

LITERACY LIFELINE - GCSE - PEACE AND CONFLICT

TOP TIPS

Use **capital letters** and **full stops** in your sentences.

Use **paragraphs** to organise longer pieces of writing.

Take care with all **spelling** and **punctuation**.

ALWAYS write God with a capital letter!



RAVE regulars

Allah
belief/believe
Bible
Heaven
holy
Jesus
Muhammad
Qur'an
religion
religious

Glorious Grammar

Remember, it's

would *have*, should *have*, could *have*!

I/*he* *saw*, I/*he* *did*

My sister and *I* ate the cakes
My grandma made cakes for my sister and *me*

Clever connectives

because
consequently
furthermore
however
in addition
moreover
nevertheless
on the other hand
therefore
this means that

Word/phrase	Meaning
Civil war	Armed conflict between groups within the same country
conflict	Strong disagreement which can lead to fighting
Conscientious objector	Someone who refuses to fight in a war because their conscience tells them it is wrong
Conventional warfare	War that is fought using ordinary weapons that are allowed under the Geneva Convention, which is a set of international rules on war
forgiveness	Willingness to stop blaming a person for something they have done that is wrong, letting go of anger towards them
Holy war	War that is fought for religious reasons. In Islam it is known as a jihad.
justice	Fairness, making things right
Just war	A set of rules about when it is right to fight a war and how war should be fought, important to Christians
Nuclear weapons/war	Weapons that use nuclear energy to create mass destruction/a war that is fought using nuclear weapons
pacifism	The belief that all war is wrong
peace	The opposite of war - harmony
reconciliation	Making up between two groups after disagreement or conflict
terrorism	Use of violence to threaten or intimidate people by causing great fear
violence	Causing harm to someone
war	Armed conflict or fighting between two or more sides
Weapons of mass destruction	Weapons which cause uncontrollable and widespread damage, such as nuclear chemical or biological weapons. Known as WMDs.

Theme D - Peace and Conflict



Key terms

Justice - fairness, making things right.

Peace - not just the absence of conflict or fighting, but the presence of harmony and good feeling towards each other.

Reconciliation - Setting aside your differences and making up after a disagreement.

Forgiveness - stopping blaming someone for something they have done wrong, letting go of bad feeling towards them.

Conflict - disagreement, when people have different ideas about something important. When it leads to fighting, it is known as **armed conflict**.

Justice is important to Christians and Muslims.

In the Bible it says that *'I, the Lord, love justice.'*

One of the 99 names of Allah is *'The Just'*.

Both Christians and Muslims think it is sometimes right to fight for justice.

Peace is important to Christians and Muslims.

Jesus said *'Blessed are the peacemakers.'*

Muslims are taught to greet each other with the words *'peace be upon you'*.



Forgiveness is important to Christians and Muslims.

In the Parable of the Unforgiving Servant, Jesus said we must be prepared to forgive over and over again, *as many as seventy times seven.*

In the Qur'an it says that *'those who pardon* and maintain righteousness are rewarded by God'*

*pardon is another word for forgive



The Parable of the unforgiving servant. A servant owed his master some money, which he could not repay. His master agreed to give him another chance. But there was someone who owed the servant money, and the servant refused to give him another chance. When the master heard about this, he was very angry because the servant did not show the same mercy to others that he had shown to him. The master cast the servant into the outer darkness. **Christians believe that if they want God to forgive them and give them another chance, they have to do the same for others.**

Is violence ever acceptable?



Christian believe	Muslims believe
Violence is usually wrong because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesus said we should <i>love our enemies</i> • Jesus said we should <i>turn the other cheek</i> and not fight back when attacked. • One of the 10 Commandments is <i>'Do not kill'</i> BUT they will sometimes accept violent protest against evil or injustice if nothing else is working.	Violence is usually wrong because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muhammad said <i>Do not do wrong, even if people do evil</i> • In the Qur'an it says <i>Do not kill a soul that God has made</i> BUT Muslims have a duty to protest about injustice, so if nothing else is working they may use violence.

Terrorism uses fear and violence to try to change things. Most religious people think it is always wrong, BUT in the Bible there is a story about *God helping Joshua to completely wipe out the city of Jericho* and in the Qur'an it says *Strike terror into your enemies and God's enemies* so some religious people think it is acceptable in some cases.





Is it ever right?

Yes because	No because
<p>Sometimes it is the only way to fight for what is right.</p> <p>There are religious teachings to support it.</p> <p>It is a powerful way to get your point across with the wider public.</p>	<p>It causes great loss of life, grief and distress to innocent people.</p> <p>It destroys buildings and costs a lot to put right.</p> <p>There are many religious teachings against it.</p>

Nelson Mandela used terrorism to fight for equal rights for black people in South Africa. Years later, he won the Nobel Peace Prize and became the country's first black President.



Al Qaeda's attack on the Twin Towers caused 3000 deaths and damaged large areas of New York.



WAR

All religions promote peace. But Christianity and Islam will allow war in some cases.

Causes of war include		
Greed	Self-defence	Retaliation
<p>War to gain land, resources or power.</p> <p>Religions do not approve of this because it comes from selfishness, which is bad.</p>	<p>Fighting back when attacked.</p> <p>Most religions think this is acceptable as you have a right to protect yourself.</p>	<p>This means reacting to something by striking back or launching an attack.</p>
<p>Example: Germany invaded Austria in 1936 to expand its borders.</p>	<p>Example: Britain went to war with Argentina to defend the Falkland Islands from invasion.</p>	<p>Example: The USA joined WW2 in retaliation for the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour.</p>

Does religion cause war?

Yes, because	No, because
<p>People have strong feelings about religion and wars can start when there are disagreements about important beliefs.</p> <p>There are teachings in holy books that support the idea of war.</p> <p>There have been wars about religion, such as the fighting between Hindus and Sikhs in India when Sikhism first began.</p> <p>Holy wars are started by religious leaders for religious reasons, such as the Crusades.</p>	<p>Religions teach their followers to be peaceful - Jesus said <i>Blessed are the peacemakers</i> and Muslims greet each other with the words <i>Peace be upon you</i>.</p> <p>Wars are often started for other reasons, such as greed, self defence or retaliation, such as WW2.</p> <p>Some wars seem to be about religion, but the real reason is political, such as the war being fought by ISIS.</p>



The Crusades happened when the Pope called on Christians to fight against Muslims to regain the Holy Land for Christianity.

Religious attitudes to war

Both Christians and Muslims believe that humans were created by God and our lives are therefore precious. This is known as the **Sanctity of Life**. Since war destroys human lives, it is usually seen as wrong.



Most Christians think that war is usually wrong, but sometimes it is necessary to fight against great evil, or to make a fairer world, if all peaceful methods have been tried and have failed.

Some Christians like the Quakers are pacifists and refuse to fight at all. Jesus said *Love your enemies* and the *Kingdom of Heaven* is a place of peace.

Just War Theory is a method for deciding when it is right to go to war and how war should be fought. It contains rules such as

- War must be the last resort
- War can only be started for a very good reason, like self defence.
- No civilians can be targets in war
- You must use just enough force to win and no more.

Most Muslims think that war is usually wrong. One of the names of Allah is *the source of peace* and Muslims must work to try to keep the peace.

The **Muslim Peace Fellowship** campaigns for peace.

However, Muslims have a duty to fight against injustice and to defend their religion and holy war is a duty for Muslims.

The idea of **Holy War** is important to Muslims. It is also called a **lesser jihad**. Muslims remember that when Islam first started, the Muslim community had to defend itself against attack and *Allah ordered them to fight*. But there are strict rules about not attacking civilians or destroying crops and they have to stop fighting as soon as the enemy calls for peace.



Remember the mnemonic? **Stewie, Peter and Chris Love Eating Red Jam!**

The Muslim Peace Fellowship works for peace by using conferences, leaflets, meetings between different religions and prayer.



Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs)



These include **nuclear, biological and chemical weapons**. They all cause uncontrollable, widespread harm and therefore affect many civilians as well as troops.

No religion supports the use of WMDs because of the terrible harm they cause. When the USA dropped a nuclear bomb on **Hiroshima** at the end of WW2, just one bomb killed 140 000 people and the effects of radiation were passed on to the next generations.

Should countries have or use WMDs ?

Yes because	No because
<p>If you have a WMD, it can act as a deterrent. It puts other people off attacking you so it can actually prevent war.</p> <p>It can help to bring a war to a swift end, as happened at the end of WW2 when the USA bombed Hiroshima.</p> <p>Countries have a right to protect themselves.</p>	<p>They cause massive loss of life and other damage. Religions teach that killing is wrong and they kill on a huge scale.</p> <p>WMDs break the rules of just war and holy war. It's not possible to control their effects, so they get out of hand.</p> <p>They cause great harm to many civilians. Their effects go on for many years.</p>

Helping victims of war

Christians help victims of war because Jesus said *Love your neighbour as yourself* and it is a loving thing to do to help others.

Christian Peacemaker Teams work in areas of conflict to help victims and to bring about a peaceful end to the fighting.

www.cpt.org



The effects of war include

- People are killed and injured
- People have to leave their home and become refugees
- Families are split up
- Infrastructure like roads and buildings are destroyed.

Can religion play a part in ending war?

Yes because...	Ah, but...
<p>Religious teachings inspire people to work for peace.</p> <p>Religious leaders like the Pope use their influence to call for a peaceful end to conflict</p> <p>Religious groups like Christian Peacemaker Teams work actively in areas of conflict to help the two sides to reconcile.</p>	<p>religion can also be the cause of war.</p> <p>just telling people to end a war probably isn't going to work!</p> <p>if people are fighting over politics, or land, or in self defence, it doesn't matter what people try to do, it won't always work.</p>



Pacifism is the belief that all war is wrong. Conscientious objectors are pacifists who refuse to take part in war because their conscience tells them that it is wrong. Quakers are Christian pacifists who refuse to fight in war, but they will help in non-fighting roles such as being

doctors or nurses. They will help victims of war and try to get the warring sides to come together and solve their differences.



Is pacifism a good idea?

Yes because	No because
<p>If we were all pacifists, then there would be no suffering caused by war.</p> <p>It fits with religious teachings about peace</p> <p>If we were all pacifist, then the money spent on war and weapons could be put to better use.</p>	<p>Sometimes you have to be willing to stand up and fight to defend yourself or to stick up for other people.</p> <p>It's unrealistic to expect everyone to refuse to fight.</p>

