

Year 10 Religious Education Vocabulary List

(Tier 2 and Tier 3)



TOPIC 1: ORIGINS & MEANING

Creation ex nihilo - creation out of nothing. Before God created the universe, nothing existed. Only God can create out of nothing.

Evolution - the process of mutation and natural selection which leads to changes in species over time to suit particular environments.

Imago Dei - in the image of God. The belief that human beings are uniquely a reflection of God's personhood. Unlike the other animals, human beings are rational, free and moral.

Inspiration "God breathed" - The belief that the Spirit of God guides an individual to act or write what is good and true.

Omnipotence - the belief that God is all powerful.

Revelation - the word used to describe all of the ways in which God makes himself known to human beings. Christians believe that God does this finally and fully in the person of Jesus Christ.

Stewardship - the duty to care for creation responsibly, as stewards rather than consumers, and to protect it for future generations.

Transcendence - existing outside of space and time; God exists in a way that makes him nothing like anything else that exists, above and beyond creation.

TOPIC 2: GOOD AND EVIL

Conscience - Human reason making moral decisions. The knowledge we have of what is right and wrong and the God-given compulsion within all human beings to do what is right and to avoid what is evil.

Evil - the absence of good and the impulse to seek our own desires at the expense of the good of others which often results in suffering.

Free will - the decision-making part of a person's mind is called the will. A will is free if a person is able to choose right from wrong without being controlled by other forces.

Goodness - the quality of being like God: seeking the well-being of others selflessly.

Incarnation "Made flesh" - The Christian belief that God became man in the person of Jesus, fully human and fully divine.

Natural Law - the moral laws of right and wrong which are universal and not dependent on human laws. The belief in natural law is the belief that the moral law is discoverable by every human being and is the same for all human beings in all places at all times

Privation - the loss or absence of a quality or something that is normally present. Evil is a privation of good. Suffering pain or loss which harms human beings. Some suffering is caused by other human beings (often called moral evil); some is not (often called natural evil).

TOPICS 3 & 4: JUDAISM (Beliefs & Practices)

Covenant - a promise or agreement between two parties. Covenants were made between God with Noah, Abraham and Moses

Kosher ('fit' or 'proper') - Foods that are permitted to be eaten according to Leviticus Chapter 11. It is also used to refer to the purity of ritual objects such as Torah scrolls

Messiah - the anointed one who Jews believe will bring in a new era or age for humankind. This will include rebuilding the Temple and bringing in an age of universal peace

Mitzvot - the term has a mix of meanings. It is often used to refer to duties (such as the 613 in the Torah) and good deeds

Pikuach Nefesh - the obligation to save life whenever possible. For example, giving medical treatment on Shabbat

Shabbat - day of spiritual renewal and rest. Beginning at sunset on Friday and closing at nightfall on Saturday

Shekinah - the place where God's presence rests and can be felt

Shema - a prayer declaring Jewish faith that is said by many Jews twice a day. The Shema is placed in the Mezuzah case and tefillin

Synagogue - house of assembly; building for Jewish public prayer, study and assembly

Torah - the five books of Moses (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy). Regarded as the holiest books of the Tanakh

Ten Commandments - ten duties given by God to Moses which form the basis of Jewish belief

EXAM QUESTIONS

Describe – to give a brief but clear account of a belief, concept or practice.

Discuss – to examine a claim/statement methodically and in detail, in order to assess and form different arguments, recognising opposing points of view. Would include the ability to use scripture and sources of authority to defend claims as well as non-religious views such as humanists and atheists.

Explain – to make something clear or easy to understand by describing or giving information/examples about it. Often useful to use the link word 'because' to transform descriptions into explanations. Where appropriate show how beliefs influence individuals, communities and societies.