



## AQA REVISION BOOKLET

# THEMES: WAR, PEACE AND CONFLICT

## Y11 REVISION BOOKLET

Name:

Class:

**Introduction**

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**Violence, violent protest  
and terrorism**

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**Reasons for War**

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**Nuclear War and WMD**

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**The Just War**

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**Holy War and religion as  
a cause of conflict**

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**Pacifism and  
peacemaking**

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**Victims of War**

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# INTRODUCTION TO RELIGION, PEACE AND CONFLICT

## A Summary

History informs us that people have gone to war. Often the aim of the war is to create peace, happiness and harmony.

## Justice and War

Keyterms:

Justice –

Reconciliation –



anquillity. A state or period in which

been entirely at peace for 268 of them, or just 8

**Forgiveness: Stop feeling angry or resentful towards (someone) for an offence, flaw, or mistake.**

*Christians are taught to forgive others: 'Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.' (Lords prayer)*

## What do these key quotes tell us about war?

“Blessed are the peacemakers.”

“Forgive and you will be forgiven, judge and will be judged.”

“Love your enemies.”

“A time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.”

# VIOLENCE, VIOLENT PROTEST AND TERRORISM

## Violence and Protest

We have the right to protest in the UK as part of democracy. Peaceful protests are acceptable if the police are made aware 6 days before. This cannot be violent! Otherwise arrests can be made.

Terrorism is the unlawful use of violence. This is often against civilians and is a more unwarranted form for protest. The attacks are made to intimidate people and make them feel unsafe. Remember, all religious and political groups have committed acts of terrorism!



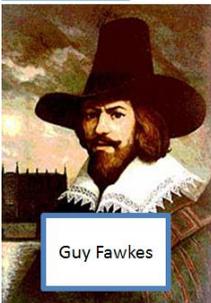
Suffragettes



Bin Laden



7/7 Bombings



Guy Fawkes



KKK Member



Saddam Hussain

Rank the following from the least to worst evil.

*I think the worst terror offence is...*

*I think the most acceptable terror is...*

### The use of protest to change laws.

Laws should be followed because they create order and protect people. The Bible advises Christians to follow the law:

*'It is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified.'*

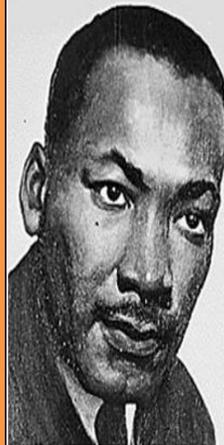
What does this mean?

Protests against unjust civil laws can be justified. The Bible also advises people to stand up to what is right and challenge what is unjust. For example, MLK and the civil rights campaign.

*'Jesus said, we must obey God rather than men'*

*'Faith Without action is dead.'*

How might this influence a Christian?



We cannot be truly Christian people so long as we flaunt the central teachings of Jesus: brotherly love and the Golden Rule.

— Martin Luther King —

AZ QUOTES



## CAUSES FOR WAR

What do you think is the most justified cause of war? Why?

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What do you think is the least justified cause of war? Why?

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What other alternatives to war might be considered?

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..... of modern day terrorism?

..... on victims?

..... on emergency services/national security?

..... on society in general?

## REASONS FOR WAR

Look at the images below and complete a description of the different causes of war:



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**“For the love of money is the root of all evil” (Christianity)**

What does this mean?

Which cause of war does this link to?

**“An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth.”**

What does this mean?

Which cause of war does this link to?

**“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)**

What does this mean?

Which cause of war does this link to?

**“If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also.”**

What does this mean?

Which cause of war does this link to?

**General Christian beliefs:** These teachings are easy to follow in their own lives, but can sometimes be difficult to follow in times of war. This is because civilian protection is always an authority, and usually people in positions of power have the final say on whether a war is justified or not.

**Islam teaches that God knows the need for and allows fair retribution. Torture and mutilation are strictly forbidden under Islamic law. Forgiveness is a better response to avoid bloodshed and be rewarded by God.**

## **NUCLEAR WAR AND WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION**

**WMDs- Weapons that kill a large number of people causing great damage. In the world today, most of the major world powers have WMD's. Many people support them because they deter other countries from initiating war.**



*The United States detonated two nuclear weapons over the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki as a way of ending the war in South Pacific. The war in Europe was over, however Japanese forces refused to surrender. The bombs were dropped to minimize US casualties (many had been killed previously in the Pearl Harbour attacks. Japan announced surrender six days later.*

*The first large scale use of chemical weapons was during World War I. They were primarily used to demoralize, injure, and kill entrenched defenders. The types of weapons employed ranged from disabling chemicals, such as tear gas, to lethal agents like phosgene, chlorine, and mustard gas.. The skin of victims of mustard gas blistered, the eyes became very sore and they began to vomit. Mustard gas caused internal and external bleeding and severe damage to the lungs (breathing). This prompted the need for*

*Secret operations to assassinate enemies in WWII often involved using the chemical weapon Anthrax. Anthrax causes blisters on the skin, breathing problems, similar to the plague. It is often used on envelopes, disguised as post. When victims open the envelopes they become infected with Anthrax poisoning. During the Vietnam War, Viet Cong guerrillas used needle-sharp punji sticks dipped in feces to cause severe infections after an enemy soldier had been stabbed.*

Christians have a long history of refusing to take part in war. Many Christians are pacifists of various types. These often protest against any type of violent protest.

Jesus said, 'love thy neighbour' and often going to war is the most loving thing to do. Think about the Jews in the holocaust.

Christians should follow the Just War theory. This basically states if all other attempts at stopping a war have been exhausted, then a war is ok.

Sometimes we have to stop tyrants. Hitler would not have been stopped if it wasn't for war. Sometimes it is the only answer.

'An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth.' Killing is the best form of justice for tyrants.

Two countries with weapons are unlinkey to attack eachother

'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.'

Often the people who are affected most by war is civillians and children. This is never acceptable.

To say there can never be war is naïve. History tells us that wars are necessary in order to live in peace.

## JUST WAR

*Just War – a war that the Christian Church defines as acceptable: this must fit certain criteria. Many other religions have also adopted this theory.*

*Summarise the Just War theory in thirty words:*

*Challenge: Discuss with a partner whether World War II met this criteria.*

- **For**
- **Against**



There must be a just cause e.g. self defence.

The aim of the war must be to bring back peace.

The war must be a last resort – all other ways of ending conflict have tried and failed.

There must be a reasonable chance of success.

Civilian (non military) casualties should be avoided.

The war must be started and controlled by an official authority e.g. the UN.

Methods must be proportional, e.g. it is not fair to use nuclear weapons against a country because it had invaded a small island.

Remember the mnemonic CLIPS:

Cause – just cause

Last – Last resort

Intention- Last intention

Proportionality – force should not be excessive.

Success- A reasonable chance of success.

**Holy War: Is fighting for a religious cause or God, probably controlled by a religious leader.**

**Religion is sometimes seen as a cause for violence in the contemporary world.**

- ***Holy wars have religious aims or goals. They are authorised by God or by a religious leader.***
- ***Those who take part believe they will gain a spiritual reward, such as heaven.***
- ***Religious leaders may declare a holy war to defend their religion or their followers who are being persecuted in another country.***
- ***Sometimes holy wars are used to spread the faith of a religion.***

<i>"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts."</i>	Does this quote support the Just war theory? Why/Why not?	Does this quote support Holy War?
<i>Jesus taught Christians to "Love your enemies"</i>		
<i>I have not come to bring peace, but a sword." (Jesus)</i>		
<i>'An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth?</i>		

## PACIFISM AND PEACEMAKING

*Pacifism is the belief that violence cannot be justified.*

*Pacifists believe people should use non-violent means to end conflict in times of war.*

*People who are firmly opposed to warfare are called Conscientious objectors.*

*They may refuse to fight but they may help in other ways such as driving ambulances.*

*Peacemaking: The action to support creating peace.*



*"We utterly deny all outward wars and strife and fightings with outward weapons, for any end or under any pretence whatsoever, and this is our testimony to the whole world."*

*"Blessed are the peacemakers"*

How does this support pacifism?

How might it influence a Christian?

*The act of Lesser Jihad encourages Muslims to defend others/their local community if they're being unfairly treated.*

How might this influence a Muslim today?



*Jesus said, "Love thy enemy."*

What actions might a pacifist complete whilst trying to follow this teaching?

*"Blessed are the peacemakers"*

How does this support pacifism?

How might it influence a Christian?

Quakers believe that war and conflict are against God's wishes and so they are dedicated to pacifism and non-violence.

From a practical point of view they think that force nearly always creates more problems than it solves.

### Arguments in support of pacifism:

- War causes death and destruction.
- War is expensive and often unsuccessful.
- War often impacts civilian life.
- Peaceful methods of resolving conflict are better for society.

### Arguments in against pacifism:

- Fighting against threat or way of life.
- Life may be under threat.
- To stop dictators, or evil rulers.
- For land, money or power.

What is your opinion? Is pacifism the best attitude towards war? Why?

What might a Christian say?

What might a Muslim say?

## RELIGIOUS RESPONSES TO VICTIMS OF WAR

Who are victims of war? These can include members of the armed forces, the families of those who have died, orphans, the injured or civilians left in a war zone where everything has been destroyed.

Christians try hard to help those affected by providing aid and support in line with the teaching 'love thy neighbour.'

Muslims also aimed to support them by providing relief. For example, through Zakat.

Task: Look at the images of the victims below. From the list of ways to support victims, annotate the pictures with ideas of how you could help them.



*Psychological/emotional support/money to live on for the family/a safe place to live/medical help for injuries/access to food and clean water/a means of earning a living wage.*

**Islamic Relief provides short-term aid to victims of war during disasters and emergencies. They also work alongside communities to help prepare and strengthen them in the long term. Many communities may choose to donate to Christian Aid as part of Zakat.**

*'Whoever saves a life, it is as though they have saved all of mankind.'*

**How does this quote link to the work of Islamic Aid?**

**Christianity: Many Christians support organisations like Christian Aid that help victims of war because a basic Christian belief is to 'Love your neighbour as yourself' (Mark 12:31). Jesus explained this to his followers by telling them the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37). The meaning he was conveying is that everybody is everybody else's neighbour, regardless of race, age, gender, religion or political beliefs.**

*"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."*

**How does might this quote be used to justify the work of Christian Aid?**

# EXAM QUESTIONS

## Introduction/Violence, violent protest and terrorism

Which of the following refers to the religious ideal of making the conscious effort to rebuild a relationship damaged by conflict(1m).

- a. Justice
- b. Forgiveness
- c. Reconciliation
- d. Peace

Name two forms of peaceful protest (2 marks)

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- Explain two beliefs in contemporary British society about peace. Refer to the main religious tradition in Britain in your response. (4 marks)

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Explain two contrasting religious beliefs about terrorism. Refer to scripture in your response. (5 marks)

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**Just War/Holy war and religion as a cause of violence**

Which of the following refers to fighting for a religious cause? (1m)

- a. Just War   b. Violence   c. Holy War   d. Peace

Name two components of a Just War (2m)

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Explain two beliefs in contemporary British society about the conditions for war. Refer to scripture in your response. (4m)

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Explain two religious beliefs about the use of violence. Refer to scripture in your answer. (5 marks)

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**Pacifism and peace making/Religious responses to victims of war:**

Which of the following refers to the belief of people who refuse to take part in war and any other form of violence? (1m)

- a. Conscientious Objector
- b. Peace making
- c. Pacifist
- d. Terrorist

Name two examples of peacemaking in contemporary Britain (2m)

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Explain two beliefs in contemporary beliefs in British society about helping victims of war. (4m)

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Explain two religious responses to victims of war. Refer to scripture in your response. (5 marks)

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