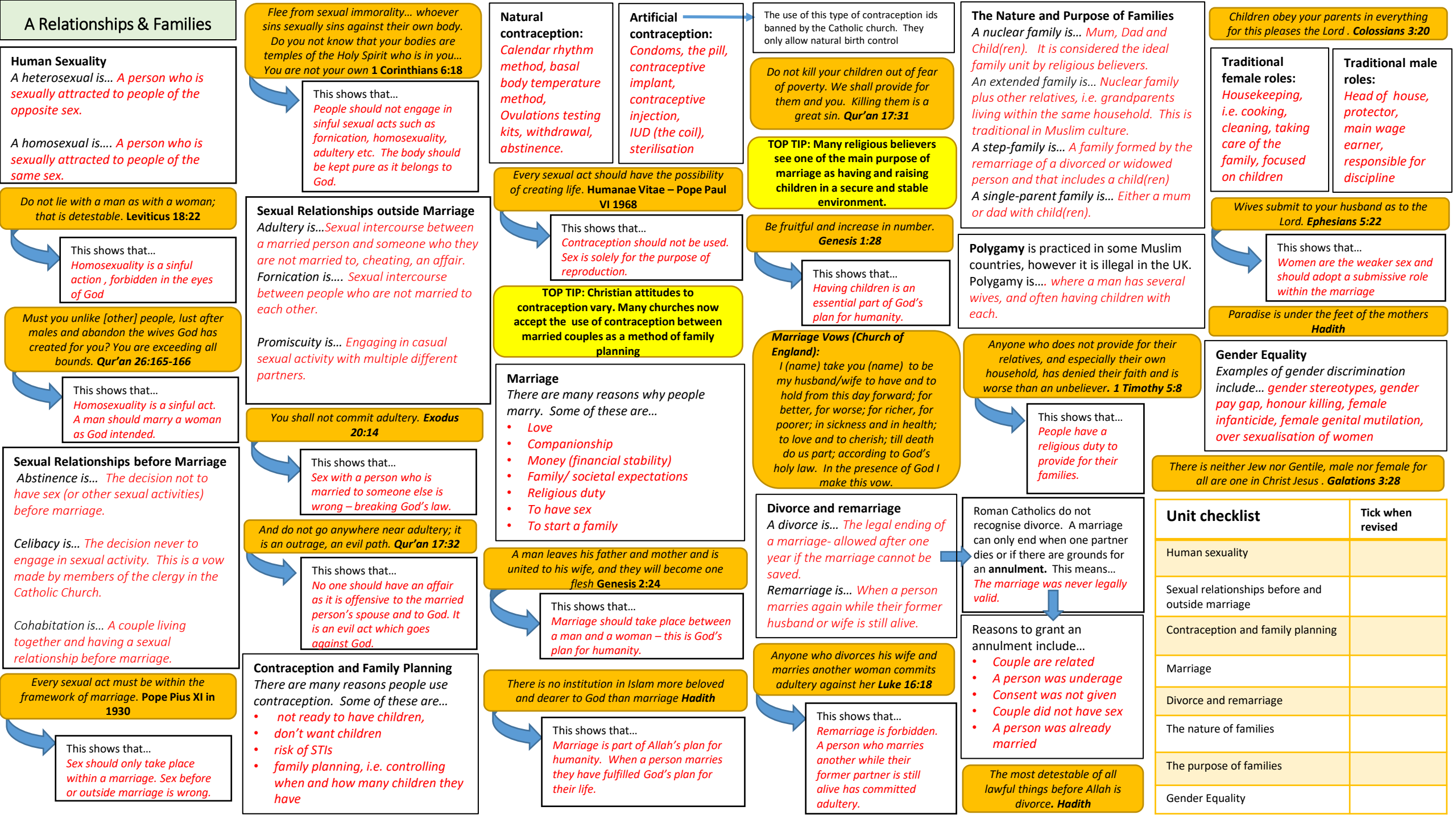




B Religion & Life

The Creation Story – Genesis 1:

1. **God said 'let there be light' and separated light from darkness**
2. **God separated the waters above from the waters below – skies and seas**
3. **God created dry land and added trees, plants and flowers.**
4. **God placed the sun, moon and stars.**
5. **God created sea creatures (fish) and birds.**
6. **God created land animals and finally people (in His image)**
7. **God rested; and made this day a holy day.**

Creation

Literalists believe...

God literally created the world in 6 days. Reject scientific explanations. Because... **The Bible is the word of God and this is what Genesis teaches.**

Non-literalists believe...

The Bible is a metaphor to tell us about our relationship with God. God created the Big Bang, science explains everything else. Because... **The Bible is just a story.**

In the beginning, God created the Heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1

This shows...

God is responsible for creation. Everything in the universe was designed and created by God.

Your Lord is God, who creates the heavens and the earth in six days, then established himself on the throne, overseeing the running of the entire universe. Qur'an 7:54

This shows...

Allah created the world and rules over it. He is the creator and sustainer of the Universe.

The Big Bang Theory:

Scientific approach to answering the question of how the world began. The theory states that around 14 billion years ago, all matter and energy in the universe was contained in a very tiny hot point that had the potential to become something. The point expanded and eventually stars, galaxies and planets were formed.

Evolution:

A theory developed by Charles Darwin on the way that living things have developed and changed over time. All living creatures that exist today, including human beings, have evolved over a period of perhaps millions of years, from more primitive life forms to how they are today by a process of natural selection.

TOP TIP: Big Bang and Evolution are theories – a set of ideas intended to explain something. They have not been proven as fact.

The Value of the World

Stewardship is... God given duty and responsibility to look after the world.

Dominion is... the God given right to rule over nature and decide what happens to the world.

Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground. Genesis 1:26

This shows...

God gave humans dominion over nature. They have the right to decide what happens to all the species on earth.

Environmental Issues:

- Deforestation
- Pollution
- Global warming
- Climate change
- Urbanisation/ Over population
- Land fill sites
- Increased carbon footprint

It is to God that everything in the heavens and earth belongs. God is fully aware of all things. Qur'an 4:126

This shows...

Everything in the heavens and earth belongs to Allah. God watches over the world and has control over all things.

The Animal Welfare Act 2006:

Laws relating to animals and their treatment.

- It is a criminal offence to neglect or ill-treat an animal.
- It is illegal to stage the fighting of animals.
- It is illegal to use animals in the research and development of cosmetics.

For Animal Testing:

- Dominion
- Animals are inferior to humans
- Ensures products are safe for humans
- Medical advancements
- Millions of animals are killed for food.

Against Animal Testing:

- Stewardship
- All life is sacred
- Results aren't guaranteed
- Pain and suffering of animals
- Animals can't give consent
- Alternatives

Whoever kills a sparrow or anything bigger than that without a just cause, Allah will hold him accountable on the Day of Judgment Hadith

This shows...

Anyone who harms or kills an animal without good reason will have to answer for their sins of the Day of Judgement.

Responses to Environmental Issues:

- Planting trees
- Conservation efforts
- Sustainable energy sources
- Walk or share lifts
- Only buying what you need
- Recycling
- Raising awareness

The use of animals by humans:

- Food
- Companionship, i.e. pets
- Assistance animals
- Sport i.e. horse racing
- Work i.e. carrying goods
- Fashion i.e. leather goods
- Entertainment i.e. zoos, circuses

The righteous care for the needs of their animals. Proverbs 12:10

Value of Life

Sanctity of life... the belief that all life is special or sacred as it is created by God. Quality of life... a description of how good someone's life is, including how they feel.

So God created Man in His own image, in the image of God He created them, male and female. Genesis 1:27

Abortion

Abortion is ... the deliberate termination of a pregnancy before full term.

For Abortion:

- Too young to have a child
- Child is unwanted
- Life has not begun
- Cannot survive outside the womb
- Rights of mother more important
- Freedom of choice

Against Abortion:

- Those who have sex must face the consequences
- Sanctity of life
- Playing God
- A potential life is still a life.
- Seen as murder
- Rights of child

Abortion is legal in the UK up to 24 weeks in the UK, (12 weeks in Northern Ireland), if two registered doctors agree the mother or existing children's health is at risk and/or the foetus will be born disabled

Euthanasia

Euthanasia is ... the deliberate killing of a person in order to relieve suffering when the person is suffering from a long term and incurable illness

For Euthanasia:

- Most loving act
- Relieves suffering
- Freedom of choice
- Die with dignity
- Expensive to keep people alive
- Allowed for animals

Against Euthanasia:

- Sanctity of Life
- Against God
- Suffering is a natural part of life
- Illegal in UK
- Seen as murder
- Hospice care

No soul may die except by Allah's permission at a predestined time Qur'an 3:415

This shows...

It is wrong for humans to take a life and interfere with God's plan. Only God can take a life when and He will do at the correct time.

This teaches that...

God is loving and sent Jesus to earth so that we would not perish as a result of sin. Anyone who follows the teachings of Jesus will be saved and receive eternal life in Heaven

Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit. 1 Corinthians 6:19

Pro-Life: A foetus has the right to life from the moment it is created.

Pro-Choice: Women have the right to choose what happens with their bodies

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you. Jeremiah 1:5

This shows...

All people are created by God. Even before we were born, God had planned out our lives.

Do not kill Exodus 20:13

Death and the afterlife

Christians believe in resurrection. After death, the body awaits judgement where each person will be judged for their beliefs and actions. If they are good, they will be rewarded in Heaven. If they are bad, they will be punished in Hell.

Muslims also believe in resurrection. At death, the body waits in the grave (barzakh) and sees the events of its life. On judgement day, people are sorted according to their actions. The wicked are cast into hell (Jahannam), and the good go to Paradise (Jannah).

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

Unit checklist

Origins of the universe

The value of the world

Use and abuse of the environment

Use and abuse of animals

Value of human life

Abortion

Euthanasia

Death and the afterlife

Tick when revised

D Peace & Conflict

Peace and Conflict

Peace is... An absence of war/conflict which leads to happiness and harmony.
Conflict is.... A serious disagreement or argument.

Blessed are the peacemakers. Matthew 5:9

This shows that...

Those who work to create peace will find favour with God.

Incline towards peace Qur'an 8:61

Pacifism

Absolute Pacifism is... The belief that it is absolutely never acceptable to take part in any form of war or violence, even in self-defence or to protect others from harm.
Conditional Pacifism is... The belief war and violence are wrong, but there may be certain extreme conditions when violence is the lesser of two evils and therefore can be used.

Some religious believers have refused to participate in war on the grounds of their conscience or beliefs. They are called: **conscientious objectors.**

Love your enemies. Matthew 6:43

This shows that...

Christians should set aside any wrongs they feel towards someone, and treat everyone with love.

Violent Protest:

Threatening behaviour
Terrorist acts
Rioting
Looting
Flag burning
Assassination of a public figure

Non-Violent Protest:

Speeches
Marches
Leaflets or posters
Banners
Petitions
Boycotts
Sit-ins
Protest art

The purpose of terrorism lies not in the violent act itself. It is in producing terror. It sets out to inflame, to divide, to produce consequences when are then used to justify terror. **Tony Blair**

Terrorism is...

The unlawful use of violence, usually against innocent civilians, in order to achieve a political or religious goal. An extreme form of violent protest.

TOP TIP: Not everyone who uses violence to promote a cause is considered to be wrong. Freedom fighters like Nelson Mandela have used violent methods to overthrow unjust or oppressive governments.

Reasons for War

There are many reasons countries engage in war. Some of these are...

- Self-defence
- Protecting civilians
- Retaliation
- National Pride
- Gain resources (greed)
- Fight injustice
- Settle differences
- Create peace

He will judge between the nations are settle disputes... Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war. **Isaiah 2:4**

This shows that...

God will settle disagreements – we should not intervene. Countries should not take up arms against each other (go to war).

Those who have been wronged are permitted to take up arms because they have been wronged. God has the power to help them. **Qur'an 22:38**

This shows that...

Islam is not a pacifist religion. Those who have been wronged have permission to retaliate/go to war

Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs)

These are weapons which kill large numbers of people indiscriminately and/or cause damage to the natural environment.

Nuclear deterrence is... The ownership of nuclear weapons in order to prevents war as it makes people think twice before attacking out of fear of what might happen .

Arguments for WMDs:

Nuclear deterrence,
Safe in the right hands,
Cannot uninvent them,
Brings a swift end to conflict (i.e. WW2),
Getting rid leaves countries vulnerable

Arguments against WMDs:

Creates bully states,
Uncontrollable,
Unreasonable force,
Kill indiscriminately,
Long-term effects,
Expensive to develop and maintain

Do not kill Exodus 20:13

Just War

Internationally accepted criteria for fairness in war, when all other solutions have failed developed by St. Aquinas.

His rules are:

- The war must be for a just cause
- The intention must be good
- War must be a last resort
- Reasonable chance of success
- No unnecessary force
- War must be declared by a lawful authority

Know that the evil of war is swift and its taste bitter **Hadith**

Jihad is an Arabic term which means to 'struggle'.

Lesser Jihad is... The struggle within the religion of Islam to build a good Islamic society and protect the faith. This can allow for the use of force to defend Islam (Holy War).

TOP TIP: The media typically refers to acts of terrorism as Jihad. This is a harmful misconception.

Holy War

A holy war is... A war fought for a religious cause or for God. Holy wars are usually controlled by a religious leader.

Then the Lord said to Joshua, 'Do not be afraid, do not be discouraged. Take the whole army with you and go up and attack Ai **Joshua 8:1**

This shows that...

God is commanding Joshua to go to war in His name. he is not to be afraid as God is by his side.

The Crusades

These were a series of holy wars between 1096-1291. The key Christian objective was to reclaim the Holy Land (Jerusalem) which was part of the Muslim empire. In 1095, Pope Urban II declared an armed pilgrimage to Jerusalem and many volunteered to help. Jerusalem was first reclaimed in 1099 but the war continued as Christians went back on their promise to protect innocent life by slaughtering hundreds of men women and children.

Rules for Lesser Jihad:

- Only act in retaliation
- Must be a last resort
- Fought to bring good
- No harming innocents
- No damaging property
- Treat POWs with respect
- Peace must be restored
- Must be declared by a religious leader

Consequences of War

War can have a devastating impact on countries and individuals. Such as...

- Loss of life
- injuries
- Destruction of property
- Damage to the economy
- Destruction of crops
- Water pollution (leading to disease)
- Homelessness
- PTSD

Treat others as you wish to be treated. Luke 66:31

This shows that...

Christians are called to treat everyone with love and respect. This is the way we would all like to be treated.

Helping Victims of War

Many religious charities such as Christian Aid, the Red Cross, Islamic Aid and the Red Crescent movement work to help those affected by war. Help can include:

- Praying for victims
- Charitable donations
- Providing food/clothing
- Medical care
- Counselling and support
- Rebuilding homes
- Rehoming orphans
- Providing emergency shelter

Whoever saved a single life, it would be as if they saved the life off all mankind. **Qur'an 5:32**

This shows that...

Allah heaps rewards on those who save the life of another. Every life is sacred to Allah.

Do not let evil defeat you, instead overcome evil with good. **Romans 12:21**

Forgiveness and Reconciliation

Forgiveness is... A decision to let go of resentment and thoughts of revenge, accepting an apology.
Reconciliation is... The restoring of friendly relations after a conflict or disagreement.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. **The Lord's Prayer**

This shows that...

If we want to be forgiven by God, we must also be willing to forgive those whi have wronged us.

Those who pardon and maintain righteousness are rewarded by God. **Qur'an 42:40**

This shows that...

Those who forgive others do what is right in the eyes of God and will be rewarded for their efforts.

The Parable of the Sheep and the Goats. Matthew 25

This teaches that...

Encourages Christians to give to charity and help others because they will be rewarded with heaven.

Unit checklist	Tick when revised
Pacifism	
Attitudes to violence	
Reasons for war	
Weapons of Mass Destruction	
Just War	
Holy War	
Helping victims of war	
Forgiveness and reconciliation	

E Crime & Punishment

Crime and Punishment

Crime is... *An action which breaks the laws. An illegal act.*
Punishment is.... *A consequence or penalty which is given when someone commits an offence*

Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established.
Romans 13:1

This shows that...
We should follow the law as all leaders (good or bad) have been placed there by God (part of His plan). Do not fall into lawlessness.

Causes of crime

There are many theories o explain why people commit crime. These include:

- **Upbringing**
- **Poverty**
- **Lack of education**
- **Unemployment**
- **Greed**
- **Addiction**
- **Pressure from others**
- **Mental health problems**
- **Free choice of the individual**

Types of crime

There are many different types of law-breaking activity.

Crime against a person: *Offences which cause direct harm to an individual.*

Crime against property: *Offences which damage or deprive people of their possessions and property.*

Crime against the state: *Offences which potentially endanger everyone and affects the smooth running of society.*

Hate crime: *A crime motivated by prejudice (judging someone without knowing them).*

Good and Evil

Good is... *something which is morally right or correct. Something which brings benefits and is desirable.*
Evil is... *something which is immoral, wrong or bad. Something which causes suffering or pain.*

Where does evil come from?

There are many theories on where evil originates. Some of these are...

- **Abuse of free will (personal choice)**
- **Opposite to good**
- **The devil**
- **God**
- **Human weakness**
- **Selfishness**
- **Chaos**

Do not let evil defeat you, instead overcome evil with good. **Romans 12:21**

This shows that...
Everyone is capable of evil but we must resist temptation. Evil can be overcome by following Christ's example of being good.

Do not take revenge my friends but leave room for God's wrath **Romans 12:19**

TOP TIP: most religious people believe that people who commit evil acts are still redeemable. Religions believe in evil actions rather than evil people.

List some examples of:

- **Crime against a person:** *murder, manslaughter, rape, assault, wounding with intent, domestic violence, poisoning*
- **Crime against property:** *Arson, burglary, theft, trespassing, shoplifting, bank fraud, smuggling*
- **Crime against the state:** *Terrorism, treason, mutiny, selling secrets, lying under oath, espionage.*
- **Hate crime:** *A crime committed due to prejudice such as racism or sexism. This can include: verbal abuse, cyber bullying, assault, harassment, arson, murder*

Suffering as a Result of Crime

Suffering refers to feelings of pain, distress or hardship. This can be either physical or emotional.

How might the following people suffer as a result of crime?

Criminal: *will face a punishment for their crimes (retribution), victim may seek revenge, may feel guilt or shame over their actions.*

Victim: *may experience physical harm or death, loss of possessions, emotional distress, lasting trauma, i.e. PTSD.*

Victim's family: *emotional distress caused by watching a loved one suffer, possible bereavement, possible financial burdens due to legal proceedings, PTSD*

We glory on our sufferings because we know that suffering produces perseverance, character and hope **Romans 5:3-5**

This shows that...
There is hope to be found in suffering. Going through suffering is character building and makes us stronger.

You are sure to be tested through your possessions and persons; you are sure to hear much that is hurtful... if you are steadfast and mindful of God, that is the best course **Qur'an 3:186**

This shows that...
This life is a test and we will all endure hard times. However, those that remain faithful and do what is right will be rewarded.

Supporting victim of crime:

- **Emotional support/counselling**
- **Security measures, i.e. alarms**
- **Property repairs**
- **Fundraising**
- **Legal advice**
- **Witness protection programs**
- **Practical support, i.e. food shop**

Aims of Punishment

Deterrence is... *an attempt to discourage people from committing crimes.*

Protection is... *a security measure to keep the public safe and keep order within society.*

Reformation is... *an attempt to change the criminal's behaviour in a positive way so they can be rehabilitated.*

Retribution is... *making the criminal pay for what they have done. Payback or revenge.*

If there is injury, you are to take la life for a life, an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth' **Exodus 21:23**

This shows that...
Punishment should reflect the crime and be inflicted in a like for like manner – retribution.

Types of Punishment

Community service is ... *unpaid work in the community as punishment for a crime.*

Corporal Punishment is... *the use of physical pain as punishment for a crime – illegal in the UK.*

Prison is... *a building where criminals are held as punishment in the interests of public safety.*

Restorative justice is... *sessions where criminal reflect on why their crime was wrong and its effects on others.*

Cut off the hands of thieves, whether they are man or woman; a punishment by way od example from Allah for what they have done. **Qur'an 5:38**

This shows that...
Corporal punishment can be used against those that commit crimes – this is the will of Allah. Corporal punishment is still used in some Muslim countries.

God commands justice...and prohibits wrongdoings . **Qur'an 16:90**

Capital Punishment

Capital Punishment is... *the legally authorised killing of a person as punishment for a crime. The death penalty.*

For Capital Punishment:

- **'An eye for an eye'**
- **Prisons aren't harsh enough**
- **Justice – closure for family**
- **Ultimate deterrence**
- **Keeps society safe**
- **When someone takes a life, they lose their right to life**

Whoever sheds the blood of a man, by man shall their blood be shed. **Genesis 9:6**

This shows that...
Anyone who murders another must be punished. This suggests that those who kill another should face capital punishment.

Amnesty International the world's largest human rights organization founded in 1961 completely disagrees with the death penalty, seeing it as cruel, inhumane and degrading.

Treatment of Criminals

Most Christians believe the law has a responsibility to punish and care for criminals while trying to reform them. Though some Christians want more of an emphasis on justice – 'an eye for an eye'. Criminals should be treated fairly and humanely.

Islam emphasises the justice of Allah and accountability for one's actions. This means that severe crimes should have extreme punishments attached to them. However, the Qur'an also talks of mercy and forgiveness.

Do not take a human life which Allah has made sacred, except by legal right. This is what He commands you to do; so that you may use your reason . **Qur'an 6:151**

Against Capital Punishment:

- **Miscarriages of justice**
- **Too easy**
- **Inhumane**
- **All life is sacred**
- **Abolished in many countries**
- **Circular – makes us as bad as the criminal**

Forgiveness

Forgiveness is... *A decision to let go of resentment and thoughts of revenge, accepting an apology.*

Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother who sins against me?... Jesus answered: 'I tell you, not seven times, but seventy- seven times'.
Matthew 18:21-22

This shows that...
Forgiveness is not a one time act, but rather is a process of letting go of hurt, anger and bitterness..

Unit checklist

	Tick when revised
Causes of crime	
Types of crime	
Suffering as a result of crime	
Aims of punishment	
Types of punishment	
Capital Punishment	
Treatment of criminals	
Forgiveness	