1.1 The Nature of God: 10-minute Pack

AQA 8062 · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

1 Which of the following best expresses the 'problem of evil' as it is discussed in Christian theology?

- ☐ A: The disagreement among Christians about whether evil truly exists
- ☐ B: The question of how an all-powerful and all-loving God can allow suffering to exist
- ☐ C: The belief that all suffering is caused directly by a person's own sin
- ☐ D: The argument that God's power is limited by an opposing force such as Satan

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

---

2 Give two reasons some Christians give, as part of the free will defence, for why God allows humans the freedom to choose to do wrong.

(Total for Question 2 is 2 marks)

© Revision Library | revisionlibrary.co.uk

3 Explain two ways a Christian's belief that God is omniscient (all-knowing) might affect how they live their daily life.

(Total for Question 3 is 4 marks)

4 Explain two contrasting Christian views about the extent of God's omnipotence, and whether it means God can do absolutely anything. Refer to a source of wisdom and authority in your answer.

(Total for Question 4 is 5 marks)

© Revision Library | revisionlibrary.co.uk

Mark scheme · 1.1 The Nature of God: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

selecting option B, the tension between God's omnipotence and benevolence and the existence of suffering, cao **B1**

Answer: B

Question 2

genuine love and moral goodness are believed to be impossible without real freedom to choose between right and wrong, oe **B1**

giving humans free will, even though it can be misused, is seen as a greater good than creating beings who can only ever act as they are made to, oe **B1**

Answer: E.g. real love and moral goodness require genuine freedom to choose; free will, even though it can be misused, is seen as a greater good than removing the possibility of wrongdoing.

Question 3

point 1: a Christian might try to be honest at all times, even when no one else is watching, because they believe God knows their thoughts and actions, oe **B1**

development: this could lead someone to avoid a small dishonest act, such as cheating in a test or lying to a friend, that they might otherwise think nobody would find out about, oe **B1**

point 2: a Christian might feel comforted in difficult times, believing that God fully understands their situation and feelings even when other people do not, oe **B1**

development: this could lead someone to turn to prayer when they feel misunderstood or alone, trusting that God already knows exactly what they are going through, oe **B1**

Answer: E.g. trying to be honest even when unobserved, believing God sees everything; finding comfort in hard times, believing God fully understands.

Question 4

view 1: some Christians, following a long theological tradition, hold that omnipotence means God can do anything that is logically possible, but that this does not include doing what is self-contradictory, since a genuine contradiction is not a real action at all, oe **B1**

development: on this view, teaching that it is 'impossible for God to lie' (Hebrews 6:18) is not read as a weakness in God's power, but as showing that God's power always acts consistently with God's own perfectly good and truthful nature, oe **B1**

view 2: other Christians place less weight on this philosophical distinction and instead stress that nothing at all should be considered too difficult or impossible for God, oe **B1**

development: this is supported by Matthew 19:26, in which Jesus teaches that 'with God all things are possible', encouraging believers to trust fully in God's power even in situations that look hopeless, oe **B1**

reference to a source of wisdom and authority made accurately, oe **B1**

Answer: Contrast: omnipotence as 'anything logically possible' (Hebrews 6:18, God cannot lie) vs stressing that 'all things are possible with God' (Matthew 19:26).

© Revision Library | revisionlibrary.co.uk