# CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

# Theme E Religion, crime & punishment

- 1. Which of the following means something legally done to somebody as a result of being found guilty of breaking the law?
  - A) reconciliation

- B) crime
- C) punishment
- D) protest

2. Give two examples of crimes in the UK.

[2 marks]

Crimes against the person: murder, rape, assault etc

Crimes against property: arson, burglary, vandalism etc

Crimes against the state: terrorism, treason, perjury etc

3. Explain two beliefs about evil.

[4 marks]

People are not evil – but people can commit evil acts/ love the sinner hate the sin/ God loves all but all sin

Evil is an abuse of free will – they choose to do wrong instead of right Satan is the source of evil – he tempts people to commit evil acts

4. Explain two Christian teachings about why people commit evil acts.

[5 marks]

Original sin> everyone is born with a tendency to commit sin> in the Bible Adam and Eve ate 'forbidden fruit' Genesis 3

Temptation > Satan tempts people to commit evil acts > eg. Judas betraying Jesus

#### 5. 'All crimes are evil.' [12 marks]

## Some Christians agree:

All people have Original sin> everyone is born with a tendency to commit sin> in the Bible Adam and Eve ate 'forbidden fruit' Genesis 3> this is shown in the crimes they commit

Crimes hurt people> it is evil to hurt one another> eg. Murder, rape, theft> this is evil as it goes against God's commands> "do not kill"> "love your neighbour"> "treat others the way you'd like to be treated

### Some Christians disagree:

Some crimes are crimes of necessity> done to help others/save life> e.g. stealing food to feed the starving

Some crimes are unjust> "an unjust law is no law at all" Thomas Aquinas> e.g. MLK, Dietrich Bonhoeffer

POTENTIAL WEAK ARGUMENT: Crimes hurt people – do they always?