1.10 The Nature of Humanity: Free Will, the Soul and Stewardship: 30-minute Pack

AQA 8062 · about 30 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

1 Evaluate the view that human beings have no more value than any other part of creation. In your answer you should give reasoned arguments to support this statement, give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view, refer to Christian teaching, and reach a justified conclusion. Refer to Christian teaching in your answer.

(Total for Question 1 is 15 marks)

2 Give three examples of actions a Christian might take to live out stewardship in everyday life.

(Total for Question 2 is 3 marks)

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3 Explain two Christian beliefs about the soul, in the context of what Christians say about human nature and life after death.

(Total for Question 3 is 4 marks)

4 Explain two ways the belief in stewardship affects Christian attitudes to the environment, in the context of dominion and responsibility described in Genesis and Psalm 8.

(Total for Question 4 is 4 marks)

5 Explain two contrasting Christian beliefs about the sanctity of human life, and refer to a source of Christian wisdom or authority in your answer. The question requires a specific scriptural reference or named source for one marking point.

(Total for Question 5 is 5 marks)

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Mark scheme · 1.10 The Nature of Humanity: Free Will, the Soul and Stewardship: 30-minute Pack

Question 1

Level 4 A well-structured, balanced and detailed evaluation that analyses both sides of the argument, refers to relevant Christian teachings accurately, and offers a justified conclusion. Clear reasoning and use of evidence are shown. **10-12**

Level 3 A developed answer that considers both sides, includes some reference to Christian teaching and reaches a supported conclusion, though not all points are fully developed. **7-9**

Level 2 An answer that presents arguments for and against with limited development and limited reference to Christian teaching, reaching a simple conclusion. **4-6**

Level 1 A few basic points are made for or against the statement with little or no reference to Christian teaching and no clear conclusion. **1-3**

Level 0 No relevant content. **0**

Indicative content:

- Arguments supporting the statement: ecological or scientific perspectives that stress the interdependence of species and do not see humans as intrinsically superior, leading to the claim humans have no greater intrinsic value than other parts of creation.
- Supporters might argue that emphasising human uniqueness has justified exploitation of nature, so equal value is a corrective that promotes environmental protection.
- Arguments against the statement from Christian teaching: Genesis 1:27 teaches humans are made in the image of God, imago Dei, implying a unique status and inherent dignity.
- Christians point to Genesis 1:28 and Psalm 8 to argue humans have been given a role of stewardship and a special responsibility, which implies distinct value and moral duties.
- Many Christians believe in the soul as the non-physical part of a person that survives death, which supports the idea humans have a spiritual worth different from animals or plants.
- Some Christian thinkers argue stewardship does not mean domination without care, so being valued above other creatures brings responsibility, not licence, and this still implies a unique status.
- A balanced conclusion might recognise valid environmental critiques while affirming that mainstream Christian teaching gives humans a special role and moral worth, so the statement is rejected in orthodox Christian terms though it raises important ethical questions about how humans treat the rest of creation.

Question 2

example 1: reducing waste and recycling, oe **B1**

example 2: supporting environmental charities or campaigns, oe **B1**

example 3: choosing sustainable or ethical products, oe **B1**

Answer: Any three: recycling/reducing waste; supporting environmental charities; choosing sustainable or ethical products.

Question 3

point 1: the soul is the spiritual part that makes humans distinct from animals, oe **B1**

development: this supports the idea that humans have a special relationship with God and moral responsibilities, oe **B1**

point 2: the soul survives bodily death and may be reunited with God, oe **B1**

development: this belief gives hope about life after death and influences Christian attitudes to death and funerals, oe **B1**

Answer: E.g. the soul makes humans distinct and connects them to God; the soul survives death and promises reunion with God.

Question 4

point 1: stewardship leads Christians to protect and conserve natural resources, oe **B1**

development: this can include recycling, campaigning on climate change and supporting conservation projects, oe **B1**

point 2: stewardship encourages care for animals and the wider ecosystem, not exploitation, oe **B1**

development: Christians may oppose unnecessary harm to animals and promote biodiversity as part of God-given responsibility, oe **B1**

Answer: E.g. stewardship motivates conservation and sustainable living; it also promotes care for animals and biodiversity rather than exploitative use.

Question 5

belief 1: some Christians believe human life is sacred because humans are made in the image of God (imago Dei), Genesis 1:27, oe **B1**

development: this leads to the view that human life has inherent value and should be protected, oe **B1**

belief 2: other Christians emphasise humanity's role of stewardship and responsible use of creation, stressing duty rather than innate superiority, oe **B1**

development: this view may support careful use of natural resources and concern for the wider ecosystem as part of valuing life, oe **B1**

reference: a correct scriptural citation or named source of authority is given, e.g. Genesis 1:27 or Psalm 8, oe **B1**

Answer: E.g. imago Dei (Genesis 1:27) supports inherent sanctity and protection of human life; stewardship emphasis highlights duty to care for creation and can broaden concern to all creation.

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