

<b><u>Religion, peace and conflict</u></b>		
1.	What does peace mean?	Peace means that everyone in the world lives in harmony and there is no conflict. Many organisations, such as the United Nations (UN), work to find peaceful solutions to disputes and to end all wars, all over the world. Christianity, Islam and Judaism all encourage believers to work towards achieving peace in the world.
2.	What is pacifism?	A pacifist is someone who has strongly held beliefs that war and physical violence are wrong. Pacifists believe that all disputes should be settled peacefully
3.	What is conscientious objector?	There were pacifists in Britain who refused to fight in the world wars. These 'conscientious objectors' went to prison rather than go against their beliefs -they were prisoners of conscience. They suffered humiliation in prison, and after they'd been released. Cowards, traitors or deserters they were often called.
4.	Is there only one type of pacifism?	There are different degrees of pacifism -some people are against violence under any circumstances, whereas others may disagree with violence, but understand that sometimes violence is the least horrible option.
<b><u>Violence</u></b>		
5.	What is the link between crime and violence?	Crime is a source of a lot of violence. E.g. assault or murder
6.	Who is protesting linked to violence?	Violence can occur during protests a protest is when a group of people join together to campaign for a cause they support. While many protests occur peacefully, some protests become violent if protesters don't feel their views are being heard.
7.	What is terrorism?	Terrorism is when a person or group deliberately seeks to cause fear and inflict suffering on other people through violence sometimes for political reasons. The attack on the World Trade Centre by the terrorist organisation al-Qaeda in New York in September 2001 was the worst terrorist attack in history.
8.	What is war?	War is when two or more groups or countries fight one another. It's usually decided by governments.
9.	How is war and terrorism linked?	War and terrorism have caused many deaths. Lots of religious people believe in the sanctity of life argument that life is given by God and is sacred, so war and terrorism are in direct conflict with this.
<b><u>Causes of war</u></b>		
10.	How is religion a cause of war?	This has been the cause of many conflicts in the past and the present. Crusades are an example of one.
11.	How does self-defence relate to war?	Started to combat a threat from another country or to stop them from attacking first. E.g. a pre-emptive strike.
12.	What is tribalism?	People feeling loyal to a group. This tends to trigger wars where a group of people fight for their own independent state
13.	Can wars be due to self-interest?	GREED/ECONOMICS -acts of aggression (attacking without provocation) are condemned by the UN, so purely economic wars driven by greed (e.g. raids and invasions to gain territory or goods) are few and far

		between. Economic factors still have an impact though poverty and economic imbalances can make wars more likely.
14.	How is retaliation a cause of war?	A war might be started in revenge for something. E.g. World War One started after Franz Ferdinand, Archduke of Austria was assassinated.
<b>War and morality</b>		
15.	How can a moral theory be applied?	Religious and non-religious people might turn to situation ethics to decide if a war is 'just'. They'd look at all the factors surrounding the case, and choose what they think would most likely bring about peace in that situation by <i>doing the most loving thing</i> .
16.	What is a summary of the Just War Theory?	From the just war (justum bellum) tradition, theorists distinguish between the rules that govern the justice of war (jus ad bellum- before war) from those that govern just and fair conduct in war (jus in bello) and the responsibility and accountability of warring parties after the war (jus post bellum)
<b>God and War</b>		
17.	What is holy war?	A holy war is one where people believe that God is 'on their side'. Wars are mentioned in both the Old Testament and the Tenakh, and in the Qur'an
18.	What were the crusades about?	In the past, holy wars have been fought over territory or to convert people. E.g. the crusades in the 11th to 13th centuries. However, holy wars can be declared for different reasons, such as to protect a religion
19.	How is religion linked to war?	Religion has been a factor in modern wars too (though often not the only factor). Although the civil war in Syria didn't start over religion. Sunni and Shi'a Muslims have fought on opposite sides. Jews and Muslims are on opposing sides in the conflict in Palestine.
20.	How is religion sometimes blamed?	Atheists and humanists, who don't believe in God, have criticised religion for causing conflict and wouldn't support starting a war over religion - but neither would many religious people. Some atheists and humanists also identify as pacifists, and don't agree with conflict being used at all.
21.	Christianity and Just Wars	Although war goes against the teachings of Jesus, most Christian denominations accept that there can be such a thing as a 'just war'. They would agree with the conditions of the Just War theory. It doesn't mean that the war is right - it's just not the worst option.
22.	Bible quotes relating to Just Wars	Some interpret this verse as meaning the government has the right to use violence to ensure peace: <i>"...if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer."</i> Romans 13:4 NIV. Some believe that sometimes war is the only way to find peace, e.g. against an evil regime. Christians are taught to "Love your neighbour" (Mark 12:31 NIV) this could involve defending people in war.
23.	Christianity and holy war	In the 11th, 12th and 13th centuries. Christians went on crusades to 'free' the Christian holy places in Palestine. The wars caused a lot of devastation. In the past, holy wars were fought to convert other people to Christianity. Jesus told his disciples "Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword" (Matthew 10:34)

		NIV). Many think Jesus wasn't actually talking about violence here -he meant, that spreading the Christian message would cause divisions between believers and non-believers.
<b>Religion and peace</b>		
24.	Christianity	Many of Jesus's teachings show that peace is the ultimate goal for all human beings.
25.	What does it say in the Bible about peace?	Isaiah 9:6 referred to the Messiah as the "Prince of Peace" (NIV) - Christians believe Jesus was the Messiah and God wanted him to create peace on Earth. For Christians, Jesus's command to "Love your enemies" (Luke 6:27 NIV) is very important in the way they live their lives. He said that people shouldn't allow the Old Testament teachings about retaliation: "You have heard that it was said, Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth' But I tell you... If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also." Matthew 5:38 39 NIV
26.	Was Jesus against war?	Jesus said "all who drew the sword will die by the sword" (Matthew 26:52 NIV), suggesting that people who engage in conflict will die because of it. In his Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said "Blessed are the peacemakers" (Matthew 5:9 NIV). He also told his followers "Peace I leave with you: my peace I give you" (John 14:27 NIV).
27.	Do Christians follow Jesus?	Dorothy Day was a Catholic activist who followed Jesus's pacifist's teachings. She protested against the Spanish Civil War, WW2, violence and nuclear weapons in the USA. She co-founded 'The Catholic Worker' a newspaper which was firmly anti-war and eventually evolved into a pacifist group of campaigners.
28.	Who was Archbishop Oscar Romero?	Archbishop Oscar Romero worked for peace during turbulent times in 1970s El Salvador. He raised awareness of the suffering and violence people were being subjected to by the, military and the police. He helped those affected by the cruelty, fought for their rights and promoted peace between opposing groups. He was killed for his beliefs in 1980.
29.	How does MLK link to pacifism?	Dr Martin Luther King was a Baptist minister who dedicated his life to trying to change the way black people were treated in the USA. He organised peaceful marches rallies and boycotts and in 1965 blacks were given equal voting rights with whites
30.	What do the Quakers feel about war and violence?	The Society of Friends (Quakers) is opposed to war under all circumstances because of their belief in peace. Christians tend to use passive resistance against injustice campaigning without violence. They believe that the light of God is in all humans.
31.	How can Christian charities aid peace-making?	Tearfund helps people who are refugees from war torn areas. They help people in the short term by giving them some food and somewhere to stay. However, they also help people to get back on their feet permanently by teaching them valuable skills they can use to support themselves. Pax Christi is a Catholic organisation that works for peaceful conflict resolution

<b><u>Weapons and Mass destruction</u></b>		
32.	What are WMD?	Some wars have used weapons of mass destruction (WMDs). These are weapons that can destroy large areas of land and/or lots of people all at once. E.g. chemical, biological and nuclear weapons. They're indiscriminate - they harm soldiers and civilians alike.
33.	WMD and the law	Chemical and biological weapons are banned by international law using them is considered a war crime.
34.	What are some arguments against them?	Nuclear weapons are costly. Many people argue that funds could be better spent, e.g. on healthcare. Many religions believe in the sanctity of life - life was given to humans by God and should be respected. Widespread suffering caused by nuclear weapons completely goes against this.
35.	What are some arguments for them?	Some have a utilitarian perspective - the best course of action is the one that brings about the best balance of positive and negative results. The USA bombed Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan in WW2 as they thought that using nuclear weapons would save the most lives overall, and end the war faster. Nuclear weapons could be used by a country in order to defend itself if under attack or would act as a deterrent for a country declaring war against them in the first place.
36.	What are the main Christian views?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some Christians use Jesus's teachings about peace to argue against nuclear weapons. All Christian denominations are against using them.</li> <li>• However, some think nuclear weapons help to keep the peace as countries are afraid of starting a nuclear war</li> </ul>

### **Christian quotes**

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"Love your enemies" (Luke 6:27 NIV)

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