

0 4 Theme D: Religion, peace and conflict

0 4 . 1 Which one of the following describes why having nuclear weapons might prevent war?

[1 mark]

- A Acts as a deterrent
- B Brings forgiveness
- C Causes terrorism
- D Promotes justice

Target: AO1:1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religion and belief, including beliefs, practices and sources of authority

Answer: A Acts as a deterrent

0 4 . 2 Give two of the criteria for a Just War.

[2 marks]

Target: AO1:1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religion and belief, including beliefs, practices and sources of authority

1 mark for each of two correct points.

If students provide more than two responses only the first two responses should be considered for marking.

Accept responses that give either the criteria or examples of the criteria.

Students may include two of the following points, but all other relevant points must be credited:

It has a just cause / lawfully declared by proper authority like the government / has a good intention / is the last resort / there is a reasonable chance of success – of winning the war / fought by just means, not by weapons which are banned / the good achieved will outweigh the evil and restore peace / avoidance where possible of injury to civilians / care is taken to protect trees, crops and animals / need to overthrow a cruel dictator / stop genocide or other atrocities / bring freedom to a country where the people are oppressed / defend faith and freedoms / in self-defence against an invading army, etc.

0 4 . 3 Explain two similar religious beliefs about peace-making.

In your answer you must refer to one or more religious traditions.

[4 marks]

Target: AO1:3 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religion and belief, including similarities and differences within and/or between religions and beliefs

First similar belief

Simple explanation of a relevant and accurate similarity – 1 mark
Detailed explanation of a relevant and accurate similarity – 2 marks

Second similar belief

Simple explanation of a relevant and accurate similarity – 1 mark
Detailed explanation of a relevant and accurate similarity – 2 marks

If contrasting views are given only one of them may be credited up to 2 marks max.

Students may include some of the following points, but all other relevant points must be credited.

Most religions teach that conflict should be settled in a peaceful way if at all possible so peace-making is important / peace-making is important whether it is between individuals, groups or nations / war brings devastation so negotiations are much better / reconciliation is better than violence / working for peace may result in bringing about forgiveness and understanding / Religions for Peace is a worldwide organization promoting alternatives to war / peace is not just an absence of war; it is also a sense of wellbeing and security which needs to be promoted, etc.

Buddhism

Peace and non-violence are core beliefs in Buddhism / The Noble Eightfold Path / right action / first precept (not to harm any living thing) / karuna (compassion) / promote peace as war is often the result of the Three Poisons (greed, hatred, ignorance) / Peace can exist if everyone respects all others – Dalai Lama / The Dalai Lama won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1992, etc.

Christianity

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God” – Matthew 5:9 / pacifist Christians believe they are following the example of Jesus / ‘turn the other cheek’ / ‘do not kill’ / some Christian pacifists assist the war effort in non-combat roles such as Quakers who are pacifists / Anglican Pacifist Fellowship (APF) founded the Week of Prayer for World Peace / Mairead Corrigan and Betty Williams awarded the 1976 Nobel Peace prize, etc.

Hinduism

Non-violence builds good karma / ahimsa / life should be respected / live according to the dharma, meditating and performing puja and help people to live a peaceful life by creating a peaceful society / peace-making follows example of Mahatma Gandhi / Gandhi taught to be non-violent in thoughts, words and actions / respect the dignity of others and act against injustice by passive resistance, etc.

Islam

Root of word Islam means peace / peace features in main Muslim greeting (Salaam) / peace and reconciliation is better than fighting / wrong to return evil with evil / God forgives and expects people to do the same / The Muslim Peace Fellowship (MPF) works against injustice and promotes peace through conferences, literature and education, etc.

Judaism

Shalom (Peace be upon you) is main Jewish greeting / truth justice and peace keep the world safe / Jews look forward to time of peace because they have suffered greatly in history, eg the Holocaust / Micah 4:3 / 'do not kill' / Dr. Marshall Rosenberg founder of the Centre of Nonviolent Communication / believe in developing good relationships with others and working together on joint projects to make conflict less likely, etc.

Sikhism

Peace is a gift from God / Sikhs believe in the principle of non-violence / Guru Nanak preached peace and tried to identify the root causes of the conflict and show a better, more harmonious way / Sikhs aim to build harmony between faiths and nations although few are pacifists, etc.

0 4 . 4 Explain two religious beliefs about violent protest.

Refer to sacred writings or another source of religious belief and teaching in your answer.

[5 marks]

Target: AO1:1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religion and belief, including beliefs, practices and sources of authority

First belief

Simple explanation of a relevant and accurate belief – 1 mark
Detailed explanation of a relevant and accurate belief – 2 marks

Second belief

Simple explanation of a relevant and accurate belief – 1 mark
Detailed explanation of a relevant and accurate belief – 2 marks

Relevant and accurate reference to sacred writings or another source of religious belief and teaching – 1 mark

Students may include two of the following points, but all other relevant points must be credited:

While the right to protest is protected, there is no right to protest violently in law / a protest that descends into violence is known as a riot / a serious form of violent protest is terrorism where terror is used as part of their campaign to further their cause – this is not supported by any religion / violent protest is likely to turn people against their cause, etc.

Buddhism

Generally Buddhists do not agree with any violent protests as they believe in ahimsa / all protests should be non-violent but it is right to speak out against injustice as that can be seen as the right speech and right action / trying to change injustice is a compassionate act / however there have been occasions when Buddhists have used violence in protests eg against the Chinese occupation of Tibet and the monk Thich Quang Duc set fire to himself to protest against the persecution of Buddhist monks and monasteries by the Government, etc.

Christianity

Christians are told to love their enemies and each other so generally oppose violence protest / Christians like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, and the Civil Rights movement organised peaceful rallies to protest about racial and social inequalities in the USA / many Christians believe that protest to achieve what is right is acceptable providing violence is not used / Quakers are against using violence in any circumstances / a minority of Christians might support violent protest in extreme circumstances like some did in opposing apartheid in South Africa / the example of Jesus using violence in the Temple to overthrow the tables of the money changers may be used to justify such actions, etc.

Hinduism

The principle of ahimsa is key to Hindu life so non-violent protest is seen as much to be preferred than violent protest / however injustice should not be tolerated / some Hindus have set fire to themselves to make a strong protest / Hindus believe that any force has to be used carefully so that it does not cause hate, vengeance, radicalisation and the desire for retribution / “An eye for an eye

will leave the whole world blind.” Gandhi, etc.

Islam

Muslims have a duty to protest about things which are unfair but it should be peaceful if at all possible / “Do not kill each other, for God is merciful to you. If any of you does these things, out of hostility and injustice, We shall make him suffer Fire” – Qur’an 4:29-30 / violent protest may be used in self-defence or defence of Islam / some have used this as an excuse for terrorism and suicide bombings but this is considered wrong and against the wishes of God / “Do not take life, which God has made sacred” – Qur’an 17:33, etc.

Judaism

The books of Nevi'im have stories of the prophets protesting against injustice eg Amos / protests might be necessary to bring about change, especially when vulnerable groups need support / to remain silent when there is injustice is seen as a sin / tactics like civil disobedience (active refusal to obey certain laws) are used rather than violent protest / sometimes violence does erupt as emotions run high but Judaism opposes terrorism, etc.

Sikhism

Sikhs believe in not harming others but there is a willingness to challenge what they see as attack on their religious freedoms / in the UK Sikhs protested about the law making wearing crash helmets while riding motorbikes compulsory / they won their case for turban wearing Sikhs to be exempt / although they do not encourage a violent response they will fight for justice if necessary / the Sikh Khanda symbol includes crossed swords / in India Sikhs have defended themselves against Hindu attacks / Sikhs believe in sewa and will defend the persecuted / the intention is peaceful and non-violent protest is preferred but in practice, violence can happen / “When matters pass all other means, it is allowed to take up arms.” Guru Gobind Singh, etc.

0 4 . 5 ‘Greed or just wanting a better life are never good reasons for going to war.’

Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you:

- **should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement**
- **should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view**
- **should refer to religious arguments**
- **may refer to non-religious arguments**
- **should reach a justified conclusion.**

[12 marks]
[Plus SPaG 3 marks]

Target: AO2: Analyse and evaluate aspects of religion and belief, including significance and influence

Level	Criteria	Marks
4	A well-argued response, reasoned consideration of different points of view. Logical chains of reasoning leading to judgement(s) supported by knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence and information. References to religion applied to the issue.	10–12
3	Reasoned consideration of different points of view. Logical chains of reasoning that draw on knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence and information. Clear reference to religion.	7–9
2	Reasoned consideration of a point of view. A logical chain of reasoning drawing on knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence and information. OR Recognition of different points of view, each supported by relevant reasons / evidence. Maximum of Level 2 if there is no reference to religion.	4–6
1	Point of view with reason(s) stated in support.	1–3
0	Nothing worthy of credit.	0

Students may include some of the following evidence and arguments, but all relevant evidence and arguments must be credited:

Arguments in support

- Throughout history war has been greedily used to gain more land or territory.
- Greed and envy can cause countries to invade others in order to gain control over important resources / such as oil and so become much richer / some believe that the US and UK invasion of Iraq in 2003 was more about gaining control of oil reserves than politics.
- Greedy rulers have wanted to gain more power and have great empires eg Romans and Greeks, etc.

Arguments in support of other views

- There are many causes for war, such as retaliation, self-defence, religion, difference in ideology.
- Most wars are the result of complicated factors and not for just one reason.
- Often wars are fought to resolve an injustice or a conflict which hasn't been resolved by other means.
- Some religions believe in the concept of the Holy War to defend their religion from attack.
- People living in abject poverty might believe going to war to improve their lives is justified and a just cause.
- It is unfair that some people are suffering while others live in plenty, etc.

Buddhism

Buddhism teaches that greed is one of the three poisons and one of the main causes of suffering / there are always unhealthy consequences from actions based on greed / most Buddhists believe that there is no good reason to go to war / there is no such thing as a just war, even in self-defence / Buddhism teaches that all things come into being because they are dependent on certain conditions, and often those conditions are complex / they see most wars being caused by a number of interrelated factors which may include politics, economics, religious beliefs, self-defence, retaliation, the desire to gain territory or resources, etc.

Christianity

Christianity warns that greed can cause a lot of suffering / "For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil" – 1 Timothy 6:10 / a war is not regarded as a Just War if it's purpose is for greed such as to gain territory or resources / may support a war if it is to right an injustice or remove an evil dictator / "if you don't have a sword, sell your cloak and buy one" – Luke 22:36 / some wars have been caused to defend their religion / eg idea of what might be called an Holy War such as the Crusades, etc.

Hinduism

In the Bhagavad Gita, Krishna advised Arjuna to fight as this was the only way to bring a just solution to the problem of the Kurus and Pandus both claiming the kingdom / wars can be to restore justice as in the case of Arjuna / Hindus may fight for freedom from oppression or for the establishment or restoration of good government or in self-defence / sometimes religious beliefs cause conflict / eg Britain expected British Indian soldiers to bite off the ends of new rifle cartridges which had been greased with cow or pig fat / this was forbidden to Hindus (cow protection) and Muslims (pork is a forbidden food) / some wars fought over disputed land eg Kashmir, etc.

Islam

The Qur'an warns against greed – "God does not like arrogant, boastful people, who are miserly and order other people to be the same, hiding the bounty God has given them" – Qur'an 4:36-37 / often the motive for war is complex and greed might be one of many / wrong to go to war just to gain territory / if another country invades to try and get control of resources like oil it is justified to defend their own country and religion / "Those who have been attacked are permitted to take up arms because they have been wronged- God has the power to help them." – Qur'an 22:39 / some wars are caused by retaliation – "Fair retribution saves life for you, people of understanding, so that you may guard yourselves against what is wrong" – Qur'an 2:179 / lesser jihad or holy war may be other reasons for war, etc.

Judaism

In the Tenakh, God expresses his disapproval of greed / the tenth commandment is “You shall not covet” – Exodus 14:17 / “A greedy man provokes quarrels, But he who trusts the Lord shall enjoy prosperity” – Proverbs 28:25 / many wars in the Old Testament were to gain territory eg the conquest of Canaan or in self defence eg against the Philistines / in the 20th Century Jews suffered because of their race and religion because of the Nazi regime / since 1948 Jews have fought to defend Israel and safeguard its territory / “You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against your countrymen. Love you neighbour as yourself” – Leviticus 19:18 / obligatory wars / optional wars / war fought to protect religion, etc.

Sikhism

In Sikhism there are considered to be five moral evils, two of which are connected with greed / Lobh (greed) is seen as a strong desire to have more than one needs or deserves and can cause conflict / Moh, the attachment to worldly possessions / using greed as a reason for war is promoting these moral evils / Sikhs will fight for religious or social equality / Guru Gobind Singh taught that defending themselves and others from oppression and persecution is a religious duty / “When matters pass all other means, it is allowed to take up arms” – Guru Gobind Singh, etc.