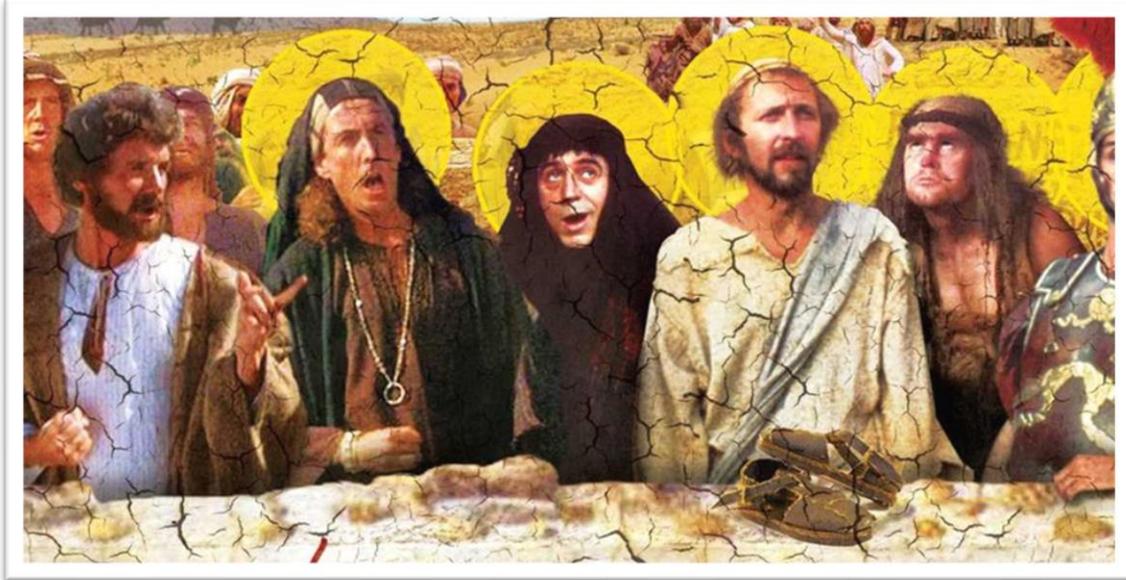


Year 9 RS



Topic 2 – Perceptions of Religion

Knowledge and Assessment Organiser

Student name:



**If the whole world was
religious, would it be a better
place?**

What's the Story?



Hello. My name is Rima and I am 17 years old and I live in Bolton with my parents and siblings. When we were young, my siblings and I couldn't go to the park behind our house because we risked being beaten up.

I went to a religious school which was just like normal secondary school aside from lessons starting with a prayer. But every time we went out on school trips, people would call us terrorists and shout: "Allah hu akbar" at us.

I learned from a young age that when people shout "terrorist" in public, no one around will defend you. Suddenly everyone is deaf. Society already alienates you, but when Islamophobia happens in real life it's 100 times scarier.

Once, we had the back door of our house kicked in, so my parents called the police. They didn't come out to see us. It happened again the next day and they still didn't show up.

All of this affects your confidence and self-esteem. I have really bad anxiety when leaving the house in a headscarf. My mum wears a headscarf and so do my sisters and I worry for their safety all the time. I know they wouldn't be able to speak up or defend themselves.

But as I've grown up, I've learnt to be myself unapologetically. I refuse to carry the guilt we are made to feel for no reason. I now speak up about Islamophobia because I know how scary it can be. Especially when you're a young girl and a grown man is screaming in your face.

People's perceptions of what it means to be a Muslim are influenced so much by the media and society – I wish the negative images and stereotyping about my faith would stop. We are the same as everyone else and want to get on with our lives peacefully. Our holy book clearly tells us "Who so ever kills a human being...it shall be as if he has killed all mankind and who so ever saves the life of one, it shall be as if he had saved the life of all mankind" (The Qur'an 5:32); our religion is about peace not hatred; we need the world to see us how we truly are.

Why does this matter?

Islamophobia is a massive issue in UK. Since the events of 9/11 it has been on the rise. It is history repeating itself because many uneducated people have misconceptions about ethnic minorities just based on the way they look or live.

Sounds familiar?

During this unit of work, you will explore the different perceptions of religion that some people have; negative and positive. You may have heard different views on religious groups discussed on news reports and social media, often when certain beliefs seem controversial.

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Did you know...?

For over 25 years, The Simpsons has been one of the most popular TV shows in the United States and throughout the world, portraying a dysfunctional family living in the fictional town of Springfield.

Several episodes of The Simpsons have focused on faith, religion and spirituality over the series' run, presenting America's diversity. Many different characters actively practice a wide variety of religions. Different denominations of Christianity are mocked most often. These religious episodes have sometimes drawn significant criticism from religious groups. However, it would be misleading to characterize The Simpsons as anti-religious, as the programme is generally warm-hearted, and some episodes can even be described as spiritual in nature.



SCAN ME





If the whole world was religious, would it be a better place?

Small
Question

1. What is perception?

Small
Question

2. Does religion support Human Rights?

Small
Question

3. Does everyone have the right to freedom of speech?

Small
Question

4. Is it fair to make fun out of religion?

Small
Question

5. What is hate speech?

Small
Question

6. Has the media influenced our ideas about terrorism?

Small
Question

7. What does Jihad teach Muslims?

Small
Question

8. Should religions do more to help poverty?

Small
Question

9. Do religious people force their views onto others?

Curricular Concepts

Have you ever noticed how some of the things you study in one subject appear in another subject too?

Students are able to understand their work more and remember more if there are clear links between subjects. Throughout your learning at Colton Hills, we will be asking you to think about some of the most important ideas in the world to enable you learning to be deeper than ever before. Look for these 'curricular concepts' in your learning.



**SOCIAL
JUSTICE**



**CULTURAL
DIVERSITY**



**CIVIC
RESPONSIBILITY**



**TECHNOLOGICAL
PROGRESS**



**PRECIOUS
PLANET**



**HEALTHY
LIVING**



**ETHICAL
ENTERPRISE**



**CREATIVE
ARTISTRY**

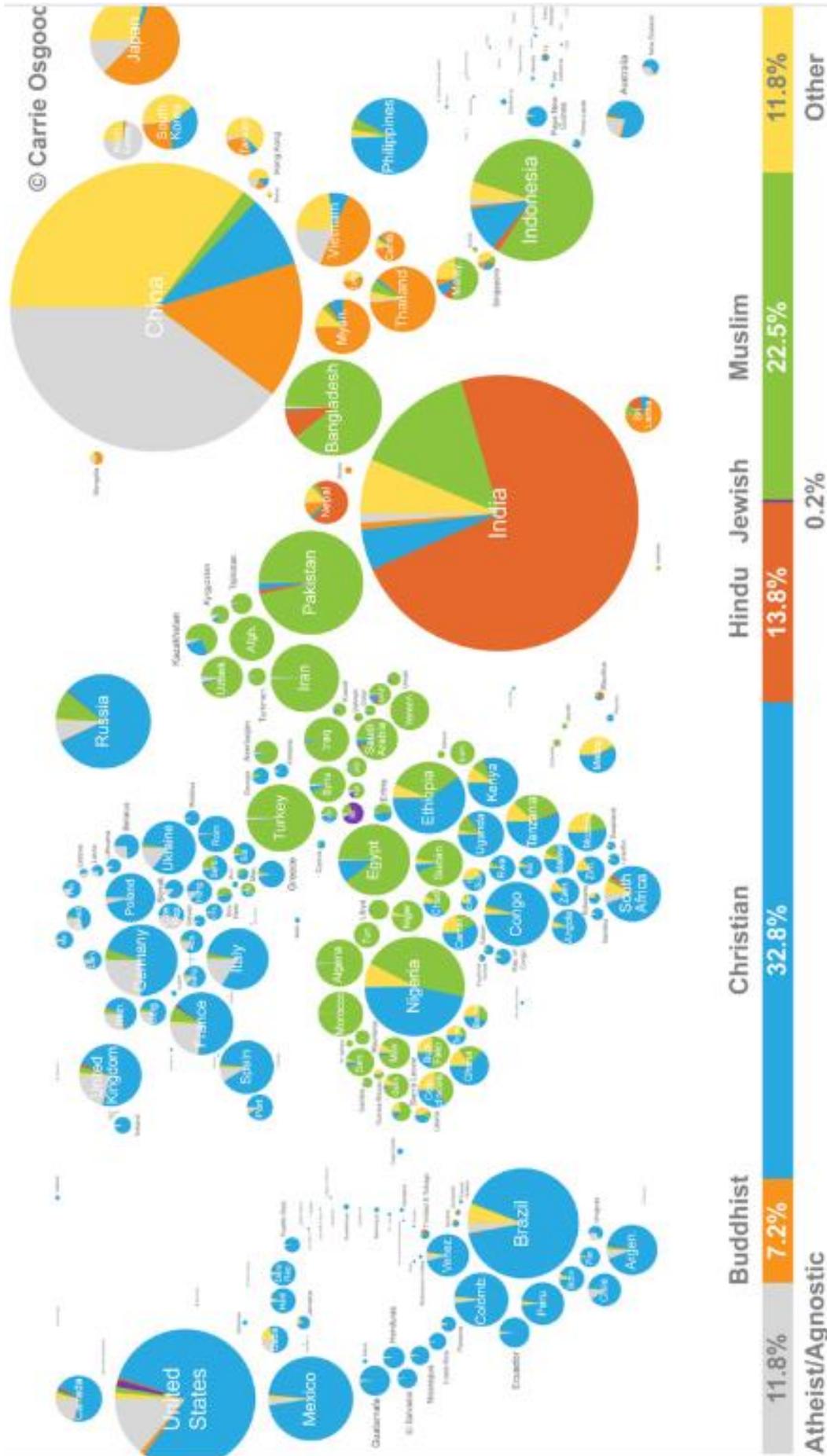
Essential Knowledge

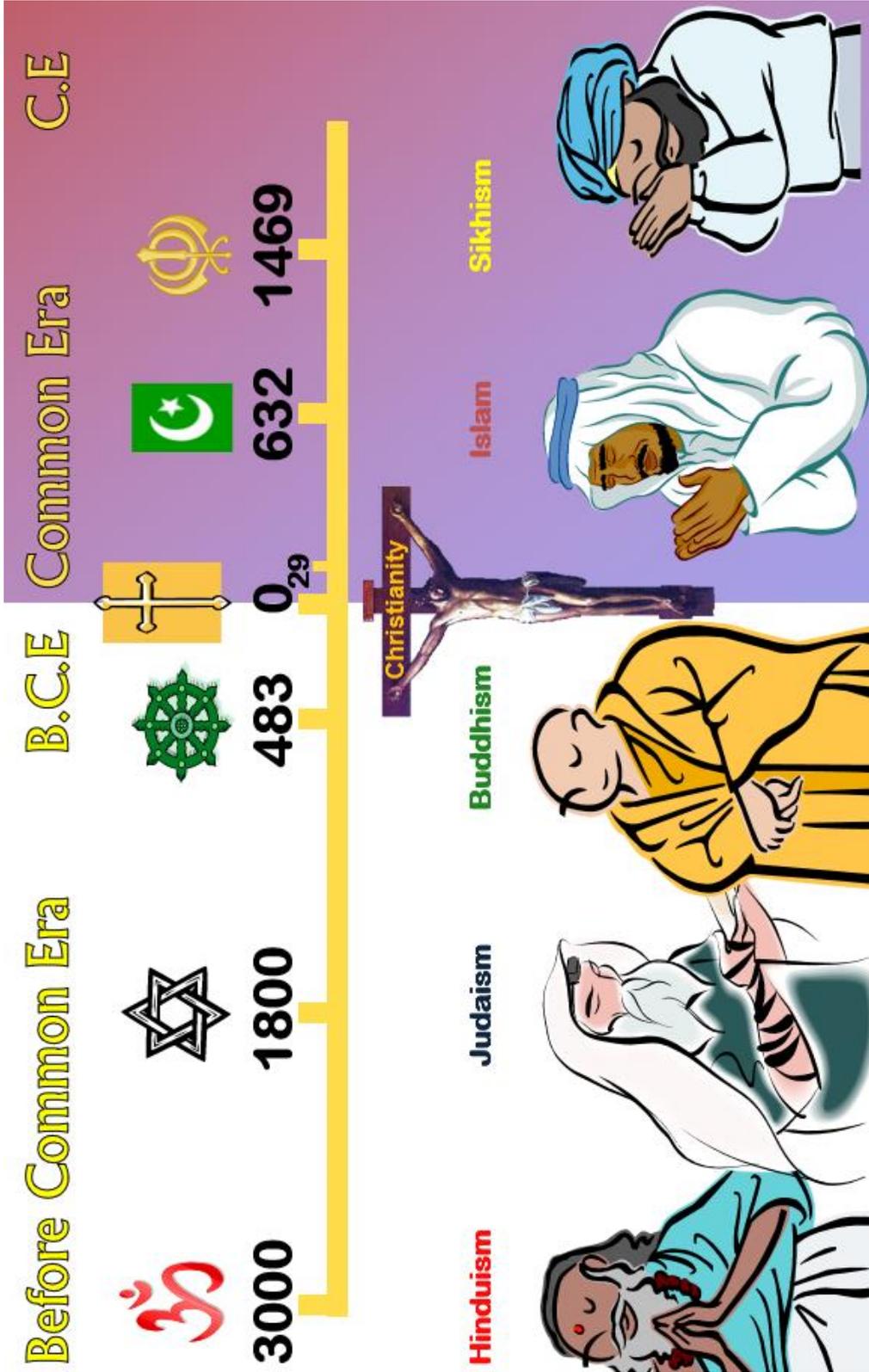
Key Words

Ummah	The worldwide community for Muslims.
Censorship	The practice of suppressing and limiting access to materials considered obscene, offensive or a threat to security.
Blasphemy	The action or offence of speaking offensively about religion or religious figures such as God.
Messiah	A leader regarded as the saviour of a particular country, group, or cause; Jews believe that a Messiah will come to lead them.
Hate speech	Public speech that expresses hate or encourages violence towards a person or group based on something such as race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation.
Religious interpretations	Different ways in which religious people interpret religious teachings.
Religious extremism	Believing in, supporting and acting upon religious ideas that are very far from what most people consider correct or reasonable.
Jihad	A struggle against evil, this may be an inward, personal struggle or an outward, collective struggle.
Poverty	The state of being extremely poor.
Evangelism	The spreading of the Christian gospel by public preaching or personal witness.
Perception	A particular way of understanding or thinking about something.
The Media	Radio, television, newspapers, the internet, and magazines, considered as a group.
Terrorism	The use of violence to achieve political aims.
Tolerance	The attitude of someone who is willing to accept someone else's beliefs, way of life etc without criticizing them even if they disagree with them.

Name of Religion	Christianity	Islam	Hinduism	Buddhism	Sikhism	Judaism
Holy Book	Bible	Qur'an	Vedas	Tripitaka	Guru Granth Sahib	Torah
Place of worship	Church	Mosque	Mandir / Temple	Temple	Gurdwara	Synagogue
Symbol	Cross 	Star and Crescent 	Om 	Wheel of Dharma 	Khanda 	Star of David 
Important Person / Founder	Jesus	Mohammed	None	Buddha	Guru Nanak	Abraham
Any other information: (e.g. important festivals, rituals etc.)	Christmas Easter	Eid Ramadan Muslim Allah	Diwali Holi	Dalia Lama Wesak Dharma Day	Diwali Vaisakhi	Hannukah Passover

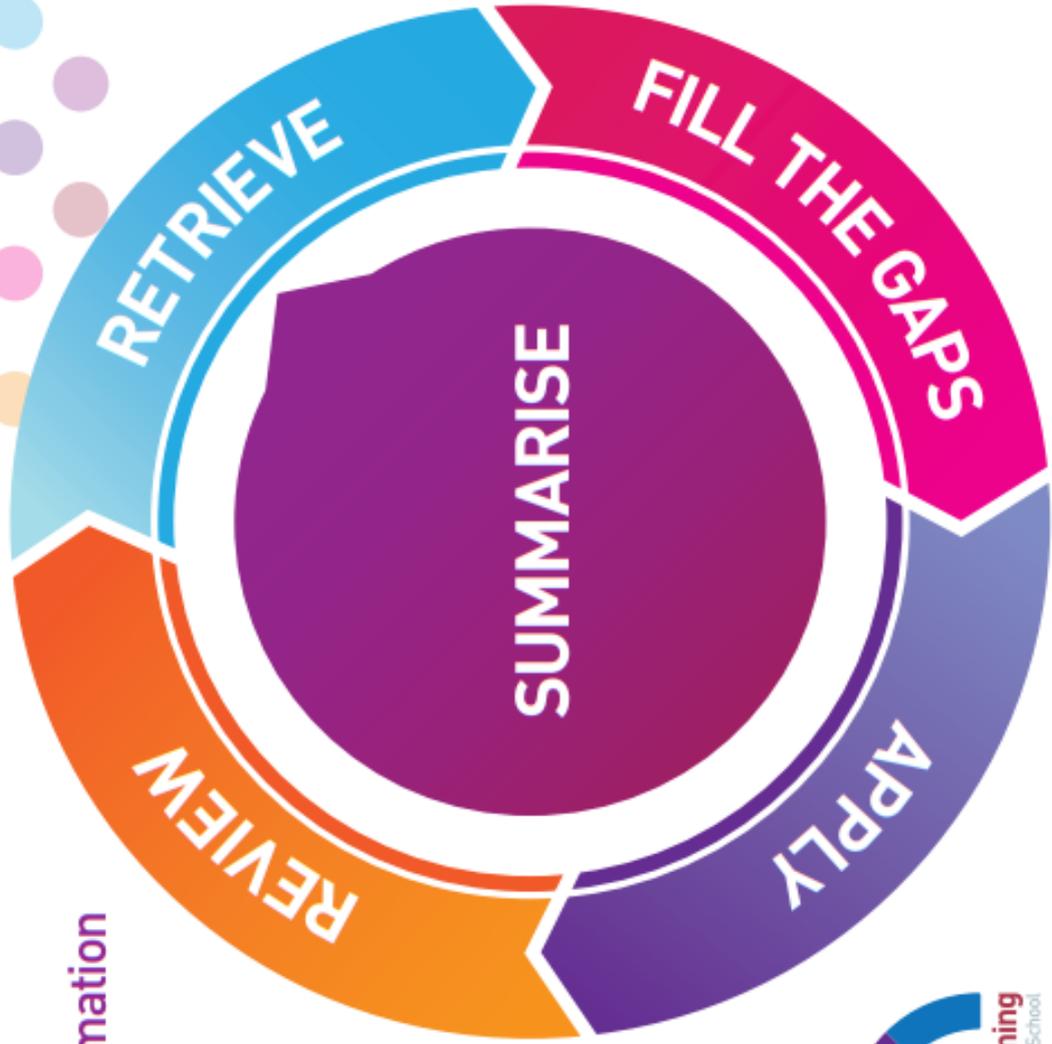






Revision Cycle

1. **SUMMARISE:** shorten information
2. **RETRIEVE:** find out what you know
3. **FILL THE GAPS:** look at what you don't remember
4. **APPLY:** practice using the information
5. **REVIEW:** reflect on how you have done and repeat



Model assessment answer and tips

The assessment for this unit will be made up of short knowledge recall questions, questions that get you to interpret the meaning of quotes and opinion/explanation style questions.

Example

You need to give **one opinion to why people would disagree and explain that opinion**. You will also need to give **one opinion to why people would agree and explain that opinion**. You will then finish by **explaining your own opinion**. Each question is worth 6 marks – make sure you fully explain each opinion to get the full 6 marks:

“People should be allowed to say what they want” [6]

I think that people should be allowed to say what they want because we all have free will and part of that freedom is the freedom of speech. This is a Human Right. Nobody should be able to tell another person what they can and can't think about or say!

However, other people might disagree with me. Their religion may tell them how to behave, for example the 10 commandments in Christianity, which may impact on them saying what they really want to in some situations.



Retrieval Quiz

When you can answer all the questions on this page without looking at any notes, you are ready for the exam!

1. What is a Human right?
2. Why is Malala Yousafz well known?
3. What is blasphemy?
4. What is Hate Speech?
5. Why are the Westboro Baptist Church actions seen as wrong by many people?
6. What are the two different types of Jihad and how is the term wrongly used in the media?
7. What is the difference between relative and absolute poverty?
8. What does it mean to evangelise?
9. What work does Christian Aid do?
10. Name three movies/TV programmes that can be seen as making fun of religion.

1. What is a Human right?

Human rights are the basic rights and freedoms that belong to every person in the world, from birth until death. They apply regardless of where you are from, what you believe or how you choose to live your life. They can never be taken away, although they can sometimes be restricted – for example if a person breaks the law, or in the interests of national security. These basic rights are based on shared values like dignity, fairness, equality, respect and independence. These values are defined and protected by law. In Britain our human rights are protected by the Human Rights Act 1998.

2. Why is Malala Yousafzai well known?

As a young girl of 11, the Pakistani student wrote an anonymous diary about what life was like under the rule of an extreme group called the Taliban in north-west Pakistan. In the diary, she talked about how she wanted to stay in education and about how girls should be able to go to school. The Taliban wanted to ban girls' education. Lots of people read the diary all over the world and she became well-known for fighting for her right to an education. But the Taliban didn't like this. And because of what she said in her diary - in October 2012, she was shot by their soldiers. The world was appalled by what happened to Malala and she quickly won the support of millions more people. She was treated for her injuries in a hospital in Pakistan and then brought to the UK for more treatment. After many weeks Malala was finally able to leave hospital. Her father got a job in UK and Malala and her family settled in the city of Birmingham.

3. What is blasphemy?

Blasphemy is an insult that shows contempt, disrespect, or lack of reverence concerning a deity, a sacred object, or something considered inviolable. Some religions consider blasphemy to be a religious crime.

4. What is Hate Speech?

Any kind of communication in speech, writing or behaviour, that attacks or uses discriminatory language with reference to a person or a group on the basis of who they are, in other words, based on their religion, ethnicity, nationality, race, colour, descent, gender or other identity factor. This is often rooted in, and generates intolerance and hatred.

5. Why are the Westboro Baptist Church actions seen as wrong by many people?

They frequently campaigned and picketed outside of the funerals of homosexual US soldiers, telling the deceased family and friends that their loved one would go to hell. They also celebrate when a death is reported in the media, claiming that it is a good thing as God is showing he is just.

6. What are the two different types of Jihad and how is the term wrongly used in the media?

The literal meaning of Jihad is struggle or effort, and it means much more than holy war. Muslims use the word Jihad to describe three different kinds of struggle:

- *A believer's internal struggle to live out the Muslim faith as well as possible*
- *The struggle to build a good Muslim society*
- *Holy war: the struggle to defend Islam*

The media often wrongly associate the term Jihad with people who carry out terrorist attacks such as those people behind the Ariana Grande concert in Manchester in 2017,

7. What is the difference between relative and absolute poverty?

If you live in relative poverty you are lacking some of the resources that are essential in the society in which you live, for example healthy food, electricity, warm clothing etc.

If you live in absolute poverty you will be lacking most of the things you need to live a happy, healthy life. You may have no access to clean water or shelter, and you will not have the means to obtain them.

8. What does it mean to evangelise?

When religious believers evangelise, they go out into public and try to spread their beliefs, which could then lead to converting someone's beliefs to their own. Some Christians believe that they should evangelise because Jesus wanted them to spread his teachings to other people.

9. What work does Christian Aid do?

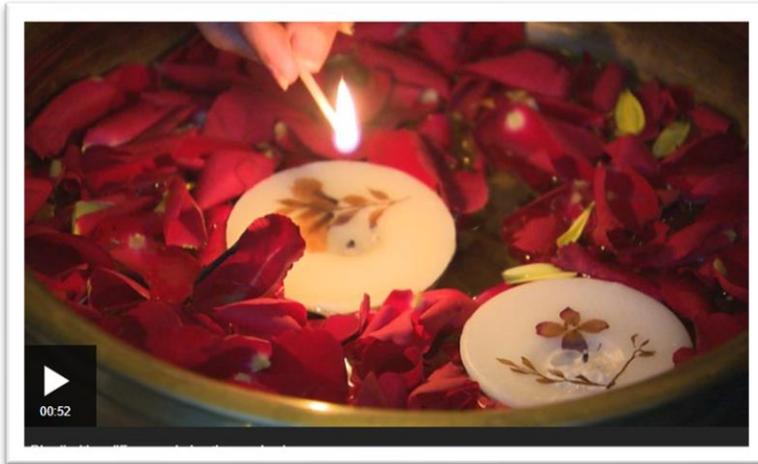
*They work with communities to fight injustice, respond to humanitarian emergencies, campaign for change, and help people claim the services and rights they are entitled to.
They aim to end poverty and injustice worldwide.*

10. Name three movies/TV programmes that can be seen as making fun of religion.

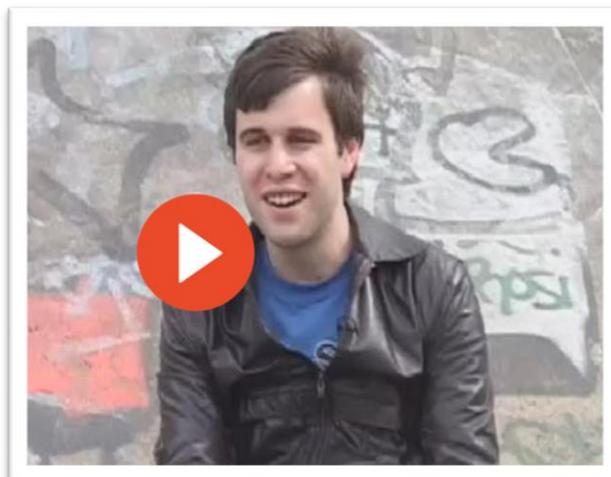
*Family Guy
The Life of Brian
Bruce Almighty*

Articles for Wider Reading and Flipped Learning

Scan the QR code on your phone to watch BBC news videos and special reports about recent events in the religious world.



Scan the QR codes on your phone to learn more about how religion has had a positive effect on the life of Jordan and how Cerys lives her life without religion as a Humanist.



BBC begins home-schooling of Religious Education with a lesson on humanism

April 24th, 2020

The BBC has kicked off its home-schooling provision of religious education lessons with a brand new lesson on humanism.

The lesson, broadcast today online via the BBC Bitesize website and BBC iPlayer, will be of value to parents across the country and children who are currently learning from home as a result of the coronavirus.

The short film featured Cerys, a young humanist living in Wales, who introduced viewers to 'five key facts' about humanism. The video can be found as part of a collection of new resources on the BBC Bitesize website.

Luke Donnellan, Director of Understanding Humanism commented:

'It is great to see the BBC supporting education about humanism as well as religions as part of its RE provision. The fact that the BBC chose to open with a lesson on humanism shows how far society has moved in recent years in recognising the need for non-religious worldviews to be included in RE.'

Humanists UK provides free online education resources on humanism via Understanding Humanism. During the pandemic, it has retooled and curated its resources especially for parents to use in home-schooling



