



GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES

PAPER 2: THEMATIC STUDIES

PERSONAL LEARNING CHECKLISTS

2022

Theme B: Religion and Life	
Origins of the universe	
Religious views of creation	
Big Bang theory	
Relationship between religion and science	
Evolution	
Value of the world	
Stewardship	
Dominion	
Awe and wonder	
Environment	
Recycling	
Natural resources	
Pollution	
Animals	
Food	
Experiments	
Animal abuse	
Human life	
Sanctity of life	
Abortion	
Euthanasia	
Fertility treatments	

Theme C: Existence of God and revelation	
Philosophical arguments for and against the existence of God	
The Design argument	
The First Cause argument	
The argument from miracles	
Evil and suffering	
Arguments from science against the existence of God	
The nature of the divine and special revelation	
Special revelation	
Visions	
Enlightenment	
General revelation	
Different ideas about the divine that comes from revelation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Omnipotent • Omniscient • Personal • Impersonal • Immanent • Transcendent 	

Theme D: Religion, peace and conflict	
Religion, violence and terrorism and war	
The meaning and significance of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peace • Justice • Forgiveness • Reconciliation 	
Violence, including violent protest	
Terrorism	
Reasons for war	

Just War theory	
Holy War	
Pacifism	
Religion and belief in 21st century conflict	
Religion and belief as a cause of war and violence	
Nuclear weapons	
The use of weapons of mass destruction	
Religion and peace-making, including the work of individuals	
Religious Responses to war, including the work of religious organisations	

Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment	
Religion, crime and the causes of crime	
Good and evil intentions and actions	
Reasons for crime: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poverty • Upbringing • Mental illness • Addiction • Greed • Hate • Opposition to an unjust law 	
Views about people who break the law	
Views about the different types of crime: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hate crimes • Theft • Murder 	
Religion and punishment	
The aims of punishment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retribution • Deterrence • Reformation 	

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The treatment of criminals: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prison• Corporal punishment• Community service	
Forgiveness	
The death penalty	
Ethical arguments relating to the death penalty <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Principle of utility• Sanctity of life	