibles and other resources to Christians who are persecuted
- Trains Christians and church leaders to deal with the trauma of persecution
- Provides practical support to those who have been the victims of disasters
- Speaks on behalf of persecuted Christians to raise awareness
- Lobbying MPs and UK government

- Churches pray and may send money to those persecuted

**(b) Describe the community of the worldwide Church (5)**

- To spread the message of salvation
- Spread the gospel and evangelise others
- Missionary work
- Bring health and education support to poor and disadvantaged
- Ecumenical – Worldwide council of churches working together

**(b) Outline different Christian responses to persecution (5)**

- Support the work of open doors and Christian freedom international
- Some Christians distribute bibles
- Train Christians and church leaders
- Provides practical support for victims
- Speaks on behalf of Christians
- Lobby MP's, UK government

**(b) Outline the purpose of pilgrimage to Christians (5)**

- Act of religious devotion
- Walk in the footsteps of Jesus
- Faith in action
- Time to pray and think
- Act of penance (saying sorry to God)
- Become closer to God
- Spiritual healing
- To be with other Christians

**(b) Outline the Christian teachings on the Eucharist (5)**

- Roman Catholics view the bread and wine become body and blood of Jesus – Transubstantiation
- Church of England believe Christ is present spiritually rather than physically
- Baptist Christians believe the ritual of Eucharist is simply an act of remembrance – memorialism
- Sacrament of the Eucharist is important to spiritual health and survival
- It is an act of thanksgiving – for the life and death of Jesus
- Brings Christians closer to God
- Christians should do it in memory of Jesus.
- It is the new covenant

**(b) Outline reasons why Christians worship God (5)**

- Brings them closer to God
- Helps them have a relationship with God
- To show adoration to God
- To give thanks to God
- To confess their sins to God

**(b) Describe evangelism worship (5)**

- It demonstrates the presence of the holy spirit
- Spontaneous

- Charismatic
- Resembles how some early churches worship
- Speaking in tongues
- Arms in the air
- Lying on the ground

## **8 mark Questions:**

### **(c) Explain how Christians work for reconciliation (8)**

#### **Corrymeela**

- Promotes reconciliation between Christians and other faiths in conflict.
- Gives opportunities for dialogue and working together
- Run children's programmes and workshops
- Organises residential conferences for people to work on shared activities

#### **The world council of churches**

- Holds a special week of prayer every year for Christian unity
- Brings church denomination together in more than 110 countries
- Churches together movement grew out of the world council of churches
- Focuses on fellowship of those that share the Christian faith
- Special ecumenical services are held

### **(c) Explain how taking part in pilgrimage might strengthen a Christian's faith (8)**

- Pilgrimages seek healing or forgiveness, to connect to God to deepen their faith.
- Pilgrims can learn from each other.
- Jerusalem – visit key places in Jesus' life and death.
- Walsingham – Visit shrines to become closer to God.
- Lourdes in France – experience the miracle of God's healing power
- Provide spiritual healing
- Taizé community in France – Join worship in a monastery – remove distractions of modern day living and focus on their faith.
- Taizé and Walsingham – Ecumenical – promotes unity between churches providing the opportunity to connect with others from across the Christian faith.

### **(c) Explain why Easter is an important celebration for Christians (8)**

- Celebrates Jesus' victory over death
- God raised back to life – The resurrection
- Reminds people that God loves them so much he was willing to suffer on the cross
- Gives them hope of eternal life
- Demonstrates that Jesus is God (divine)
- Holy week – The events leading up to Easter Sunday are important – Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem
- Jesus giving the new covenant at Passover – breaking the bread and giving the wine

### **(c) Explain why baptism is important for many Christians. [8]**

- For some Christians baptism is a sign of acceptance into the Christian Church
- Infant baptism gives Christian parents an opportunity to celebrate the birth of a child
- Many Christians, in particular Catholics, believe original sin is removed through the action of baptism
- Baptism was practised in the Early Church

- Christians follow the example of Jesus who was baptised as an adult
- Baptism is a rite of passage in the Christian religion
- For some Christians baptism is a sacrament
- Believers' Baptism in the Baptist tradition for example, gives an individual an opportunity to publicly proclaim faith for themselves

**(c) Explain why Christians have different beliefs about Baptism. [8]**

- Christians have different beliefs about Baptism because different Christian traditions have a different view of how many sacraments there should be.
- Eastern Orthodox and Catholic traditions believe Baptism is one of seven sacraments. Each sacrament is regarded as a central aspect of the Christian journey through life.
  - Many Protestant churches, such as the Church of England, and the Catholic Church use infant baptism, which is followed with confirmation. Baptism is regarded as entry into the Christian community.
- Christian denominations, such as the Salvation Army and the Quakers (Society of Friends) do not regard Baptism as a sacrament. Members of the Salvation Army, for example, practice inward baptism.
- Most Protestant denominations accept Baptism as a sacrament because it is associated with the life of Jesus as recorded in the New Testament.
- Many evangelical churches use the ritual of total immersion but do not believe baptism is a sacrament.
- In the Baptist tradition, 'believers' baptism' takes place when a Christian is able to declare their personal faith. As Jesus was baptised as an adult, Baptists believe they are following the example of Jesus.
- Some Christians believe that infant baptism is important because it washes away Original Sin.

**(c) Explain how Christians use prayer in worship (8)**

- Forgiveness
- Themselves/family
- Those who are ill
- Church events, activities
- Giving thanks to God
- Vision and renewed energy
- During mass or holy communion – liturgical worship
- Becoming quiet to pay attention to God's presence

**(c) Explain the different understandings of the Eucharist for Christians (8)**

- Roman Catholics believe in transubstantiation – wine and bread become the flesh and blood of Jesus at mass.
- Catholics believe they receive a saving power of Jesus into themselves through the bread and wine
- Methodist and Anglicans believe Holy Communion is more of a re-enactment. They believe in a presence of Jesus but not transubstantiation
- Baptists believe the bread and wine are symbols, but believe God is present through the act of Christians coming together to share communion.
- Lutherans believe in consubstantiation

**(c) Explain the social role of the church in the local community (8)**

- Provide regular services, quiet reflection



- Provide rites of passage such as baptism, weddings and funerals
- Youth groups and Sunday schools to engage young people
- Support and advice – visiting the sick and elderly and praying
- Street pastors – volunteer in big cities and towns
- Foodbanks- donate food
- Raise money for charity
- Crèches and nursery care

**Explain different Christian beliefs about the Eucharist. [8 marks]**

The focus is on different Christian beliefs.

- There are many different Christian beliefs about the significance of the bread and wine in the Eucharist.
- The belief (mostly Catholic) that during the Eucharist the bread and the wine become the actual body and blood of Jesus Christ (Transubstantiation).
- Many Christians believe that the bread and wine contain Jesus' spiritual presence, but it is not the flesh and blood of Jesus (Consubstantiation).
- Some Christians believe that the bread and wine are symbols of Jesus' body and blood. They use these symbols to bring the church community together. Often non-alcoholic wine is used and bread is passed person to person through the congregation.
- Some Christians see the Eucharist as an act of commemoration, a reenactment of Jesus' last supper. The bread and wine are symbols of the sacrifice Jesus' made.
- Some Christians believe that Jesus is mystically present in the bread and wine

**(c) Explain why pilgrimage is important to some Christians. [8]**

- Pilgrimage can deepen a Christians connection with God.
- Pilgrimage allows Christians to meet with other Christians from across the world, helping them to feel part of a wider Christian community.
- Pilgrimage is important as it can allow Christians to learn more about the origins and history of their religion.
- It is important because it allows Christians to see sites where miracles have happened.
- Some Pilgrimage sites are believed to provide opportunities for healing.
- Pilgrimage is important because it can strengthen a Christians faith, giving them time out of their everyday life and allowing them to focus on their faith and relationship with God.
- Pilgrimage may be important because some pilgrimage sites allow Christians to walk in Jesus' footsteps which may help them to feel closer to God.

**(c) Explain why pilgrimage to Taizé is important to Christians. [8]**

- Taizé is an ecumenical monastic community.
- Taizé attracts thousands of visitors each year, especially young people, on retreat.
- Taizé is an ecumenical centre for Protestants and Catholics.
- Taizé welcomes visitors of faith or none.
- It is a centre for reconciliation.
- When people visit Taizé as pilgrims they join in with monastic worship at the 'Church of Reconciliation' and experience Taizé worship at first hand.

- Taize chants and music have become popular in many churches in Britain
- Brothers from Taize take part in out-reach activities throughout the world.

## 15 mark Questions:

### (d) 'Great Britain is a Christian country.' [15]

**Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view including the fact that religious traditions in Britain are in the main Christian and also diverse. (The diversity includes the following religious and non-religious traditions: Christianity, Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, Sikhism, Humanism and Atheism).**

- Britain's laws, customs and festivals are based on Christianity
- Over half of those who completed the 2011 census said they considered themselves Christian
  - Many people still have rites of passage ceremonies in church (christenings, weddings, funerals)
- Some Christian churches are growing (evangelical churches)
- Church leaders still have influence; there are Bishops in the House of Lords
  - Although Great Britain has mainly Christian traditions, there is an increase in non-religious beliefs and society has become more secular (shops open on a Sunday and relaxing of divorce and abortion laws etc.)
- Although Great Britain has mainly Christian traditions, it is also very multi-faith with large communities of people of other faiths, including Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Sikhism, who have different places of worship, dress codes, languages etc.
- Non-Christian festivals are now celebrated all over Great Britain

### (d) 'Christians should always go on pilgrimage.' (15)

**Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view.**

Agree:

- It is an act of religious devotion
- Act of atonement
- Historical reasons
- Brings people of the Christian faith together – Ecumenical movement of Taize
- Can practice their faith without fear of persecution
- Walk in the footsteps of Jesus – Holy land
- It is faith in action representing the journey Christians undertake from earth to heaven
- Brings them closer to God
- Can provide spiritual healing

Disagree:

- It could be a distraction
- The miracles at the places happened a long time ago.
- Events happened so long ago they aren't relevant now
- Can see the sites through the internet.
- Money would be better spent on other things.
- Worship can happen anywhere as God is everywhere so no need to go on a pilgrimage to become close to God.

**(d) 'Worship should always take place in private'. (15) Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view.**

**Agree:**

- Private worship can help them keep God in their mind throughout
- Greater freedom to worship in private
- They can decide how they worship – Grace before a meal or singing a song
- They feel a better connection to God because of the freedom
- Brings them family closer by praying at home together

**Disagree:**

- It says in the bible that worshipers should worship together at church as well as individually.
- Ensures all Christians follow the same format - Liturgical during mass in Catholic Church
- Being involved in the wider Christian community brings them closer to God.
- Congregation in church says the Lord's prayer and "share the peace" by shaking hands
- Following the traditions of liturgical worship helps Christians feel connected throughout history.

**"All Christians should evangelise others (15).**

**Do you agree? Give reasons or evidence for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. You must include reference to religious beliefs in your answer.**

Disagree with statement

- Religious faith is own personal business and shouldn't be discussed.
- People can be discriminated against if they tell anyone
- People may try to change your beliefs.
- Different view-points within families can cause arguments.

Disagree with statement

- People shouldn't be ashamed as it's a part of their identity
- Some consider it a religious duty
- Interesting for other people to know and helps them be aware of different practices.
- Reference to scriptural texts - ***Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit*** – Matthew 28:19-20
- Importance of inter-faith dialogue

**"Only adults should be baptised" (15)**

**Do you agree? Give reasons or evidence for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. You must include reference to religious beliefs in your answer.**

- Baptism should be a believers choice to follow Jesus
- Infant are unable to repent or sin or to choose to be baptised
- Infant baptised is a form of coercion
- An infant may be dedicated in a church but baptism must be their own choice
- Baptism is a sign of God's unconditional love for his children
- Jesus welcomed children and early church
- It a sign of welcome into the family of the church
- Confirmation, completes baptism which is celebrated at adulthood
- Jesus was baptised as an adult

**"Christmas is no longer a religious festival in today's society" (15)**

**Do you agree? Give reasons or evidence for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. You must include reference to religious beliefs in your answer.**

**Agree:**

- Many people practice it in relation to modern customs such as Santa Claus, giving presents
- It encourages greed such excessive eating and drinking
- It has been devalued and the true meaning of Christmas has gone
- It has retained too much pagan influence, such as Christmas trees.
- Church attendance has fallen for some churches at this time of year
- Christmas is celebrated by non-Christians in the UK
- Many regard it as a winter festival rather than religious

**Disagree:**

- Many Christmas celebrate advent beginning four Sundays before Christmas
- Church attendance often increases during the Christmas period for some churches showing there is still importance of the religious meaning
- Roman Catholic and Anglican churches celebrate midnight mass many go to church on Christmas morning to celebrate.
- Many churches celebrate after Christmas day with the Epiphany - Magi going to see Jesus
- Gifts can be given to symbolise God's gift to the world was Jesus.
- Christingle service where children make a Christingle (orange with candle) to celebrate Jesus as the light of the world.

**'Easter is the most important Christian festival' (15)**

**Do you agree? Give reasons or evidence for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. You must include reference to religious beliefs in your answer.**

**Agree:**

- It marks the day of Jesus' resurrection
- It remembers Jesus' life leading up to his death
- It is a day to celebrate God's rescue plan – Salvation of sins through Jesus' death
- It remembers Jesus' last meal with his disciples
- Remembers the new covenant given by Jesus through the bread and the wine – Eucharist
- Celebrates the victory of life over death through the resurrection of Jesus.

**Disagree:**

- Christmas – celebrates the birth of Jesus – incarnation
- Christmas celebrates the miracle of the virgin birth
- Christmas – recognises the coming of the Messiah – the prophecy foretold
- The importance of Christmas is reflected in a period of advent before.

**"Reconciliation is not possible" (15)**

**Do you agree? Give reasons or evidence for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. You must include reference to religious beliefs in your answer.**

**Agree:**

- Difficult to achieve in a pluralist society
- There are many different Christian denominations
- Reconciliation is the idea of making up after an argument
- There is still disputes between many Christian denominations

- Many Christians still believe there should just be one church

**Disagree:**

- Ecumenical movement – different Christian churches working together
- The world council of Churches – promote Christian unity
- Ecumenical movement – different Christians sharing churches and service
- Pilgrimage sites Taize – ecumenical
- Locally churches work together
- Week of prayer in January – ecumenical services held

**‘Baptism is the most important sacrament’ (15)**

**Do you agree? Give reasons or evidence for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. You must include reference to religious beliefs in your answer.**

**Agree:**

- It is rite of entry into the church
- Many Christians believe it removes original sin
- Follows the example of Jesus who was baptised
- Gives a chance to publically declare their personal faith
- It the first sacrament, acting as a covenant
- There are many references in the Bible about the importance of it
- St Paul says its directly links us with the death and resurrection of Jesus.
- Jesus gives instructions to his disciples to baptise others
- It is a sign of a gift of the holy spirit
- Some Christians believe you must be baptised to enter heaven

**Disagree:**

- Some believe Eucharist is – final meal Jesus had
- Remembers the new covenant given by Jesus through the bread and the wine – Eucharist
- Eucharist brings them closer to God
- Jesus instructed his disciples to do it in remembrance of him
- RC – believe in transubstantiation – it becomes body and blood of Christ
- Eucharist is important to spiritual and physical health

**‘Faith is best shown through charity work’ (15)**

**Do you agree? Give reasons or evidence for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. You must include reference to religious beliefs in your answer.**

**Agree:**

- It can inspire others
- It is following the example of Jesus
- Demonstrates agape
- Demonstrates “love thy neighbour”
- Refer to the work of tearfund
- Actions speak louder than words
- It is a respectful way to demonstrate faith without offending others in a pluralist society
- It is a way to share the “good news” through actions

**Disagree:**

- Evangelism is the best way to show their faith
- It is the mission of the churches to spread the Christian message of salvation
- Jesus instructed to spread faith through evangelism - ***“Make disciples of all nations”*** (Matthew)
- Many Christians see it as their duty – Jehovah witness
- Faith is best shown shared by telling others about Jesus’ message

**“Prayer should be inspired and not learned off-by-heart.” (15)**

**Do you agree? Give reasons or evidence for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. You must include reference to religious beliefs in your answer.**

**Agree:**

- Informal worship emphasises the importance of the presence of the holy spirit
- It demonstrates a personal relationship with God
- Means Christians can worship anywhere – adaptable
- Informal worship more inspiring and engaging
- Protestant Christians have direct access to God through Christ
- Prayer should be about making faith deeply personal
- Considered more spiritually honest if it is informal or individual
- Meaning is lost when set prayers like the Lord’s prayer is said
- Benefits of extemporaneous/spontaneous prayer

**Disagree:**

- Prayers become collective through learn off by heart set prayers
- Set prayers are part of tradition of some Churches and can be dated back hundreds of years
- Set prayers were originally passed on through word of mouth rather than written down
- It means everyone is saying the same prayer and understands the meaning of it.
- Church of England - Book of common prayer
- Importance of liturgical worship

**d) 'Christianity in Britain is on the decline.' [15]**

Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view. (You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.)

Answers may include the following points, but other relevant and accurate points must also be credited.

- Christianity in Britain is on the decline because most people do not worship in church on a Sunday.
- Many people claim to be Christian even though they do not attend church.
- Many people in Britain claim to be atheist or agnostic.
- Many customs today remain rooted in the Christian religion.
- There are many other religions in Britain so Christianity has declined as Britain has become more pluralist in religious belief and practice.
- There are many diverse religious and non-religious beliefs and practices found in the UK.
- Many Christian festivals are celebrated in a secular way.
- Many Christians attend church each week and celebrate festivals, such as Christmas and Easter in a religious way.
- Reference results of the 2011 census; the census results show a decline in Christian belief and practice.

**(d) 'Christians are no longer persecuted for their faith.' Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view. [15].**

- The persecution of Christians has taken place since the beginning of Christianity and Christians are still martyred for their faith.
- If Christians were not persecuted today there would be no need for Christian evangelical organisations, such as Open Doors and Christian Freedom International. These organisations are a source of practical assistance for Christians; working to support the human rights of persecuted Christians and supplying Bibles.
- Christians may not be persecuted in the UK but are persecuted in other countries, especially where Christianity is a minority religion.
- Examples of persecution today include martyrdom, attack or closure of church buildings, unjust imprisonment, and torture.
- Christians are not persecuted in the UK; laws to protect religious freedom, such as the Equality Act, state it is against the law to discriminate against anyone because of their religious beliefs.
- Some Christians believe although they are not persecuted they suffer intolerance and discrimination in the media.
- 'Christianophobia' is a new term used by some Christians for 'intolerance of, hostility towards or discrimination against Christians' which takes place today.

**(d) 'Using set prayers is the best way for Christians to pray.'  
Discuss this statement showing you have considered more than one  
point of view. (You must refer to religion and belief in your answer)  
[15]**

**The focus of the question is whether it is the best way to pray.**

- Set prayers may be considered the best way for Christians to pray as they give structure.
- Some Christians may believe set prayers are the best way to pray because Jesus taught his followers to pray using the Lord's prayer which is a set prayer.
- Set prayers may be the best way to pray as they can be memorised and used both publicly and privately.
- Some Christians believe set prayers are the best way to pray as they provide a sense of community and unity.
- Some Christians may feel informal prayers are a better way for Christians to pray as they are more personal and individual.
- Some Christians may feel informal prayers have more meaning because they are often spontaneous and happen as a result of individual circumstances.
- Informal prayer may be considered better as some may argue Christians think about and choose the words they are saying rather than memorising and repeating set prayers.
- Informal prayers may be considered a better way to pray as they can be reactive to events and circumstances.

**(d) 'The main role of the church is to be used as a place of worship.'**

Discuss this statement, showing that you have considered more than one point of view. (You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.) [15 marks]  
Focus on the uses of the church.

N.B. Candidates might refer to different names that are given to buildings for Christian worship e.g. meeting house.

- The church has other roles that may be equally as important e.g. social

and community functions.

- Community activities that take place in a church can often serve the local community and act as a support e.g. soup kitchens, mother and baby groups, groups for the elderly etc.
- Many churches now provide a social function for the local community, acting as a meeting place for religious and non-religious functions and groups e.g. warm space.
- Working within a local community can give a church the opportunity to put their Christian faith into action.
- Worship does not necessarily have to take place in a church, it can take place in other places e.g. Bible study groups at home, Greenbelt Festival.
- A church is more than just a community space – its main purpose is to worship God.
- Worship takes place regularly in a church, there are often set services throughout the week.
- Matthew 18.20 ('where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I with them') reflects the importance of a church for communal worship.
- Many churches are open during the day for private worship and reflection.
- Features of a church help Christians to worship e.g. the font, stained glass windows, the altar.
- In a church there are leaders (e.g. vicars, priests, ministers etc) whose role it is to lead Christians in worship.
- It is within a church that Christians can join together as a community to worship God.
- Acts of worship that take place in a church often encourage the involvement of and engagement with the local community e.g. celebrations of sacraments and festivals.