8.5 Just War Theory and Holy War: 10-minute Pack

AQA 8062 · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

1 Which of these is most commonly used as the historical case study of 'holy war' in Religious Studies?

- ☐ A: The Crusades
- ☐ B: The First World War
- ☐ C: The English Civil War
- ☐ D: The Napoleonic Wars

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

2 Give two features of the medieval Crusades as an example of holy war.

(Total for Question 2 is 2 marks)

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3 Explain two ways a religious believer's support for just war theory might affect their attitude to a modern conflict they read about in the news.

(Total for Question 3 is 4 marks)

4 Explain two contrasting Christian positions on the use of violence in war, ranging from conditional acceptance of a just war to a rejection of violence altogether. Refer to a source of wisdom and authority in your answer.

(Total for Question 4 is 5 marks)

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Mark scheme · 8.5 Just War Theory and Holy War: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

selecting option A, the medieval Crusades, cao **B1**

Answer: A

Question 2

they were military campaigns called for by the Pope, initially aimed at recovering Jerusalem and other holy sites from Muslim control, oe **B1**

those who took part were promised a spiritual reward, such as the forgiveness of their sins, for fighting, oe **B1**

Answer: E.g. Pope-called campaigns aimed at recovering Jerusalem and other holy sites; participants were promised forgiveness of sins for fighting.

Question 3

point 1: a believer might ask whether the war has been declared by a recognised, legitimate government, rather than automatically supporting or condemning either side, oe **B1**

development: for example, they might judge the actions of a private armed group differently from those of an internationally recognised state, oe **B1**

point 2: a believer might specifically consider whether civilians are being deliberately targeted, applying the discrimination criterion when deciding how they feel about a conflict, oe **B1**

development: for example, hearing that a strike has deliberately targeted a school or hospital might lead them to judge that particular action as unjustified, even if they accept the wider cause as just, oe **B1**

Answer: E.g. asking whether a war was declared by a legitimate authority; judging specific actions by whether civilians are deliberately targeted (discrimination).

Question 4

position 1: many Christians accept violence in war only conditionally, as a reluctant last resort when the traditional just war criteria are met, rather than something to be welcomed, oe **B1**

development: this reflects Paul's description of the ruling authority carrying 'the sword' for a reason (Romans 13:4), read by many Christians as permitting force only when properly justified, not as an endorsement of violence in general, oe **B1**

position 2: other Christians, such as many Quakers (members of the Religious Society of Friends), reject the use of violence altogether, believing all human life is sacred and no cause justifies taking it, oe **B1**

development: this reflects Jesus's teaching in the Sermon on the Mount to 'turn the other cheek' rather than resist an evil person by force (Matthew 5:39), which pacifist Christians take as a call to reject violence completely, oe **B1**

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

Answer: Contrast: conditional acceptance of force under just war criteria (Romans 13:4) vs a Quaker-style rejection of violence altogether (Matthew 5:39, 'turn the other cheek').

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