REASONS FOR WAR

Theme D Religion, peace & conflict

- 1. The US and UK were accused of invading Iraq to take control of what resource?
 - A) oil B) water C) gold D) timber
- Give two factors that led two World War 2. [2 marks]
 The rise of the Nazi party in Germany, the invasion of Poland, fascism,
- 3. Explain two similar religious beliefs about retaliation as a cause of war. [4 marks]

 Christians should leave retaliation to God "It is mine to avenge; I will repay. In due time their foot will slip; their day of disaster is near and their doom rushes upon them." Deuteronomy 32:35 Romans 12:19 "Do not take revenge"

 Christians should forgive> "forgive them father, they don't know what they're doing", "forgive seventy times 7"
 - Christians should respond with love, not retaliate "do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good" Romans 12:21
- 4. Explain two religious beliefs about greed as a cause of war. [5 marks]

Catholics view greed as one of the 7 deadly sins> it is not an acceptable reason to start a war> it is evil. "Do not covet"> one of the 10 Commandments

Greed can lead to evil "the love of money can lead to all kinds of evil" 1 Timothy 6:10.

It is not right to gain wealth through the death of others

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5. 'Self-defence is the only good reason for war.'

[12 marks]

Some Christians agree:

Jesus told us to "love our neighbour". If we love our fellow countryman we will be careful to defend them if they come under attack. This is reasonable and fair. Christians believe that human's are made in the image of God and their lives are sacred so should be protected against all attack.

Throughout the Bible, God tells us to defend the vulnerable and the weak, this would apply to defending a nation during an attack.

There are numerous battles permitted by God in the Tenakh that are fought to defend the Israelites

Some Christians disagree:

Jesus taught his followers to turn the other cheek> this is not self-defence but allowing oneself to be placed under further attack

There are non-violent ways of dealing with an issue that do not include going to war

Some Christians would argue that retaliation can be supported as a good reason for war if the intention is to deter countries from further attacks and protect citizens Also defending a weaker nation would also be acceptable to many Christians