For 10-mark exam practice questions students should use the content in the Key Question feature.

Chapter 1

Exam practice, 1.2, page 5

1 a) What is meant by the word ‘homosexual’? [1 mark]
   b) What is meant by the word ‘heterosexual’? [1 mark]
   c) What is celibacy? [1 mark]
   d) Name a country where same-sex marriage is legal. [1 mark]

1 a) A person who has a sexual attraction to someone of the same sex.
   b) A person who has a sexual attraction to someone of the opposite sex.
   c) Choosing to remain unmarried and without sexual relations.
   d) Answers may include the UK, Australia, France, Canada, New Zealand and Germany. Valid alternatives will be accepted.

Examiner’s advice: Short-answer questions worth 1 mark always test knowledge. You will not be expected to write more than a short sentence for your answer. It is advisable to make sure you learn all the words in the vocabulary boxes as definitions of key words may be asked in short questions.

2 Explain why some people choose to be celibate. [5 marks]

The content of your answer could include the following:

- A person may feel called to a vocation, such as to serve God as a priest, and celibacy is a requirement of this.
- A person may believe that sex outside marriage is not right for them and choose celibacy until they find a marriage partner.
- Some people choose celibacy following a divorce, death of a partner or other experience after which they do not wish to be in a sexual relationship.

Examiner’s advice: A paragraph worth 5 marks asking you to ‘outline’ is testing knowledge. The question says ‘Christian teaching’ so it is important to include both Bible teaching and Church teaching. Always present your answer as a paragraph and never use bullet points.

Exam practice, 1.3, page 10

1 Outline Christian teaching on marriage. [5 marks]

The content of your answer could include the following:

- Jesus taught that marriage should not end in divorce: ‘No human being then must separate what God has joined together’ (Mark 10:9). Reference may also be made to Matthew’s gospel, where Jesus taught that ‘any man who divorces his wife for any reason other than her unfaithfulness commits adultery if he marries some other woman’ (Matthew 19:9).
- The Roman Catholic Church teaches that marriage is a sacred bond that can never be broken.
- Other Churches teach that while divorce is not desirable, it can be a last resort when all other attempts to save the marriage have failed.

Examiner’s advice: A paragraph worth 5 marks asking you to ‘outline’ is testing knowledge. The question says ‘Christian teaching’ so it is important to include both Bible teaching and Church teaching. Always present your answer as a paragraph and never use bullet points.

2 Explain how the vows taken at a Church wedding can strengthen a couple in their marriage relationship. [5 marks]

The content of your answer could include the following:

- In marriage, two people give themselves exclusively to each other and should remain faithful to each other, ‘forsaking all others’. This vow could strengthen the relationship if there is the temptation to be unfaithful.
- The marriage should be permanent: ‘till death do us part’. This vow could help the couple if they feel they are starting to drift apart.
- The couple should stand by each other: ‘For better for worse, for richer and poorer, in sickness and in health.’ This vow can remind a couple to stay together, even during difficult times.

Examiner’s advice: An explanation question worth 5 marks tests knowledge and understanding. A good approach is to make three clear points with explanation and development for each. For this question, you need to show knowledge of the vows said at a church wedding. You then need to explain how the vows you have chosen can help strengthen a couple in their relationship.
3 'People with little or no Christian faith should not be allowed to get married in church.' Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer. [5 marks]

The content of your answer could include the following:
- Christianity teaches that marriage is sacred; a Church wedding involves promises being made before God; therefore it is only appropriate for committed Christians.
- A church is a religious building used for worship; if a bride and groom are not Christians, their marriage is a social occasion and should not take place in a Christian place of worship.
- People have the right to choose where they get married. For many couples, getting married in church is traditional, even if they are not particularly religious.

Examiner’s advice: A question asking ‘Do you agree ...?’ is testing evaluation, so you need to present an argument. For a 5-mark evaluation answer, you do not have to give different points of view. However, you can do so if you wish – and this will help you expand your answer if it is too short.

Exam practice, 1.5, page 15

1 Outline some of the reasons why people get divorced. [5 marks]

The content of your answer could include the following:
- Pressures of modern living – debt, depression, unemployment – can weaken the marriage bond.
- Health problems, infertility and sexual problems can cause some marriages to fail.
- Adultery; lack of commitment to one person for life.
- Unreasonable behaviour, such as alcohol and drug abuse, gambling or domestic violence.

Examiner’s advice: A paragraph worth 5 marks asking you to ‘outline’ is testing knowledge. For this question, choose three or four relevant examples and explain in detail how each one can be a reason for marriage breakdown.

2 Explain how a divorce can affect all members of the family. [5 marks]

The content of your answer could include the following:
- The couple themselves – one or both partners may experience depression, financial insecurity, awkwardness with shared friends or limited contact with their children.
- The children – loss of contact with a parent, less money in the family, a lone parent who has to work longer hours, possible separation from a sibling, feelings of guilt.
- The grandparents – feelings of resentment towards former son-in-law/daughter-in-law, possible separation from grandchildren, blaming themselves for not doing more to help.

Examiner’s advice: An explanation question worth 5 marks tests knowledge and understanding. A good approach is to make three clear points with explanation and development for each. Specific reference to Christian teaching is not needed for this answer.

Exam practice, 1.6, page 18

1 Describe any three types of family unit. [5 marks]

The content of your answer could include a description of the following:
- Nuclear family
- Blended or reconstituted family
- Single-parent family
- Extended family

Examiner’s advice: A description question worth 5 marks tests knowledge. In this question you do not need to give any opinion of your own. Choose the three types of family you will write about and describe each one. Always write a paragraph for a description and do not use bullet points.

2 Do you think Bible teaching on the family is still relevant today? Give reasons for your answer. [5 marks]
The content of your answer could include the following:
- Bible teaching on the family is important today as families provide support and care for each other. They also help to build stable and loving relationships.
- The Ten Commandments teach children to respect their parents. This teaching can help children to learn Christian social and moral values.
- On the other hand, moral values are changing in society and fewer people follow the teachings of any religion.
- The traditional idea of a family unit is no longer relevant for some people, due to relationships breaking down and children living in care.

Examiner’s advice: A question worth 5 marks asking for your opinion is testing your ability to present a reasoned argument, based on material you have learnt during your course. For this question, you must include relevant Bible teaching to support your answer. Select a short Bible quotation that you will be able to remember easily for use in an exam.

3 ‘Children should be brought up to follow the religious faith of their parents.’ Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer. [5 marks]

The content of your answer could include the following:
- In many faiths, parents have a duty to pass on the teachings of their religion to their children.
- The Bible tells Christian parents to give children Christian discipline and instruction.
- Practising a shared faith together in the home can help to create strong bonds in the family, as parents and children attend worship and celebrate religious festivals together.
- On the other hand, it could be argued that children should be free to make up their own mind about religion. They should not be forced to follow the faith of their parents, especially when they are old enough to know their own views.

Examiner’s advice: This question is testing your ability to present a reasoned argument. You do not have to give different points of view for a 5-mark answer, but you can if you want to or if you are undecided. This question does not ask for specific reference to be made to the Bible, but you will be given credit for including relevant biblical or Christian material.

Chapter 2

Exam practice, 2.2, page 24

1 a) What is abortion? [1 mark]
   b) Name one pro-life group. [1 mark]

2 Describe Church and Bible teaching on abortion. [5 marks]

The content of your answer should include the following:
- Reference to Bible teaching – aim to use two of the recommended passages and try to quote at least one passage with the exact words. If you can refer to a passage but not quote it exactly you will also get credit for this.
- Reference to Church teaching – this could be a general comment about how Christianity is not in favour of abortion. You should also include specific reference to at least one Church.

Examiner’s advice: A description question worth 5 marks tests knowledge. In this question you do not need to give any opinion of your own or any counter argument to Christian teaching. Make sure you answer the question – for this answer you need to refer to both Bible and church teaching. Always write a paragraph for a description and do not use bullet points.

3 Do you think abortion should not have been made legal in Northern Ireland? Give reasons for your answer. [5 marks]

The content of your answer should include the following:
- Reference to the current legal situation in Northern Ireland.
- Your own comments about whether you think it was right for the law to change.
- Arguments and evidence to support your point of view. For example, ‘Abortion should be legal in Northern Ireland as it is the right of every woman to choose what happens to her body’ or ‘Abortion is the deliberate destruction of an innocent human life and should not be legal in any civilised society’.

Examiner’s comment: This question is testing evaluation. It does not matter which line of argument you take as long as your point of view is explained clearly and supported with relevant evidence. This
Exam practice, 2.4, page 30

1 a) What is euthanasia? [1 mark]
b) Give one reason against euthanasia. [1 mark]
c) Name a group or organisation that supports euthanasia. [1 mark]
d) What is meant by active euthanasia? [1 mark]
e) What is meant by passive euthanasia? [1 mark]

Examiner’s advice: Short-answer questions always test your knowledge. Keep your answers brief and factual. Valid alternatives will be accepted but it is best to keep to recognised examples, especially if asked to name a group or organisation.

2 Describe how hospices care for patients. [5 marks]

The content of your answer should include the following:
● There are differences between hospital care and palliative care offered in hospices.
● Hospices do not just treat physical symptoms but are concerned with the mental, emotional and psychological health of the patient.
● Hospices support the family and friends of the patient.

Examiner’s advice: A description question worth 5 marks tests knowledge. In this question you do not need to give any opinion of your own. Always write a paragraph for a description and do not use bullet points. A good approach for this type of question is to make three clear points and give a full explanation for each one.

3 Explain why some people are not in favour of euthanasia. [5 marks]

The content of your answer could include the following:
● The devaluing of human life; there may be a ‘slippery slope’ where elderly or disabled people feel pressured into euthanasia.
● Euthanasia is not the only response to pain and terminal illness. There are other ways of coping, such as palliative care.
● Reference to Christian teaching on the sanctity of human life.

Examiner’s advice: An explanation question worth 5 marks tests knowledge and understanding. A good approach is to make three clear points with explanation and development for each. In this question, reference to Christian teaching is not essential (the question does not specifically ask for any) but it is a relevant point you might choose to develop. Never give your answer as a list of bullet points.

Exam practice, 2.7, page 37

1 a) To be sentenced and put to death for a crime. [1 mark]
b) Life imprisonment. [1 mark]
c) Any three from: deterrence, reform, protection, retribution, vindication.

Examiner’s advice: Short-answer questions always test your knowledge. Keep your answers brief and factual. For c) you do not have to give a definition for each – just name them.

2 Outline Jesus’ teaching on repentance and forgiveness. [5 marks]

The content of your answer could include the following:
● Jesus taught his followers that they must be prepared to forgive others as God is willing to forgive those who are genuine about repentance.
● You might refer to specific examples of Jesus’ teaching, such as the Lord’s Prayer, the Parable of the Unforgiving Servant and the Parable of the Lost Son.

Examiner’s advice: A paragraph worth 5 marks asking you to ‘outline’ is testing knowledge. In this question, you must show a knowledge of Jesus’ teaching from relevant Bible material. You should NOT write a lengthy account of a story or incident. Just make a brief reference or give a short quotation and use this to answer the question.

3 ‘Longer prison sentences for criminals would make society a safer place.’ Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer.

The content of your answer could include the following:
● Criminals need to be deterred from committing crimes. If the penalty for law breaking includes longer prison sentences, there would be more respect for law and order.
● Longer prison sentences can make society safer as dangerous criminals are in custody for a longer time and not able to re-offend.
An important aim of punishment is to try to reform the offender. It could be argued that long prison sentences do not bring about reform, so society is no safer.

Chapter 3
Exam practice, 3.6, page 47
1 a) What is infertility? [1 mark]
   b) Give one reason for human infertility. [1 mark]
   c) What is surrogacy? [3 marks]

1 a) Infertility is the inability to conceive children naturally.
   b) Any of the following would be a valid answer: the man cannot produce healthy sperm; the woman has difficulty producing eggs; it is the result of a medical condition or hormone imbalance.
   c) Surrogacy is when an embryo is placed in the uterus of a host mother.

Examiner’s advice: Short-answer questions always test your knowledge. Keep your answers brief and factual. Make a point of learning key words for each topic, as you could be asked to give a definition in a short question in your exam.

2 Describe the work of the HFEA in regulating developments in bioethics. [5 marks]

The content of your answer could include the following:
- The HFEA (Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority) is a government organisation which regulates developments in human reproductive technology.
- It has the responsibility for licensing and monitoring the clinics that carry out IVF procedures.
- The HFEA closely monitors legislation on reproductive technology and embryo research.

Examiner’s advice: A description question worth 5 marks tests knowledge. In this question you do not need to give any opinion of your own. Always write a paragraph for a description and do not use bullet points. A good approach for this type of question is to make three clear points and give a full explanation for each one. Never give your answer as a list of bullet points.

3 Do you think IVF treatment should be freely available to everyone? Give reasons for your answer.

The content of your answer could include the following:
- The NHS is under a great amount of pressure. People who want IVF treatment should be prepared to pay for it themselves.
- It is unfair to allow treatment for those who can afford to pay, but to deny it to those who cannot.
- It could also be discriminatory to only allow IVF to certain people, such as married heterosexual couples.

Examiner’s advice: A paragraph worth 5 marks asking for your opinion is testing your ability to present a reasoned argument, based on material you have learnt for your course. You do not have to give different points of view for a 5-mark answer, but you can if you want, or if you are undecided.

Chapter 4
Exam practice, 4.2, page 52
1 Describe some of the reasons why a person might be prejudiced. [5 marks]

The content of your answer could include the following:
- Ignorance and misunderstanding of the culture of those of another race.
- Fear and suspicion of those from a different background.
- Prejudices have been learnt from parents or society.
- The need for a ‘scapegoat’ – blaming others for the problems in society.

Examiner’s advice: A description question worth 5 marks tests knowledge. In this question you do not need to give any opinion of your own. Always write a paragraph for a description and do not use bullet points. A good approach for this type of question is to make three clear points and give a full explanation for each one. Never give your answer as a list of bullet points.

2 Explain how people in a religious minority group might experience difficulties. [5 marks]

The content of your answer could include the following:
- Facing prejudice and discrimination.
- Lack of opportunity to attend worship or having to travel long distances to attend a place of worship.
- Difficulty with taking time off from work or school for religious observances.

Examiner’s advice: An explanation question worth 5 marks tests knowledge and understanding. A good approach is to make three clear points with explanation and development for each. In this question, it is appropriate to make a general comment about prejudice and discrimination. However, the main focus is on difficulties that may be experienced by a religious minority group, so addressing these should be the main part of your answer.
3 What can Christians learn from the Bible about prejudice? [5 marks]

The content of your answer could include the following:
- Two or three of the Bible teachings given in section 4.2 with a quote or paraphrase from each one.
- An explanation of how the teaching guides Christians in their thinking about prejudice.

Examiner’s advice: If you are doing this practice question using notes, then copy the quotes exactly (this will help you to remember them). However, you will not lose marks if they are not ‘word perfect’ so just try to be as accurate as possible if relying on your memory. It is not essential to remember the exact Bible reference, but try to remember whose teaching it is and whether it is from the Old or New Testament.

Exam practice, 4.6, page 59

1 a) What is meant by absolute poverty? [1 mark]
   b) Name a Christian organisation fighting poverty and injustice. [1 mark]

1 a) A severe deprivation of basic human needs, including food and safe drinking water.
   b) Christian Aid, Salvation Army, SVP or Trócaire.

Examiner’s advice: Short answer questions always test your knowledge. Keep your answers brief and factual. If you are asked to name an organisation, you do not have to use one from the specification, but it is best to if you can.

2 Describe some of the causes of global poverty. [5 marks]

The content of your answer could include the following:
- Natural disasters
- Wars, conflict and unrest
- Lack of opportunity for education
- Gender inequalities

Examiner’s advice: A paragraph worth 5 marks asking you to ‘describe’ is testing knowledge. In this question, you must show a knowledge of the causes of global poverty. Make sure all your information is relevant to the question. Choose three relevant points and explain in detail how each one can lead to global poverty.

3 ‘Christians should make an effort to support Fairtrade.’ Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer. [5 marks]

The content of your answer could include the following:
- Christians should always try to support Fairtrade as the aims are compatible with Christian teaching.
- Fairtrade goods stop the producers in developing countries from being exploited for profit; the fair payments they receive can help to secure a better future for themselves and their children.
- Fairtrade products ensure that people’s rights are respected and their working conditions monitored.
- On the other hand, some families are trying to manage on a very tight budget and have to consider price first. Fairtrade goods can work out more expensive.

Examiner’s advice: A question asking ‘Do you agree …?’ is testing evaluation, so you need to present an argument. For a 5-mark evaluation question, you do not have to give different points of view. However, you can if you want – and this will help you to expand your answer if it is too short. For this question, there needs to be an understanding of the aims of Fairtrade and how they relate to Christian teaching.

Chapter 5

Exam practice, 5.4, page 67

1 Describe three of the conditions for a just war. [5 marks]

The content of your answer should include reference to three of the conditions of the just war, with explanation about each.

Examiner’s advice: You have probably learnt six conditions for a just war. You do not need to include all six to be awarded full marks. What is most important is the level of detail and explanation in your answer. DO NOT just give a list of five or six bullet points – this type of answer is not a ‘description’ and is unlikely to get a top-band mark.

2 Explain why some Christians choose to be pacifists. [5 marks]

The content of your answer should include the following:
- Specific reference to Jesus’ teaching and examples from the New Testament.
- Reference to Christian pacifism and/or the beliefs of the Quakers.
Examiner’s advice: An explanation question worth 5 marks tests knowledge and understanding. A good approach is to make three clear points with explanation and development for each. Reference to Christian teaching is essential for this answer.

3 Do you think all nuclear weapons should be banned? Give reasons for your answer. [5 marks]

The content of your answer could include the following:
● Reasons why some people believe nuclear weapons can prevent armed conflict as governments are frightened of the consequences of using them.
● Arguments in favour of a worldwide ban on nuclear weapons, in view of the potential harm they can cause.

Examiner’s advice: This question is testing evaluation. It does not matter which line of argument you take as long as your point of view is explained clearly and supported with relevant evidence. You may choose to give both sides of the argument, but you don’t have to for a 5-mark evaluation question.