

Pearson
Edexcel GCSE
in Religious Studies B

Useful Terminology

Introduction

These words have been taken from the GCSE Religious Studies Specification B. These definitions have been provided to assist teachers and students through the teaching and assessment of the specification. The words are sectioned, according to their appearance in the specification.

1RBO-1A__Section 1

Useful Terminology	Definition
Trinity	The Christian belief that there is One God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Nicene Creed	The Christian statement of Faith which originated at the First Council of Nicaea
First Council of Nicaea	A council of Christian Bishops that took place in Nicaea in AD 325
First council of Constantinople	The second council of Christian Bishops, they confirmed, with some expansion, the Nicene Creed. AD 381
Creation	The Creation of the universe regarded as an act of God
Creator	God the Creator of the universe. A characteristic of God
Benevolent	All loving
Omnipotent	All powerful
Eternal	God has no beginning and no end. Last forever
Dominion	Control over something, e.g. the natural world
Stewardship	The responsibility of humanity to manage the world and animals for the next generation
Incarnation	The belief that God became a human being in Jesus
Divine Word	Jesus as the Word of God as in John 1
Paschal Mystery	The mystery of the life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus
Resurrection	The belief that Jesus rose from the dead after three days. The belief that the body stays in the grave until the end of the world, when it is raised and judged

Redemption	The action of being saved from sin
Salvation	The deliverance of humanity from sin
Grace	The undeserved love and mercy given to humanity by God
Judgement	The final trial of all humanity, the living and the dead, at the end of the world
Heaven	The ultimate end and the resting place of saved souls
Hell	The eternal separation from God
Purgatory	Where one is purified to achieve holiness to enter Heaven
Literal understanding of Creation	Believing Creation occurred as described in Genesis 1-3
Metaphorical understanding of Creation	Believing Genesis 1-3 can be understood as a myth/symbolically
Catholic Catechism	The official teachings of the Catholic Church

1RBO-1A__Section 2

Useful Terminology	Definition
Marriage	The legally and religiously recognised union of two people as partners in a personal relationship
Sanctity	Something that is holy or sacred
Cohabitation	Living together as partners and having a sexual relationship without being married
Marital	Something that refers to the married relationship of a couple
Unitive	Results in a union - used to refer to marriage
Procreative	Results in the production of children
Homosexuality	Sexual attraction to, or activity with, someone of the same sex
Nuclear family	A family group consisting of parents and children only
Single parent family	A family group consisting of one parent and children only
Same-sex family	A family group consisting of parents who are the same gender and children only
Extended family	A family group including more than the nuclear family e.g. grandparents living together or nearby
Blended family	A family group that includes the parents and children from their previous relationships
Parish	A Church area cared for by a local minister/priest/vicar
Family planning	A method of controlling the amount of children a couple has
Regulation of births	Controlling the amount of children a couple has and when they have them (family planning)
Artificial contraception	An artificial method of controlling the amount of children a couple has

Situation ethics	An ethical theory that making a decision should be dependent on the set of circumstances it is in
Divorce	The legal ending of a marriage
Annulment	A formal declaration that a marriage was not valid
Remarriage	Another marriage after a previous marriage has ended

1RBO-1A__S3

Useful Terminology	Definition
Sacrament	A visible sign of an inward grace instituted by Jesus and entrusted to the Church
Grace	The undeserved love and mercy given to humanity by God
Liturgy (liturgical worship; liturgical celebrations)	A set form of public worship/religious rite
Prayer	Communication with God. 'Raising the hearts and minds to God'
Evangelical Christians	A Protestant denomination
The Lords prayer	The prayer taught by Jesus to his disciples
Formulaic prayers	Prayers that are taught and learned, or read the same every time
Informal prayers	Prayers that are personal and spontaneous
Rosary	A set of prayers often using a string of beads
Eucharist	The celebration of the Mass when bread and wine become the body and blood of Jesus
Stations of the Cross	A series of images commemorating Jesus Christ on the day of his crucifixion and accompanying prayers
Pilgrimage	A journey made to a place of importance to a religion for spiritual reasons
Justice	Giving to people what they deserve. It is one of the four cardinal virtues
Peace	An inner calmness. Treating one another as brother and sisters, recognising all as children of God
Reconciliation	Bringing together people who were opposed to one another

CAFOD	Catholic Agency For Overseas Development. A Catholic Charity
Catholic Mission	It people serving Christ by bringing the Catholic truth to the world
Evangelism	The spreading of the faith though teaching about the religion and helping others
Commission of Jesus	(The Great Commission) Jesus' last command to his disciples to go out and spread the teachings of Jesus
Popular piety	Forms of prayer and worship that Christians practice which are inspired by culture rather than by liturgy
Equality	Two people or groups of people are equal in status, rights and opportunity

1RBO-1A__S4

Useful Terminology	Definition
Origin of the Universe	The way that all of space, matter and time began
Value of the Universe	The importance of the world and space for life
Commodity	Something that can be bought and sold
Sanctity of life	Life is holy
Origin of human life	The way that human life began
Evolution	The idea that life is thought to have developed from earlier forms
Survival of the fittest	The idea that life is thought to have developed in order to best suit the environment they are in
Abortion	The deliberate termination of a pregnancy before the foetus can survive
Pro-life	Generally opposed to the abortion
Pro-choice	Generally in favour of a woman's right to choose to have an abortion or not
Remembered lives	A clear memory of a previous existence
Paranormal	An event that cannot be explained by science
Euthanasia	The act of putting to death painlessly or allowing to die
Hospice care	Support given to people in the final phase of a terminal illness it focuses on comfort and quality of life
Pollution	The contamination of the environment by substances that are harmful to living organisms

Global warming	The increase in the average temperature of the Earth that causes changes in climate and that may be the result of the greenhouse effect
Natural resources	Substances that occur naturally which can be used by humans or exploited for economic gain
Stewardship	The responsibility of humanity to manage the world and animals for the next generation
Stewards	Someone who looks after or manages something for another
Animal rights	The idea that animals deserve consideration of what is in their best interests
Animal experimentation	Animal testing or animal research. The use of non-human animals in experiments
Utilitarianism	An ethical theory that making a decision should be dependent on whether it is useful or for the benefit for the majority

1RBO-1B__S1

Useful Terminology	Definition
Trinity	The Christian belief that there is One God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Nicene Creed	The Christian statement of Faith which originated at the First Council of Nicaea
First Council of Nicaea	A council of Christian Bishops that took place in Nicaea in AD 325
First council of Constantinople	The second council of Christian Bishops, they confirmed, with some expansion, the Nicene Creed. AD 381
Creation	The Creation of the universe regarded as an act of God
Creator	God the Creator of the universe. A characteristic of God
Benevolent	All loving
Omnipotent	All powerful
Resurrection	The belief that Jesus rose from the dead after three days. The belief that the body stays in the grave until the end of the world, when it is raised and judged
Atonement	The reconciliation of God and humanity accomplished through the life, suffering, and death of Christ
Salvation	The deliverance of humanity from sin
Grace	The undeserved love and mercy given to humanity by God
Judgement	The final trial of all humanity, the living and the dead, at the end of the world
Heaven	The ultimate end and the resting place of saved souls
Hell	The eternal separation from God

Purgatory	Where one is purified to achieve holiness to enter Heaven
Literal understanding of Creation	Believing Creation occurred as described in Genesis 1-3
Metaphorical understanding of Creation	Believing Genesis 1-3 can be understood as a myth/symbolically
Catholic Catechism	The official teachings of the Catholic Church
Ascension	When Jesus went up to heaven from earth
Sin	An act against the will or law of God
Righteous	Upright and moral
Freewill	God's gift to humanity allowing them to make their own choices
Vale of Soul making	The argument that both natural and moral evil are essential to "soul-making" so they have a good purpose
Prayer	Communication with God
Charity	An organisation that raises money to help those in need. Or another word for love

1RBO-1B__S2

Useful Terminology	Definition
Marriage	The legally and religiously recognised union of two people as partners in a personal relationship
Sanctity	Something that is holy or sacred
Cohabitation	Living together as partners and having a sexual relationship without being married
Marital	Something that refers to the married relationship of a couple
Unitive	Results in a union - used to refer to marriage or sexual relationships
Procreative	Results in the production of children
Homosexuality	Sexual attraction to, or activity with, someone of the same sex
Nuclear family	A family group consisting of parents and children only
Single parent family	A family group consisting of one parent and children only
Same-sex family	A family group consisting of parents who are the same gender and children only
Extended family	A family group including more than the nuclear family e.g. grandparents living together or nearby
Blended family	A family group that includes the parents and children from their previous relationships
Parish	A Church area cared for by a local minister/priest/vicar
Family planning	A method of controlling the amount of children a couple has
Regulation of births	Controlling the amount of children a couple has and when they have them (family planning)
Artificial contraception	An artificial method of controlling the amount of children a couple has

Situation ethics	An ethical theory that making a decision should be dependent on the set of circumstances it is in
Divorce	The legal ending of a marriage
Annulment	A formal declaration that a marriage was not valid
Remarriage	Another marriage after a previous marriage has ended
Equality	Two people or groups of people are equal in status, rights and opportunity
Gender discrimination	When someone has a different status, rights or opportunity because of their gender
Gender prejudice	When someone is believed to have different status, rights and opportunity because of their gender

1RBO-1B__S3

Useful Terminology	Definition
Sacrament	A visible sign of an inward grace instituted by Jesus and entrusted to the Church
Non-liturgical worship	Informal worship
Liturgy (liturgical worship; liturgical celebrations)	A set form of public worship
Prayer	Communication with God
Book of common prayer	A permanent feature of the Church of England's worship and a key source for its doctrine
Pentecostal	Christianity that places special emphasis on a direct personal experience of God through the baptism with the Holy Spirit
Evangelical Christians	Christians dedicated to sharing the Good News of Jesus
The Lords prayer	The prayer taught by Jesus to his disciples
Set prayers	Prayers that are taught and learned, or read the same every time
Informal prayers	Prayers that are personal and spontaneous
Baptism	Holy sacrament. Sometimes called Christening. Initiation rite. Can be infant or adult
Eucharist	A sacrament commemorating the Last Supper
Pilgrimage	A journey made to a place of importance to a religion for spiritual reasons
Christmas	Celebration of the birth of Jesus
Advent	Advent is a season observed in many Christian churches as a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas

Easter	Celebration of the death and resurrection of Jesus
Holy Week	Holy Week is the week leading up to the important Christian festival of Easter
Mission	An important goal or purpose that is accompanied by strong conviction; a calling or vocation
Evangelism	The spreading of the faith though teaching about the religion and helping others
Commission of Jesus	(The Great Commission) Jesus' last command to his disciples to go out and convert the world
Reconciliation	Bringing together people who were opposed to one another
Christian Aid	Christian charity
Ecumenism	Efforts by Christians of different Church traditions to develop closer relationships and better understandings
Theology of the body	Catholic teaching originally by Pope John Paul II about human sexuality

1RBO-1B__S4

Useful Terminology	Definition
Origin of the Universe	The way that all of space, matter and time began
Value of the Universe	The importance of the world and space for life
Commodity	Something that can be bought and sold
Sanctity of life	Life is holy
Origin of human life	The way that human life began
Evolution	The idea that life is thought to have developed from earlier forms
Survival of the fittest	The idea that life is thought to have developed in order to best suit the environment they are in
Abortion	The deliberate termination of a pregnancy before the foetus can survive
Pro-life	Generally opposed to the abortion
Pro-choice	Generally in favour of a woman's right to choose to have an abortion or not
Remembered lives	A clear memory of a previous existence
Paranormal	an event that cannot be explained by science
Euthanasia	The act of putting to death painlessly or allowing to die.
Hospice care	Support given to people in the final phase of a terminal illness it focuses on comfort and quality of life
Pollution	The contamination of the environment by substances that are harmful to living organisms.

Global warming	The increase in the average temperature of the Earth that causes changes in climate and that may be the result of the greenhouse effect
Natural resources	Substances that occur naturally which can be used by humans or exploited for economic gain
Stewardship	The responsibility of humanity to manage the world and animals for the next generation
Stewards	Someone who looks after or manages something for another
Animal rights	The idea that animals deserve consideration of what is in their best interests
Animal experimentation	Animal testing or animal research. The use of non-human animals in experiments
Utilitarianism	An ethical theory that making a decision should be dependent on whether it is useful or for the benefit for the majority

1RBO-1C_S1

Useful Terminology	Definition
Six Beliefs of Islam	The main beliefs of Muslims. Also called the Articles of Faith
Usul ad-Din	The five roots of faith of Shi'a faith
Tawhid	The oneness of Allah
Adl	Arabic word meaning justice. One of the names of Allah
Nubuwwah	Prophets of Allah. Prophethood
Imamah	Successors of Muhammad
Mi'ad	The Last Day; the day of judgment and resurrection
Immanence	Allah is here in, and part of the material world, close to believers
Transcendence	Allah is beyond the physical or normal experiences of Humanity
Omnipotence	Allah is all powerful
Beneficence	Allah is all loving
Mercy	Allah shows compassion and forgiveness
Fairness	Allah is equal in his treatment of all, without favourites
Justice	Allah will judge people in the right way
Adalat in Shi'a Islam	God's quality of being just
Kutub	Muslim Holy Books

Tawrat	The Torah
Zabur	The Psalms
Injil	The Gospel
Sahifah	The scrolls
Malaikah	Angels
al-Qadr	Idea of Predestination
Predestination	The idea that one's destiny is what Allah has already decided
Akhirah	The last things. Belief in the Last Day and life after death
Judgement	The final trial of all humanity, the living and the dead, at the end of the world
Paradise	Final resting place for those who have submitted to Allah
Hell	A place of eternal punishment
Risalah	The messengers of Allah. Belief in prophethood

1RBO-1C_S2

Useful Terminology	Definition
Marriage	The legally and religiously recognised union of two people as partners in a personal relationship
Cohabitation	Living together as partners and having a sexual relationship without being married
Homosexuality	Sexual attraction to, or activity with, someone of the same sex
Ummah	The whole community of Muslims
Nuclear family	A family group consisting of parents and children only
Single parent family	A family group consisting of one parent and children only
Same-sex family	A family group consisting of parents who are the same gender and children only
Extended family	A family group including more than the nuclear family e.g. grandparents living together or nearby
Blended family	A family group that includes the parents and children from their previous relationships
Rites of passage	A ceremony usually religious which marks an important stage in a person's life
Contraception	A method of controlling the amount of children a couple has
Family planning	Controlling the amount of children a couple has and when they have them
Situation ethics	An ethical theory that making a decision should be dependent on the set of circumstances it is in
Divorce	The legal ending of a marriage
Remarriage	Another marriage after a previous marriage has ended
Equality	Two people or groups of people are equal in status, rights and opportunity

Gender discrimination	When someone has a different status, rights or opportunity because of their gender
Gender prejudice	When someone is believed to have different status, rights and opportunity because of their gender
Gender equality	When someone is believed to have the same status, rights and opportunity regardless of gender

1RBO-1C_S3

Useful Terminology	Definition
Ten Obligatory Acts	Ten actions that Shi'a Muslims must perform
Shahadah	Declaration of faith. 'There is no God but Allah. Muhammad is his prophet'. The first pillar of Islam
Salah	Ritual prayers said five times a day. The second pillar of Islam
Ablution	The ritual act of washing
Mosque	Muslim place of worship
Jummah Prayer	Friday midday prayers
Sawm	Fasting - the fourth pillar of Islam
Ramadan	The ninth month of the Muslim calendar during which Muslims should fast. (Sawm)
Night of Power	The night when Muhammad received the first revelation of the Qur'an
Laylat al-Qadr	The festival celebrating the Night of Power
Zakah	An annual tax on wealth within Islam, given to charity. The Third pillar of Islam
Khums	Paying one fifth of your surplus income as charity to others for Shi'a Muslims. The Third pillar of Islam
Hajj	Pilgrimage to Makkah. The fifth pillar of Islam
Lesser Jihad	The struggle to remove evil from the world
Greater Jihad	The struggle to make oneself a perfect Muslim

Id-ul-Adha	Id ul-Adha is a four-day festival to commemorate the willingness of Ibrahim to sacrifice his son
Hadith	Sayings of the Prophet Muhammad
Ashura	Ashura marks the day of the martyrdom of Hussein for Shi'a Muslims

1RBO-1C_S4

Useful Terminology	Definition
Origin of the Universe	The way that all of space, matter and time began
Value of the Universe	The importance of the world and space for life
Commodity	A material that can be bought and sold
Sanctity of life	Life is holy
Evolution	The way that human life began
Ensoulement	The idea that life is thought to have developed from earlier forms
Survival of the fittest	The idea that life is thought to have developed in order to best suit the environment they are in
Abortion	The deliberate termination of a pregnancy before the foetus can survive
Pro-life	Generally opposed to the abortion
Pro-choice	Generally in favour of a woman's right to choose to have an abortion or not
Remembered lives	A clear memory of a previous existence
Paranormal	An event that cannot be explained by science
Euthanasia	The act of putting to death painlessly or allowing to die.
Hospice care	Support given to people in the final phase of a terminal illness it focuses on comfort and quality of life
Pollution	The contamination of the environment by substances that are harmful to living organisms.

Global warming	The increase in the average temperature of the Earth that causes changes in climate and that may be the result of the greenhouse effect
Natural resources	Substances that occur naturally which can be used by humans or exploited for economic gain
Stewardship	The responsibility of humanity to manage the world and animals for the next generation
Khalifah	Steward. Deputy, Vice Regent. Someone who looks after or manages something for another
Animal rights	The idea that animals deserve consideration of what is in their best interests
Animal experimentation	Animal testing or animal research. The use of non-human animals in experiments
Utilitarianism	An ethical theory that making a decision should be dependent on whether it is useful or for the benefit for the majority

1RBO-1D_Section 1

Useful Terminology	Definition
Buddha	The term for an enlightened being
The Buddha	Refers to the Siddhartha Gautama
Enlightenment	The discovery of true knowledge, usually by meditation, about oneself and reality and so escaping the cycle of rebirth
The Four Sights	The four things described in the account of Siddhartha Gautama's life which led to his realisation of the impermanence of existence
The Sangha	The Buddhist community in general, or monks, nuns and novices in particular
Dhamma	The teaching of the Buddha
Dependant origination/conditionality	The idea that all things arise in dependence upon conditions
Pattica-samupadda	The chain of causation describing the causes of suffering and the events that lead a being through rebirth, old age and death
Three Marks of Existence	Impermanence (anicca), suffering (dukkha) and no-self (anatta)
Three Poisons	The main causes of suffering: hatred, greed and ignorance
Theravada Buddhism	'The way of the elders' – an ancient Buddhist tradition centred in Southern Asia
Mahayana Buddhism	Later Buddhist traditions such as Tibetan, Zen and Pure Land Buddhism
Nirodha	Suffering can be ended – the Third Noble truth
Tanha	Craving, or wanting and desiring something

Samsara	The cycle of birth, life death and rebirth
The Five Khandas (aggregates)	The five aspects that make up a person
Sunnata	The idea that there is no separate or independent self
Tathagatagarbha	The idea that all beings have within themselves the virtues and wisdom of a Buddha but these are hidden by a covering of defilements
Arahant	A term in Theravada Buddhism for someone who has become enlightened
Bodhisattva Ideal	The Mahayana goal for everyone to become bodhisattvas and help to free sentient beings from samsara and the cycle of death, rebirth and suffering
Pure Land Buddhism	A Mahayana school of Buddhism believing in the Amitabha Buddha
Kamma	A person's actions: good actions cause happiness and bad actions cause suffering
Merit	A force which accumulates as a result of good deeds, acts or thoughts
Rebirth	The actions of a person lead to a new existence after death in the endless cycles of samsara

1RBO-1D__Section 2

Useful Terminology	Definition
Marriage	The legally and religiously recognised union of two people as partners in a personal relationship
Celibacy	The state of remaining unmarried and abstaining from sexual relationships voluntarily
Cohabitation	Living together as partners and having a sexual relationship without being married
Homosexuality	Sexual attraction to, or activity with, someone of the same sex
Nuclear family	A family group consisting of parents and children only
Single parent family	A family group consisting of one parent and children only
Same-sex family	A family group consisting of parents who are the same gender and children only
Extended family	A family group including more than the nuclear family e.g. grandparents living together or nearby
Blended family	A family group that includes the parents and children from their previous relationships
Family planning	A method of controlling the amount of children a couple has
Artificial contraception	An artificial method of controlling the amount of children a couple has
Situation ethics	An ethical theory that making a decision should be dependent on the set of circumstances it is in
Divorce	The legal ending of a marriage
Remarriage	Another marriage after a previous marriage that has ended
Equality	The state of being equal in status, rights or opportunities
Gender prejudice	Prejudice based upon a person's sex or gender

Gender equality	Where access to rights or opportunities is unaffected by gender
Discrimination	The unjust or prejudicial treatment of different categories of people, especially on the grounds or race, age or sex

1RBO-1D__S3

Useful Terminology	Definition
Meditation	The practice of calming and focusing the mind in order to focus on specific teachings so that their true meaning can be understood
Mindfulness breathing	Meditation that focuses on the experience of breathing
Zazen	The practice of bringing one's attention to experiences occurring in the present moment, usually by meditation
Visualisation of the Buddha	The practice of visualising images of Buddha forms and reciting sacred sounds and mantras
Mantra	A sequence of sacred syllables to be recited by Buddhists
Sacred syllables	Are mantras which hold infinite meaning and the dhamma in a single syllable
Mala beads	Prayer beads that are used to count the number of recitations of a mantra
Temple	The place where Buddhists meet to worship
Gompa	The place where Tibetan Buddhists meditate
Vihara	A Buddhist temple which has living accommodation for monks or nuns
Shrine	A place with a statue of a Buddha, providing a focus for believers' meditation and devotion
Buddha rupa	A statue of the Buddha
Bodhi tree	the sacred fig tree under which Siddhartha Gautama gained enlightenment
Puja	An act of worship

Mourning rituals	Activities and ceremonies which take place after the death of someone
Retreat	A period of time spent apart from ordinary life in order to focus on meditation and religious activities
Wesak	The festival which celebrates the birth, enlightenment and death of the Buddha in Theravada Buddhism
Vassa/Rain retreat	The three month annual retreat observed by Theravada Buddhists
Kathina	The festival which occurs at the end of Vassa, and is a time of giving where the laity express their gratitude to monks and nuns
Uposatha Days	Times of renewed dedication to Dhamma practice by lay followers and monastics
Hanamatsuri	The festival of flowers in Japan, commemorating the birth of the Buddha
Obon	A Japanese Buddhist festival to honour those who have passed away
Parinibbana	A Mahayana festival to commemorate the passing away of the Buddha
Lama Tsong Khapa Day	The celebration of the passing of Lama Tsong Khapa, the founder of the Gelug tradition of Buddhism

1RBO-1D__S4

Useful Terminology	Definition
Origin of the Universe	The way that all of space, time and matter began
Value of the Universe	The importance of the world and space for life
Commodity	Something that can be bought and sold
Sanctity of life	The idea that life has value or is holy
Origin of human life	The way that human life began
Evolution	The idea that life is thought to have developed from earlier forms
Survival of the fittest	The idea that life is thought to have developed in order to best suit the environment they are in
Abortion	The deliberate termination of a pregnancy before the foetus can survive
Impermanence of the self	The doctrine of anatta which states that things have no essence, permanent self or unchanging soul
Remembered lives	A clear memory of a previous existence
Paranormal	An event that cannot be explained by science
Euthanasia	The act of putting to death painlessly or allowing to die
Hospice care	Support given to people in the final phase of a terminal illness that focuses on comfort and quality of life
Pollution	The contamination of the environment by substances that are harmful to living organisms
Global warming	The increase in the average temperature of the earth that causes changes in climate and that may be the result of the greenhouse effect

Natural resources	Substances that occur naturally which can be used by humans or exploited for economic gain
Animal rights	The idea that animals deserve consideration of what is in their best interests
Animal experimentation	Animal testing or animal research. The use of non-human animals in experiments
Utilitarianism	An ethical theory that making a decision should be dependent on whether it is useful or for the benefit of the majority

1RBO-1G__Section 1

Useful Terminology	Definition
Mool Mantar	Means 'Main Chant' and is a statement of all the core beliefs found at the beginning of the Guru Granth Sahib
Guru Granth Sahib	The holy scriptures of the Sikh faith
Karta Purakh	He is the creator
Karma	Consequences of one's actions
Rebirth	Born into a new body, the return of the soul
Mukti	Liberation from the cycle of birth, death and rebirth
Gurmukh	God- centred- focused on God
Manmukh	Self -centred- focused on oneself
Haumai	Pride or self-ego- not focused on God but oneself
Sewa	Selfless service
Tan	Physical service
Man	Mental service
Dhan	Material service (sewa)
Sangat	A company of Sikhs meeting in the presence of the Guru Granth Sahib, can also refer to the community of Sikhs
Sat Sangat	'True congregation'

1RBO-1G__Section 2

Useful Terminology	Definition
Lavan	The Sikh wedding hymn- consists of 4 hymns and forms the main part of the ceremony
Guru Ram Das	The 4 th Guru who wrote the Lavan
Cohabitation	A couple living together and having a sexual relationship without being married
Akal Takht	Meaning 'throne of the timeless one' and is one of the five seats of power- it is located in the Harmandir Sahib
Amritsar	A city in the state of Punjab, and is the spiritual and cultural centre of Sikhism
Procreation	The production of offspring
Nuclear family	A family consisting of two parents and one or more children
Extended family	A family which extends beyond the nuclear family, that includes grandparents and other relatives
Blended family	A family composed of a couple and their children from previous relationships/marriages
Rites of passage	Ceremonies that mark important stages in a person's life
Rahit Maryada	Sikh code of conduct
Contraception	The deliberate prevention of conception
Concept of kaam	Sensual pleasure (referred to as lust)
The Sikh Missionary Society	A British charity based in Southall to support the Sikh faith
Atheist	A person who does not believe in a divine power (God)
Humanist	A follower in the principles of humanism – the value of human beings

Divergent	Different from each other
Gender prejudice	Is pre -judging someone because of there gender
Discrimination	Taking an action against a person or group usually based on prejudice

1RBO-1G__S3

Useful Terminology	Definition
Harmandir Sahib	The temple of God – The Golden Temple in Amritsar
Amritsar	A city in northwestern Indian state of the Punjab where the holiest gurdwara is (the Golden temple)
Nishan Sahib	Nishan means ‘symbol’ and is the Sikh triangular flag which holds the emblem of Sikhism- the Khanda
langar hall	The hall where free food is served
Langar	Guru’s kitchen or the free kitchen in the gurdwara
Nam Japna	Meditating on God’s name
Akhand path	A continual reading of the Sikh holy book, the Guru Granth Sahib- usually performed during special occasions
Gurpurbs	Festival of the Guru’- festivals which celebrate the anniversary of a birth or death of a Guru
Commemorations	A celebration or event where a person or past event is remembered
Vaisakhi	The most important of the Sikh festivals- the birth of the Khalsa, harvest festival
Gurbilas	A poetic account of the life of Guru Gobind Singh
Patshahi 10	10 religious hymns written by Guru Gobind Singh
Guru Arjan	The 5 th Guru who was martyred for his faith
Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji	The 9 th Guru who was martyred for his faith. The father of Guru Gobind Singh
Naam Karan	A Sikh ceremony of naming a child which usually takes place in the gurdwara
Hukamnama	A sacred hymn that is read after the Ardas prayer- Hukam means ‘command’ namah means ‘letter’

Amrit sanskar	The Sikh initiation ceremony
Khalsa	The 'pure ones' a community of committed Sikhs
Singh	Means 'lion', a name given to a male Sikh
Kaur	Means 'princess' a name given to a female Sikh
Amrit	A mixture of sugar and water prepared by the Panj Piare (5 pure ones) used in the ceremony of initiation and birth ceremony

1RBO-1G__S4

Useful Terminology	Definition
Commodity	A useful or valuable thing
Sanctity of life	Life is holy and given by God, only God can take it away
Evolution	The process by which living organisms have grown
Abortion	The removal of a foetus from the womb to end a pregnancy
Conception	The action of creating a child
Paranormal	An event or perception without scientific explanation
Logic	A method of reasoning that involves a series of statement, each of which must be true
Fraudulent	A dishonest action which is illegal
Euthanasia	Killing someone painlessly and with compassion
Hospice care	Caring for those who are chronically ill or terminal
Pollution	The presence of a substance into the environment which is harmful or poisonous
Utilitarianism	An ethical theory that looks at the usefulness of an action that will benefit the majority
Guru Granth Sahib	The Sikh Holy book- the ultimate authority

1RBO-2A__S1

Useful Terminology	Definition
Trinity	The Christian belief that there is One God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Nicene Creed	A Christian statement of faith primarily about the nature of God. Accepted by the majority of Christians
First Council of Nicaea	A council of Christian Bishops that took place in Nicaea in AD 325
First council of Constantinople	The second council of Christian Bishops, they confirmed, with some expansion, the Nicene Creed. AD 381
Creation	The Creation of the universe regarded as an act of God
Creator	God the Creator of the universe. A characteristic of God
Benevolent	All loving
Omnipotent	All powerful
Eternal	God has no beginning and no end. Last forever.
Dominion	Control over something, e.g. the natural world
Stewardship	Humanity's responsibility to manage the world and animals for the next generation
Incarnation	The belief that God became a human being in Jesus

Divine Word	Jesus as the Word of God as in John 1
Paschal Mystery	The mystery of the death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus; relates to Easter
Resurrection	The belief that Jesus rose from the dead after three days. The belief that the body stays in the grave until the end of the world, when it is raised and judged
Redemption	The action of being saved from sin
Salvation	The deliverance of humanity from sin
Grace	The undeserved love and mercy given to humanity by God because of his desire, not because of human action
Judgement	The final trial of all humanity, the living and the dead, at the end of the world
Heaven	The ultimate end and the resting place of saved souls
Hell	The eternal separation from God
Purgatory	A preparation for Heaven, a place of purification and healing

1RBO-2A__S2

Useful Terminology	Definition
Justice	Being fair and reasonable
Crime	An illegal act which can be punished
Punishment	The imposition of a penalty for wrongdoing
Protection	A legal measure aimed at preserving another person's rights and freedoms
Retribution	A punishment given as vengeance for a wrongdoing. The act of taking revenge
Deterrence	The prevention of criminal behaviour by fear of punishment
Reformation	Punishment which aims to change or improve a person
Forgiveness	To stop feeling angry or resentful towards a person for a wrongdoing
Mercy	Compassion or forgiveness shown towards a person
Torture	To inflict pain on someone as a punishment or in order to force them to do or say something
Human rights	The basic rights and freedoms that belong to every person
Fair trial	A trial by a neutral court, conducted so it gives all people involved the rights required by law
Trial by jury	A trial in which someone is judged by a group of ordinary people chosen for the purpose (jury)
Greater good	Doing something that most likely will not only benefit the person doing it but many people
Death penalty	Punishment by execution

Capital punishment	Punishment by execution
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1RAO-2A__S3

Useful Terminology	Definition
Sacrament	A visible sign of an inward grace
Grace	The undeserved love and mercy given to humanity by God because of his desire, not because of human action
Liturgy (liturgical worship; liturgical celebrations)	A set form of public worship/religious rite
Prayer	Communication with God. 'Raising the hearts and minds to God'
Evangelical Christians	A Protestant denomination; can also refer to a movement within Christianity that emphasises evangelism
The Lord's prayer	The prayer taught by Jesus to his disciples
Formulaic prayers	Prayers that follow a set format, can often be taught and learned, or read the same every time
Informal prayers	Prayers that are given spontaneously, are often seen as more personal
Rosary	A set of prayers often using a string of beads
Eucharist	The celebration of the Mass when bread and wine become the body and blood of Jesus
Stations of the Cross	A series of images depicting Jesus Christ on the day of his crucifixion and accompanying prayers
Pilgrimage	A journey made to a place of importance to a religion for spiritual reasons

Justice	Giving to people what they deserve. It is one of the four cardinal virtues
Peace	An inner calmness. Treating one another as brother and sisters, recognising all as children of God
Reconciliation	Bringing together people who were opposed to one another. The overall message of Christianity where humanity is reconciled with God
CAFOD	Catholic Agency For Overseas Development. A Catholic Charity
Catholic Mission	People serving Christ by bringing the Catholic truth to the world
Evangelism	The spreading of the faith though teaching about the religion and helping others
Commission of Jesus	(The Great Commission) Jesus' last command to his disciples to go out and spread the teachings of Jesus
Popular piety	Forms of prayer and worship that Christians perform which are inspired by popular practice rather than by liturgy

1RBO-2A_S4

Useful Terminology	Definition
Peace	A period of time in which there is no war
Peacemaking	The process of trying to bring about peace
Conflict	The opposition of individuals or groups that may result in aggression or fighting
Pacifism	The idea that war and violence are unacceptable and never justified
Passive resistance	Opposition demonstrated by a lack of cooperation or in a non-violent way
Just War Theory	The idea that for a war to be morally justifiable (just) it must meet a number of criteria
Holy War	A war fought to defend a religion or to force others to follow a different religion
Weapons of Mass Destruction	A weapon (device) that can kill or harm on a large scale
Acquisition	The act of acquiring, buying or gaining something
Violence	Behaviour that aims to injure, abuse, damage, or destroy
Terrorism	The use of violence or threat of violence in the pursuit of political aims, religious, or ideological change

1RBO-2B__S1

Useful Terminology	Definition
Trinity	The Christian belief that there is One God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Nicene Creed	A Christian statement of faith primarily about the nature of God. Accepted by the majority of Christians
First Council of Nicaea	A council of Christian Bishops that took place in Nicaea in AD 325
First council of Constantinople	The second council of Christian Bishops, they confirmed, with some expansion, the Nicene Creed. AD 381
Creation	The Creation of the universe regarded as an act of God
Creator	God the Creator of the universe. A characteristic of God
Benevolent	All loving
Omnipotent	All powerful
Resurrection	The belief that Jesus rose from the dead after three days. The belief that the body stays in the grave until the end of the world, when it is raised and judged
Atonement	The reconciliation of God and humanity accomplished through the life, suffering, and death of Christ
Salvation	The deliverance of humanity from sin
Grace	The undeserved love and mercy given to humanity by God because of his desire, not because of human action

Judgement	The final trial of all humanity, the living and the dead, at the end of the world
Heaven	The ultimate end and the resting place of saved souls
Hell	The eternal separation from God
Purgatory	A Catholic belief where one is purified to achieve holiness to enter Heaven
Literal understanding of Creation	Believing Creation occurred as outlined in Genesis 1-3
Metaphorical understanding of Creation	Believing Genesis 1-3 can be understood as a myth/symbolically
Catholic Catechism	The official teachings of the Catholic Church
Ascension	When Jesus went up to heaven from earth
Sin	An act against the will or law of God
Righteous	Upright and moral
Freewill	God's gift to humanity allowing them to make their own choices
Vale of Soul making	The argument that both natural and moral evil are essential to "soul-making" so they have a good purpose
Prayer	Communication with God
Charity	An organisation that raises money to help those in need. Or another word for love

1RBO-2B-S2

Useful Terminology	Definition
Justice	Being fair and reasonable
Crime	An illegal act which can be punished
Punishment	The imposition of a penalty for wrongdoing
Protection	A legal measure aimed at preserving another person's rights and freedoms
Retribution	A punishment given as vengeance for a wrongdoing. The act of taking revenge
Deterrence	The prevention of criminal behaviour by fear of punishment
Reformation	Punishment which aims to change or improve a person
Forgiveness	To stop feeling angry or resentful towards a person for a wrongdoing
Restorative justice	Justice which tries to rehabilitate offenders through reconciliation with victims and the community
Torture	To inflict pain on someone as a punishment or in order to force them to do or say something
Human rights	The basic rights and freedoms that belong to every person
Fair trial	A trial by a neutral court, conducted so it gives all people involved the rights required by law
Trial by jury	A trial in which someone is judged by a group of ordinary people chosen for the purpose (jury)
Greater good	Doing something that most likely will not only benefit the person doing it but many people
Death penalty	Punishment by execution

Capital punishment	Punishment by execution
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1RBO-2B__S3

Useful Terminology	Definition
Sacrament	A visible sign of an inward grace
Non-liturgical worship	Informal worship
Liturgy (liturgical worship; liturgical celebrations)	A set form of public worship
Prayer	Communication with God
Book of common prayer	A permanent feature of the Church of England's worship and a key source for its doctrine
Pentecostal	Christianity that places special emphasis on a direct personal experience of God through the baptism with the Holy Spirit
Evangelical Christians	Christians dedicated to sharing the Good News of Jesus
The Lord's prayer	The prayer taught by Jesus to his disciples
Set prayers	Formulaic Prayer: Prayers that follow a set format, can often be taught and learned, or read the same every time
Informal prayers	Prayers that are given spontaneously, are often seen as more personal
Baptism	Holy sacrament. Sometimes called Christening. Initiation rite. Can be infant or adult
Eucharist	A sacrament commemorating the Last Supper

Pilgrimage	A journey made to a place of importance to a religion for spiritual reasons
Christmas	Celebration of the birth of Jesus
Advent	Advent is a season observed in many Christian churches as a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas
Easter	Celebration of the death and resurrection of Jesus
Holy Week	Holy Week is the week leading up to the important Christian festival of Easter
Mission	An important goal or purpose that is accompanied by strong conviction; a calling or vocation
Evangelism	The spreading of the faith through teaching about the religion and helping others
Commission of Jesus	(The Great Commission) Jesus' last command to his disciples to go out and spread the teachings of Jesus
Reconciliation	Bringing together people who were opposed to one another. The overall message of Christianity where humanity is reconciled with God
Christian Aid	Christian charity
Ecumenism	Efforts by Christians of different Church traditions to develop closer relationships and better understandings

1RBO-2B_S4

Useful Terminology	Definition
Peace	A period of time in which there is no war
Peacemaking	The process of trying to bring about peace
Conflict	The opposition of individuals or groups that may result in aggression or fighting
Pacifism	The idea that war and violence are unacceptable and never justified
Passive resistance	Opposition demonstrated by a lack of cooperation or in a non-violent way
Just War Theory	The idea that for a war to be morally justifiable (just) it must meet a number of criteria
Holy War	A war fought to defend a religion or to force others to follow a different religion
Weapons of Mass Destruction	A weapon (device) that can kill or harm on a large scale
Acquisition	The act of acquiring, buying or gaining something
Violence	Behaviour that aims to injure, abuse, damage, or destroy
Terrorism	The use of violence or threat of violence in the pursuit of political aims, religious, or ideological change

1RBO-2C_S1

Useful Terminology	Definition
Six Beliefs of Islam	Belief in Allah, the Only One God. Belief in Angels. Belief in Holy Books (Qur'an). Beliefs in the Holy Books. Belief in the Prophets. Belief in the Day of Judgement. Belief in predestination
Usul ad-Din	The five roots of faith of Shi'a Isla, also known as the Principles of religion
Tawhid	The oneness of Allah. Belief in Allah's unity
Adl	Arabic word meaning justice. One of the names of Allah
Nubuwwah	Prophets of Allah. Prophethood
Imamah	Successors of Muhammad
Mi'ad	The Last Day; the day of judgment and resurrection
Immanence	Allah is here in, and part of the material world, close to believers
Transcendence	Allah is beyond the physical or normal experiences of Humanity
Omnipotence	The quality of being all powerful
Beneficence	The quality of being all loving
Mercy	Compassion and forgiveness
Fairness	Equal treatment, without favourites

Justice	The due allocation of rewards and punishments
Adalat in Shi'a Islam	God's quality of being just
Kutub	Muslim Holy Books
Tawrat	The Torah
Zabur	The Psalms
Injil	The Gospel
Shahifah	The scrolls
Malaikah	Angels
al-Qadr	Idea of Predestination
Predestination	The idea of divine destiny in Islam. Allah wrote down in the Preserved Tablet all that has happened and will happen, which will come to pass as written. It is one of Islam's six articles of faith
Akhirah	The last things. Belief in The Last Day and life after death
Judgement	The final trial of all humanity, the living and the dead, at the end of the world
Paradise	Final resting place for those who have submitted to Allah
Hell	A place of eternal punishment

RiSalah

The messengers of Allah. Belief in prophethood

1RBO-2C_S2

Useful Terminology	Definition
Justice	Being fair and reasonable
Crime	An illegal act which can be punished
Punishment	The imposition of a penalty for wrongdoing
Protection	A legal measure aimed at preserving another person's rights and freedoms
Retribution	A punishment given as vengeance for a wrongdoing. The act of taking revenge
Deterrence	The prevention of criminal behaviour by fear of punishment
Reformation	Punishment which aims to change or improve a person
Forgiveness	To stop feeling angry or resentful towards a person for a wrongdoing
Restorative justice	Justice which tries to rehabilitate offenders through reconciliation with victims and the community
Torture	To inflict pain on someone as a punishment or in order to force them to do or say something
Human rights	The basic rights and freedoms that belong to every person
Fair trial	A trial by a neutral court, conducted so it gives all people involved the rights required by law
Trial by jury	A trial in which someone is judged by a group of ordinary people chosen for the purpose (jury)
Greater good	Doing something that most likely will not only benefit the person doing it but many people
Death penalty	Punishment by execution

Capital punishment	Punishment by execution
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1RBO-2C_S3

Useful Terminology	Definition
Ten Obligatory Acts	Ten acts expected of Shi'a Muslims
Shahadah	Declaration of faith. 'There is no God but Allah. Muhammad is his prophet'. The first Pillar of Islam
Salah	Ritual prayers said five times a day. The second Pillar of Islam
Ablution	The ritual act of washing
Mosque	Muslim place of worship
Jummah Prayer	Friday midday prayers
Sawm	Fasting - the fourth Pillar of Islam
Ramadan	A month long fast
Night of Power	The night when Muhammad received the first revelation of the Qur'an
Laylat al-Qadr	The festival celebrating the Night of Power
Zakah	An annual tax on wealth within Islam, given to charity. The third Pillar of Islam
Khums	An additional charity tax for Shi'a Muslims
Hajj	Pilgrimage to Makkah. The fifth Pillar of Islam

Lesser Jihad	The struggle to remove evil from the world
Greater Jihad	The struggle to make oneself live in submission to Allah
Id-ul-Adha	A four-day festival to commemorate the willingness of Ibrahim to sacrifice his son
Id-ul-Fitr	The celebration of the end of fasting, and to thank Allah for the help and strength that he gave them throughout the previous month (Ramadan) to help them practise self-control
Ud-ul-Ghadeer	The celebration of the occasion of Muhammad appointing Ali as his successor
Hadith	Sayings of the Prophet Muhammad
Ashura	Ashura marks the day of the martyrdom of Hussein

1RBO-2C_S4

Useful Terminology	Definition
Peace	A period of time in which there is no war
Peacemaking	The process of trying to bring about peace
Conflict	The opposition of individuals or groups that may result in aggression or fighting
Pacifism	The idea that war and violence are unacceptable and never justified
Passive resistance	Opposition demonstrated by a lack of cooperation or in a non-violent way
Arab Spring	The Arab Spring was a series of anti-government protests, uprisings and armed rebellions that spread across the Middle East in late 2010 - early 2011
Just War Theory	The idea that for a war to be morally justifiable (just) it must meet a number of criteria
Lesser Jihad	A military struggle. The outer Jihad. Jihad by sword
Holy War	A war fought to defend a religion or to force others to follow a different religion
Weapons of Mass Destruction	A weapon (device) that can kill or harm on a large scale
Acquisition	The act of acquiring, buying or gaining something
Violence	Behaviour that aims to injure, abuse, damage, or destroy
Terrorism	The use of violence or threat of violence in the pursuit of political aims, religious, or ideological change

1RBO-1D_Section 1

Useful Terminology	Definition
Buddha	The term for an enlightened being
The Buddha	Refers to the Siddhartha Gautama
Enlightenment	The discovery of true knowledge, usually by meditation, about oneself and reality and so escaping the cycle of rebirth
The Four Sights	The four things described in the account of Siddhartha Gautama's life which led to his realisation of the impermanence of existence
The Sangha	The Buddhist community in general, or monks, nuns and novices in particular
Dhamma	The teaching of the Buddha
Dependant origination/conditionality	The idea that all things arise in dependence upon conditions
Pattica-samupadda	The chain of causation describing the causes of suffering and the events that lead a being through rebirth, old age and death
Three Marks of Existence	Impermanence (anicca), suffering (dukkha) and no-self (anatta)
Three Poisons	The main causes of suffering: hatred, greed and ignorance
Theravada Buddhism	'The way of the elders' – an ancient Buddhist tradition centred in Southern Asia
Mahayana Buddhism	Later Buddhist traditions such as Tibetan, Zen and Pure Land Buddhism
Nirodha	Suffering can be ended – the Third Noble truth
Tanha	Craving, or wanting and desiring something

Samsara	The cycle of birth, life death and rebirth
The Five Khandas (aggregates)	The five aspects that make up a person
Sunnata	The idea that there is no separate or independent self
Tathagatagarbha	The idea that all beings have within themselves the virtues and wisdom of a Buddha but these are hidden by a covering of defilements
Arahant	A term in Theravada Buddhism for someone who has become enlightened
Bodhisattva Ideal	The Mahayana goal for everyone to become bodhisattvas and help to free sentient beings from samsara and the cycle of death, rebirth and suffering
Pure Land Buddhism	A Mahayana school of Buddhism believing in the Amitabha Buddha
Kamma	A person's actions: good actions cause happiness and bad actions cause suffering
Merit	A force which accumulates as a result of good deeds, acts or thoughts
Rebirth	The actions of a person lead to a new existence after death in the endless cycles of samsara

1RBO-2D_S2

Useful Terminology	Definition
Justice	Being fair and reasonable
Crime	An illegal act which can be punished
Punishment	The imposition of a penalty for wrongdoing
Protection	A legal measure aimed at preserving another person's rights and freedoms
Retribution	A punishment given as vengeance for a wrongdoing. The act of taking revenge
Forgiveness	To stop feeling angry or resentful towards a person for a wrongdoing
Restorative justice	Justice which tries to rehabilitate offenders through reconciliation with victims and the community
Torture	To inflict pain on someone as a punishment or in order to force them to do something
Human rights	The basic rights and freedoms that belong to every person
Fair trial	A trial by a neutral court, conducted so it gives all people involved the rights required by law
Trial by jury	A trial in which someone is judged by a group of ordinary people chosen for the purpose (jury)
Greater good	Doing something that most likely will not only benefit the person doing it but many people
Death penalty	Punishment by execution
Capital punishment	Punishment by execution

1RBO-2D__S3

Useful Terminology	Definition
Meditation	The practice of calming and focusing the mind in order to focus on specific teachings so that their true meaning can be understood
Mindfulness breathing	Meditation that focuses on the experience of breathing
Zazen	The practice of bringing one's attention to experiences occurring in the present moment, usually by meditation
Visualisation of the Buddha	The practice of visualising images of Buddha forms and reciting sacred sounds and mantras
Mantra	A sequence of sacred syllables to be recited by Buddhists
Sacred syllables	Are mantras which hold infinite meaning and the dhamma in a single syllable
Mala beads	Prayer beads that are used to count the number of recitations of a mantra
Temple	The place where Buddhists meet to worship
Gompa	The place where Tibetan Buddhists meditate
Vihara	A Buddhist temple which has living accommodation for monks or nuns
Shrine	A place with a statue of a Buddha, providing a focus for believers' meditation and devotion
Buddha rupa	A statue of the Buddha
Bodhi tree	the sacred fig tree under which Siddhartha Gautama gained enlightenment
Puja	An act of worship

Mourning rituals	Activities and ceremonies which take place after the death of someone
Retreat	A period of time spent apart from ordinary life in order to focus on meditation and religious activities
Wesak	The festival which celebrates the birth, enlightenment and death of the Buddha in Theravada Buddhism
Vassa/Rain retreat	The three month annual retreat observed by Theravada Buddhists
Kathina	The festival which occurs at the end of Vassa, and is a time of giving where the laity express their gratitude to monks and nuns
Uposatha Days	Times of renewed dedication to Dhamma practice by lay followers and monastics
Hanamatsuri	The festival of flowers in Japan, commemorating the birth of the Buddha
Obon	A Japanese Buddhist festival to honour those who have passed away
Parinibbana	A Mahayana festival to commemorate the passing away of the Buddha
Lama Tsong Khapa Day	The celebration of the passing of Lama Tsong Khapa, the founder of the Gelug tradition of Buddhism

1RBO-2D_S4

Useful Terminology	Definition
Peace	A period of time in which there is no war
Peacemaking	The process of trying to bring about peace
Conflict	The opposition of individuals or groups that may result in aggression or fighting
Pacifism	The idea that war and violence are unacceptable and never justified
Passive resistance	Opposition demonstrated by a lack of cooperation or in a non-violent way
Just War Theory	The idea that for a war to be morally justifiable (just) it must meet a number of criteria
Skilfulness	Good and ethical actions
Weapons of Mass Destruction	A weapon (device) that can kill or harm on a large scale
Acquisition	The act of acquiring, buying or gaining something
Violence	Behaviour that aims to injure, abuse, damage or destroy
Terrorism	The use of violence or threat of violence in the pursuit of political aims, religious or ideological change

1RBO-2F__Section 1

Useful Terminology	Definition
Torah	The five books of Moses. These are: Bresheit (Genesis), Shemot (Exodus), Vayicra (Leviticus), Bamidbar (Numbers), and Devarim (Deuteronomy). They are the first five books of the Jewish Scriptures
Shekhinah	The presence of the divine. Some regard Shekhinah as feminine
Divine	God like/ Having the characteristics of God
Orthodox Judaism	A branch within Judaism which teaches strict adherence to rabbinical teaching on Jewish law and tradition. It is not one group rather a term which describes several traditional Jewish groups
Reform Judaism	A branch within Judaism which teaches that Judaism must change and adapt to the needs of society
Liberal Judaism	A branch within Judaism which teaches a modern form of Judaism which adapt to the needs of society
Messiah	A saviour and liberator of the Jews, there are different views to when the Messiah will arrive
Messianic Age	The time when the Messiah will arrive
Covenant at Sinai	The covenant made between Moses and God, also called the Mosaic covenant
Decalogue	The Ten Commandments, given to the Jews from God through Moses
Covenant with Abraham	The covenant made between Abraham and God, also called the Abrahamic covenant
Promised land	The land given to the Israelite tribes by God as described in the Jewish scriptures. There are different views as to the importance of this for Jews today
Covenant	An agreement between two parties
Sanctity of life	The teaching that life is sacred/holy

Pikuach Nefesh	The obligation to save a life if it is in danger
Precedence	That something is considered more important than other things
Moral principle	Things that are considered to be the right ethical rules
Mitzvot	The 613 rules or commandments that are found in the Jewish scriptures
Free will	The ability to make decisions, to choose what to do in a given situation
Resurrection	The concept believed by some Jews that after death the bodies of the dead will be bought back to life, it is included as one of Maimonides 13 Principles of faith. There are different views as to what this means and who it applies to
Judgement	The concept believed by some Jews that after death people will be judged on their actions. There are different views as to what this means and who it applies to

1RBO-2F_S2

Useful Terminology	Definition
Justice	Being fair and reasonable
Crime	An illegal act which can be punished
Punishment	The imposition of a penalty for wrongdoing
Protection	A legal measure aimed at preserving another person's rights and freedoms
Retribution	A punishment given as vengeance for a wrongdoing. The act of taking revenge
Deterrence	The prevention of criminal behaviour by fear of punishment
Reformation	Punishment which aims to change or improve a person
Forgiveness	To stop feeling angry or resentful towards a person for a wrongdoing
Restorative justice	Justice which tries to rehabilitate offenders through reconciliation with victims and the community
Torture	To inflict pain on someone as a punishment or in order to force them to do or say something
Human rights	The basic rights and freedoms that belong to every person
Fair trial	A trial by a neutral court, conducted so it gives all people involved the rights required by law
Trial by jury	A trial in which someone is judged by a group of ordinary people chosen for the purpose (jury)
Greater good	Doing something that most likely will not only benefit the person doing it but many people
Death penalty	Punishment by execution

Capital punishment	Punishment by execution
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1RBO-2F__Section 3

Useful Terminology	Definition
Public worship	Worship that takes place in public, this refers to synagogue worship in Judaism
Synagogue	The Jewish place of worship
Tenakh	The main Jewish scriptures is the Tanakh, the word is an acronym of Torah (Law), Nebi'im (Prophets) and Ketuvim (Writings).
Talmud	The Talmud is made up of the Mishnah and the Gemara. The Jewish Halakhah (law) come from it
Kashrut	The laws that explain which foods are fit or proper to eat
Kosher	Foods which are allowed in by the kashrut, they satisfy the Jewish laws
Treifah	Foods which are not allowed in by the kashrut, they do not satisfy the Jewish laws
Shema	A prayer of praise to God. The Shema is said before reading the Torah, on the Sabbath and Jewish holidays
Amidah	The standing prayer, every Amidah is divided into three central sections: praise, petitions and thanks.
Mezuzah	A small box that is placed on the right doorpost of Jewish homes. Inside the box is a scroll containing verses from the Torah, including the Shema
Brit Milah	Is the Jewish ceremony in which a baby boy is circumcised, it may also be called a Bris
Bar Mitzvah	A boy's coming of age ceremony which literally means son of the commandments
Bat Mitzvah	A girl's coming of age ceremony which literally means daughter of the commandments
Shiva	The seven-day mourning period following burial
Avelut	mourning, which consists of three periods: shiva, sheloshim, and the year of mourning

Yahrzeit	Annual remembrance of a person's death during which Jews say the Mourner's Kaddish and burn a Yahrzeit candle for 24 hours
Shabbat	The Jewish holy day, the Sabbath begins at nightfall on Friday and lasts until nightfall on Saturday
Rosh Hashanah	The Jewish new year, it literally means the beginning
Yom Kippur	The Day of Atonement it comes at the end of the 10 Days of Awe, a time of reflection and repentance that follows Rosh Hashanah
Pesach	The Feast of Passover which remember the liberation of the Israelites who were led out of Egypt by Moses
Shavuot	A festival marking the time the Jews received the Torah on Mount Sinai. It is a harvest festival, also known as the festival of Weeks
Sukkot	A weeklong holiday, five days after Yom Kippur. It celebrates the gathering of the harvest and the protection God gave the Israelites during the exodus
Ark	A cabinet that contains the Torah: the scroll of sacred writings. It is found on one wall of the synagogue, normally the wall that points in the direction of Jerusalem
Bimah	A platform in the centre of the synagogue from which the Torah is read
Yad	The pointer used during the public reading of the Torah scroll. It literally means hand
Torah scroll	A Sefer Torah is a handwritten copy of the Torah, the holiest book in Judaism. It is used in the ritual of Torah reading during prayer
Ner tamid	The lamp that burns perpetually in synagogues in front of, or near, the ark of the Law. It literally means eternal light
Menorah	A seven-lamp candle stick

1RBO-2F_S4

Useful Terminology	Definition
Peace	A period of time in which there is no war
Peacemaking	The process of trying to bring about peace
Conflict	The opposition of individuals or groups that may result in aggression or fighting
Pacifism	The idea that war and violence are unacceptable and never justified
Passive resistance	Opposition demonstrated by a lack of cooperation or in a non-violent way
Just War Theory	The idea that for a war to be morally justifiable (just) it must meet a number of criteria
Holy War	A war fought to defend a religion or to force others to follow a different religion
Weapons of Mass Destruction	A weapon (device) that can kill or harm on a large scale
Acquisition	The act of acquiring, buying or gaining something
Violence	Behaviour that aims to injure, abuse, damage, or destroy
Terrorism	The use of violence or threat of violence in the pursuit of political aims, religious, or ideological change

1RBO-2G__S1

Useful Terminology	Definition
Mool Mantar	Means 'Main Chant' and is a statement of all the core beliefs found at the beginning of the Guru Granth Sahib
Guru Granth Sahib	The holy scriptures of the Sikh faith
Karta Purakh	He is the creator
Karma	Consequences of one's actions
Rebirth	Born into a new body, the return of the soul
Mukti	Liberation from the cycle of birth, death and rebirth
Gurmukh	God- centred- focused on God
Manmukh	Self -centred- focused on oneself
Haumai	Pride or self-ego- not focused on God but oneself
Sewa	Selfless service
Tan	Physical service
Man	Mental service
Dhan	Material service (sewa)
Sangat	A company of Sikhs meeting in the presence of the Guru Granth Sahib, can also refer to the community of Sikhs
Sat Sangat	'True congregation'

1RBO-2G__S2

Useful Terminology	Definition
Justice	Bringing about what is fair and right, according to the law
Humanist	An ethical stance related to the value of human beings
Five Thieves	The five major weaknesses of human beings- lust (kaam), anger (krodh), greed (lobh), attachment (moh), and ego (hunkaar)
Sikh Welfare Awareness Team	A charity providing substance awareness and crime diversion helping young people in the community
Punishment	Something legally done to somebody as a result of being found guilty of breaking the law
Protection	Protecting society from criminals
Retribution	An aim of punishment to get your own back
Deterrence	The act of discouraging an action through instilling doubt or fear
Reformation	An aim of punishment to change someone's behaviour for the good
Forgiveness	Showing someone mercy and grace, pardoning them for what they have done wrong
Restorative justice	A system of criminal justice that looks at rehabilitating criminals with reconciling with the victims
Torture	Inflicting physical pain on a person with the aim of either punishing them or force them to do or say something
Human rights	The basic rights and freedom that belongs to every person
Capital punishment	A government sanctioned punishment where someone is put to death
Guru Granth Sahib	The Sikh Holy book- the ultimate authority

1RBO-2G__S3

Useful Terminology	Definition
Harmandir Sahib	The temple of God – The Golden Temple in Amritsar
Amritsar	A city in northwestern Indian state of the Punjab where the holiest gurdwara is (the Golden temple)
Nishan Sahib	Nishan means 'symbol' and is the Sikh triangular flag which holds the emblem of Sikhism- the Khanda
langar hall	The hall where free food is served
Langar	Guru's kitchen or the free kitchen in the gurdwara
Nam Japna	Meditating on God's name
Akhand path	A continual reading of the Sikh holy book, the Guru Granth Sahib- usually performed during special occasions
Gurpurbs	Festival of the Guru'- festivals which celebrate the anniversary of a birth or death of a Guru
Commemorations	A celebration or event where a person or past event is remembered
Vaisakhi	The most important of the Sikh festivals- the birth of the Khalsa, harvest festival
Gurbilas	A poetic account of the life of Guru Gobind Singh
Patshahi 10	10 religious hymns written by Guru Gobind Singh
Guru Arjan	The 5 th Guru who was martyred for his faith
Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji	The 9 th Guru who was martyred for his faith. The father of Guru Gobind Singh
Naam Karan	A Sikh ceremony of naming a child which usually takes place in the gurdwara
Hukamnama	A sacred hymn that is read after the Ardas prayer- Hukam means 'command' namah means 'letter'

Amrit sanskar	The Sikh initiation ceremony
Khalsa	The 'pure ones' a community of committed Sikhs
Singh	Means 'lion', a name given to a male Sikh
Kaur	Means 'princess' a name given to a female Sikh
Amrit	A mixture of sugar and water prepared by the Panj Piare (5 pure ones) used in the ceremony of initiation and birth ceremony

1RBO-2G__S4

Useful Terminology	Definition
Peace	An absence of conflict leading to happiness and harmony
Peacemaking	An authority who works to establish peace in the world
Conflict	Fighting between countries or groups of people
Zafanamah	Means 'declaration of victory' and is a letter written by Guru Gobind Singh
Pacifism	The belief of people who refuse to take part in any form of violence or war
Akali Movement	Gurdwara reform movement aim to bring change (in order to improve it) to the gurdwaras in India
Just War theory	A set of criteria that a war needs to meet before it can be justified
Dharam Yudh	War in defence of righteousness- the Sikh Just war theory
Dasam Granth	A collection of writings by Guru Gobind Singh
Holy War	Fighting for a religious cause or God, usually controlled by a religious leader
Saint-soldier	The concept initiated by Guru Gobind Singh- self respect with humility
Bhai Nand's Tankah Nama	Earliest code of conduct written by Bhai Nand
Weapons of mass destruction	Weapons that can kill large numbers of people and/or cause great damage
Conflict	A state of prolonged or open fighting

Violence	Intense force or great power
War	Fighting between nations to try to resolve issues between them
Terrorism	The unlawful use of violence, usually against innocent civilians to achieve a political goal
Five Thieves	The five major weaknesses of human beings
Guru Granth Sahib	Regarded as the ultimate authority- the Sikh Holy Book

1RBO-3A__S1

Useful Terminology	Definition
Trinity	The Christian belief that there is One God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Nicene Creed	A Christian statement of faith primarily about the nature of God. Accepted by the majority of Christians
First Council of Nicaea	A council of Christian Bishops that took place in Nicaea in AD 325
First council of Constantinople	The second council of Christian Bishops, they confirmed, with some expansion, the Nicene Creed. AD 381
Creation	The Creation of the universe regarded as an act of God
Creator	God the Creator of the universe. A characteristic of God
Benevolent	All loving
Omnipotent	All powerful
Eternal	God has no beginning and no end. Last forever.
Dominion	Control over something
Stewardship	Humanity's responsibility to manage the world and animals for the next generation
Incarnation	The belief that God became a human being in Jesus

Divine Word	Jesus as the Word of God as in John 1
Paschal Mystery	The mystery of the death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus; relates to Easter
Resurrection	The belief that Jesus rose from the dead after three days. The belief that the body stays in the grave until the end of the world, when it is raised and judged
Redemption	The action of being saved from sin
Salvation	The deliverance of humanity from sin
Grace	The undeserved love and mercy given to humanity by God because of his desire, not because of human action
Judgement	The final trial of all humanity, the living and the dead, at the end of the world
Heaven	The ultimate end and the resting place of saved souls
Hell	The eternal separation from God
Purgatory	A preparation for Heaven, a place of purification and healing
Literal	Something that is factual and exact
Metaphorical	Something which is symbolic
Catholic Catechism	The official teachings of the Catholic Church

1RBO-3A-S2

Useful Terminology	Definition
Revelation	The act of providing truth or knowledge that has not been known or seen before, usually by contact with God
Vision	A vision is something seen in a dream, trance, or religious ecstasy, sometimes contact with God that usually conveys a revelation
Hallucination	An experience in which a person perceives something that does not exist outside the mind
Miracle	An event that breaks the laws of nature and is thought to be an act of God
Religious experience	An event or experience of some power or presence beyond oneself
Design argument	An argument for the existence of God as an intelligent Creator based on the evidence of design in the natural world
Cosmological argument	An argument for the existence of God as the First Causer based on the evidence of causation in the natural world
Free will	God's gift to humanity allowing them to make their own choices
Prayer	Communication with God
Charity	An organisation that raises money to help those in need. Or another word for love

1RBO-3A_S3

Useful Terminology	Definition
Sacraments	A visible sign of an inward grace
Grace	The undeserved love and mercy given to humanity by God because of his desire, not because of human action
Liturgy (liturgical worship; liturgical celebrations)	A set form of public worship
Prayer	Communication with God
Evangelical Christians	A Protestant denomination; can also refer to a movement within Christianity that emphasises evangelism
The Lord's prayer	The prayer taught by Jesus to his disciples
Formulaic prayers	Prayers that follow a set format, can often be taught and learned, or read the same every time
Informal prayers	Prayers that are given spontaneously, are often seen as more personal
Rosary	A set of prayers often using a string of beads
Eucharist	The celebration of the Mass when bread and wine become the body and blood of Jesus
Stations of the Cross	A series of images depicting Jesus Christ on the day of his crucifixion and accompanying prayers
Pilgrimage	A journey made to a place of importance to a religion for spiritual reasons

Justice	Giving to people what they deserve. It is one of the four cardinal virtues
Peace	The freedom from war and conflict. An inner calmness
Reconciliation	Bringing together people who were opposed to one another. The overall message of Christianity where humanity is reconciled with God
CAFOD	Catholic Agency For Overseas Development. A Catholic Charity
Mission	An important goal or purpose that is accompanied by strong conviction; a calling or vocation
Evangelism	The spreading of the faith though teaching about the religion and helping others
Commission of Jesus	(The Great Commission) Jesus' last command to his disciples to go out and spread the teachings of Jesus
Popular piety	Forms of prayer and worship that Christians perform which are inspired by popular practice rather than by liturgy

1RBO-3A_S4

Useful Terminology	Definition
Human rights	The basic rights and freedoms that belong to every person
Common Good	Actions which benefit the whole of society rather than individuals or sections of society
Catholic Social Teaching	Catholic beliefs about social justice, human dignity and common good in society
Inequality	When two people or groups of people are not equal in status, rights and opportunity
Religious freedom	The right to choose a religion (or no religion) without interference by an authority
Multi-faith society	Many different religions living together in one society
Prejudice	When someone believes another person should have a different status, rights or opportunity because of certain characteristics they might have
Discrimination	When someone is given a different status, rights or opportunity because of certain characteristics they might have
Racial harmony	People of different races living together peacefully in society
Social justice	Fairness in terms of the equal distribution of wealth, opportunities, and privileges within a society. The process of ensuring that individuals fulfil their roles and receive what was their due from society
Distribution of wealth	The way in which the wealth and income of the world are divided among nations
Wealth	The ownership of a large amount of money and possessions
Poverty	When the income of a person falls below the level necessary to meet basic needs

1RBO-3B-S1

Useful Terminology	Definition
Trinity	The Christian belief that there is One God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Nicene Creed	A Christian statement of faith primarily about the nature of God. Accepted by the majority of Christians
Creation	The Creation of the universe regarded as an act of God
Creator	God the Creator of the universe. A characteristic of God
Benevolent	All loving
Omnipotent	All powerful
Incarnation	The belief that God became a human being in Jesus
Divine Word	Jesus as the Word of God as in John 1
Resurrection	The belief that Jesus rose from the dead after three days. The belief that the body stays in the grave until the end of the world, when it is raised and judged
Atonement	The reconciliation of God and humanity accomplished through the life, suffering, and death of Christ
Salvation	The deliverance of humanity from sin
Grace	The undeserved love and mercy given to humanity by God because of his desire, not because of human action

Judgement	The final trial of all humanity, the living and the dead, at the end of the world
Heaven	The ultimate end and the resting place of saved souls
Hell	The eternal separation from God
Purgatory	A Catholic belief where one is purified to achieve holiness to enter Heaven
Literal	Something that is factual and exact
Metaphorical	Something which is symbolic
Catholic Catechism	The official teachings of the Catholic Church
Ascension	When Jesus went up to heaven from earth
Sin	An act against the will or law of God
Righteous	Upright and moral
Freewill	God's gift to humanity allowing them to make their own choices
Vale of Soul making	The argument that both natural and moral evil are essential to "soul-making" so they have a good purpose
Prayer	Communication with God
Charity	An organisation that raises money to help those in need. Or another word for love

1RBO-3B_S2

Useful Terminology	Definition
Revelation	The act of providing truth or knowledge that has not been known or seen before, usually by contact with God
Vision	A vision is something seen in a dream, trance, or religious ecstasy, sometimes contact with God that usually conveys a revelation
Hallucination	An experience in which a person perceives something that does not exist outside the mind
Miracle	An event that breaks the laws of nature and is thought to be an act of God.
Religious experience	An event or experience of some power or presence beyond oneself
Prayer	Communication with God
Design argument	An argument for the existence of God as an intelligent Creator based on the evidence of design in the natural world
Cosmological argument	An argument for the existence of God as the First Causer based on the evidence of causation in the natural world
Revelation	The act of providing truth or knowledge that has not been known or seen before, usually by contact with God

1RBO-3B_S3

Useful Terminology	Definition
Sacraments	A visible sign of an inward grace
Non-liturgical worship	Informal worship
Liturgy (liturgical worship; liturgical celebrations)	A set form of public worship
Prayer	Communication with God
Book of common prayer	A permanent feature of the Church of England's worship and a key source for its doctrine
Pentecostal	Christianity that places special emphasis on a direct personal experience of God through the baptism with the Holy Spirit
Evangelical Christians	Christians dedicated to sharing the Good News of Christ
The Lord's prayer	The prayer taught by Jesus to his disciples
Set prayers	Formulaic Prayer: Prayers that follow a set format, can often be taught and learned, or read the same every time
Informal prayers	Prayers that are given spontaneously, are often seen as more personal
Baptism	Holy sacrament. Sometimes called Christening. Initiation rite. Can be infant or adult
Eucharist	A sacrament commemorating the Last Supper

Pilgrimage	A journey made to a place of importance to a religion for spiritual reasons
Christmas	Celebration of the birth of Christ
Advent	Advent is a season observed in many Christian churches as a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas
Easter	Celebration of the death and resurrection of Christ
Holy Week	Holy Week is the week leading up to the important Christian festival of Easter
Mission	An important goal or purpose that is accompanied by strong conviction; a calling or vocation
Evangelism	The spreading of the faith through teaching about the religion and helping others
Commission of Jesus	(The Great Commission) Jesus' last command to his disciples to go out and spread the teachings of Jesus
Reconciliation	Bringing together people who were opposed to one another. The overall message of Christianity where humanity is reconciled with God
Christian Aid	Christian charity
Ecumenism	Efforts by Christians of different Church traditions to develop closer relationships and better understandings

1RBO-3B_S4

Useful Terminology	Definition
Human rights	The basic rights and freedoms that belong to every person
Inequality	When two people or groups of people are not equal in status, rights and opportunity
Religious freedom	The right to choose a religion (or no religion) without interference by an authority
Multi-faith society	Many different religions living together in one society
Prejudice	When someone believes another person should have a different status, rights or opportunity because of certain characteristics they might have
Discrimination	When someone is given a different status, rights or opportunity because of certain characteristics they might have
Racial harmony	People of different races living together peacefully in society
Multi-ethnic society	Many different races living together in one society
Social justice	Fairness in terms of the equal distribution of wealth, opportunities, and privileges within a society. The process of ensuring that individuals fulfil their roles and receive what was their due from society
Distribution of wealth	The way in which the wealth and income of the world are divided among nations
Wealth	The ownership of a large amount of money and possessions
Absolute poverty	When the income of a person falls below the level necessary to meet basic needs
Relative poverty	When the income of a person falls below the average in society

1RBO-3C_S1

Useful Terminology	Definition
Six Beliefs of Islam	Belief in Allah, the Only One God. Belief in Angels. Belief in Holy Books (Qur'an). Beliefs in the Holy Books. Belief in the Prophets. Belief in the Day of Judgement. Belief in predestination
Usul ad-Din	The five roots of faith of Shi'a Isla, also known as the Principles of religion
Tawhid	The oneness of Allah. Belief in Allah's unity
Adl	Arabic word meaning justice. One of the names of Allah
Nubuwwah	Prophets of Allah. Prophethood
Imamah	Successors of Muhammad
Mi'ad	The Last Day; the day of judgment and resurrection
Immanence	Allah is here in, and part of the material world, close to believers
Transcendence	Allah is beyond the physical or normal experiences of Humanity
Omnipotence	The quality of being all powerful
Beneficence	The quality of being all loving
Mercy	Compassion and forgiveness
Fairness	Equal treatment, without favourites

Justice	The due allocation of rewards and punishments
Adalat in Shi'a Islam	God's quality of being just
Kutub	Muslim Holy Books
Tawrat	The Torah
Zabur	The Psalms
Injil	The Gospel
Shahifah	The scrolls
Malaikah	Angels
al-Qadr	Idea of Predestination
Predestination	The idea of divine destiny in Islam. Allah wrote down in the Preserved Tablet all that has happened and will happen, which will come to pass as written. It is one of Islam's six articles of faith
Akhirah	The last things. Belief in The Last Day and life after death
Judgement	The final trial of all humanity, the living and the dead, at the end of the world
Paradise	Final resting place for those who have submitted to Allah
Hell	A place of eternal punishment

RiSalah

The messengers of Allah. Belief in prophethood

1RBO-3C_S2

Useful Terminology	Definition
Revelation	The act of providing truth or knowledge that has not been known or seen before, usually by contact with God
Vision	A vision is something seen in a dream, trance, or religious ecstasy, sometimes contact with God that usually conveys a revelation
Hallucination	An experience in which a person perceives something that does not exist outside the mind
Miracle	An event that breaks the laws of nature and is thought to be an act of God
Religious experience	An event or experience of some power or presence beyond oneself
Design argument	An argument for the existence of God as an intelligent Creator based on the evidence of design in the natural world
Cosmological argument	An argument for the existence of God as the First Causer based on the evidence of causation in the natural world
Compassionate	A feeling of sympathy and sadness for the suffering of others
Life as a test	This life is a preparation for the judgment that will come after death

1RBO-3C_S3

Useful Terminology	Definition
Ten Obligatory Acts	Ten acts expected of Shi'a Muslims
Shahadah	Declaration of faith. 'There is no God but Allah. Muhammad is his prophet'. The first Pillar of Islam
Salah	Ritual prayers said five times a day. The second Pillar of Islam
Ablution	The ritual act of washing
Mosque	Muslim place of worship
Jummah Prayer	Friday midday prayers
Sawm	Fasting - the fourth Pillar of Islam
Ramadan	A month long fast
Night of Power	The night when Muhammad received the first revelation of the Qur'an
Laylat al-Qadr	The festival celebrating the Night of Power
Zakah	An annual tax on wealth within Islam, given to charity. The third Pillar of Islam
Khums	An additional charity tax for Shi'a Muslims
Hajj	Pilgrimage to Makkah. The fifth Pillar of Islam

Lesser Jihad	The struggle to remove evil from the world
Greater Jihad	The struggle to make oneself live in submission to Allah
Id-ul-Adha	A four-day festival to commemorate the willingness of Ibrahim to sacrifice his son
Id-ul-Fitr	The celebration of the end of fasting, and to thank Allah for the help and strength that he gave them throughout the previous month (Ramadan) to help them practise self-control
Ud-ul-Ghadeer	The celebration of the occasion of Muhammad appointing Ali as his successor
Hadith	Sayings of the Prophet Muhammad
Ashura	Ashura marks the day of the martyrdom of Hussein

1RBO-3C_S4

Useful Terminology	Definition
Human rights	The basic rights and freedoms that belong to every person
Inequality	Actions which benefit the whole of society rather than individuals or sections of society
Religious freedom	The right to choose a religion (or no religion) without interference by an authority
Multi-faith society	Many different religions living together in one society
Prejudice	When someone believes another person should have a different status, rights or opportunity because of certain characteristics they might have
Discrimination	When someone is given a different status, rights or opportunity because of certain characteristics they might have
Racial harmony	People of different races living together peacefully in society
Multi-ethnic society	Many different races living together in one society
Racial discrimination	When someone has a different status, rights or opportunity because of their race
Social justice	Fairness in terms of the equal distribution of wealth, opportunities, and privileges within a society. The process of ensuring that individuals fulfil their roles and receive what was their due from society
Distribution of wealth	The way in which the wealth and income of the world are divided among nations
Wealth	The ownership of a large amount of money and possessions
Poverty	When the income of a person falls below the level necessary to meet basic needs

1RBO-3D_S1

Useful Terminology	Definition
The Buddha	The term for an enlightened being, usually applied to Siddhartha Gautama
Enlightenment	The discovery of true knowledge, usually by meditation, about oneself and reality and so escaping the cycle of rebirth
The Four Sights	The four things described in the account of Siddhartha Gautama's life which led to his realisation of the impermanence of existence
The Sangha	The Buddhist community in general, or monks, nuns and novices in particular
Dhamma	The teaching of the Buddha
Dependant origination/conditionality	The idea that all things arise in dependence upon conditions
Pattica-samupadda	The chain of causation describing the causes of suffering and the events that lead a being through rebirth, old age and death
Three Marks of Existence	Impermanence (anicca), suffering (dukkha) and no-self (anatta)
Three Poisons	The main causes of suffering: hatred, greed and ignorance
Theravada Buddhism	'The way of the elders' – an ancient Buddhist tradition centred in Southern Asia
Mahayana Buddhism	Later Buddhist traditions such as Tibetan, Zen and Pure Land Buddhism
Nirodha	Suffering can be ended – the Third Noble truth
Tanha	Craving, or wanting and desiring something

Samsara	The cycle of birth, life death and rebirth
The Five Khandas (aggregates)	The five aspects that make up a person
Sunnata	The idea that there is no separate or independent self
Tathagatagarbha	The idea that all beings have within themselves the virtues and wisdom of a Buddha but these are hidden by a covering of defilements
Arahant	A term in Theravada Buddhism for someone who has become enlightened
Bodhisattva Ideal	The Mahayana goal for everyone to become bodhisattvas and help to free sentient beings from samsara and the cycle of death, rebirth and suffering
Pure Land Buddhism	A Mahayana school of Buddhism believing in the Amitabha Buddha
Kamma	A person's actions: good actions cause happiness and bad actions cause suffering
Merit	A force which accumulates as a result of good deeds, acts or thoughts
Rebirth	The actions of a person lead to a new existence after death in the endless cycles of samsara

1RBO-3D_S2

Useful Terminology	Definition
Personal God	The idea that God is a being with whom people can have a close relationship
Realm of Gods	A realm of enjoyment in which live blissful long lived beings (gods/devas)
Miracle	An event that breaks the laws of nature and is thought to be the act of a divine being
Supernatural powers	The ability of a divine being to go beyond natural powers or forces
Nature of reality	Physical reality controlled by physics or physical laws
Prayer	Communication with a god or a divine being
Merit	A beneficial and protective force which accumulates as a result of good deeds, acts or thoughts
Consciousness	The aspect of the mind that is aware and includes sensation, recognition, processing and awareness
Vision	A vision is something seen in a dream, trance, or in meditation, sometimes contact with a Buddha, and which conveys a revelation
Hallucination	An experience in which a person perceives something that does not exist outside the mind
Religious experience	An event or experience of some power or presence beyond oneself

1RBO-3D_S3

Useful Terminology	Definition
Meditation	The practice of calming and focusing the mind in order to focus on specific teachings so that their true meaning can be understood
Mindfulness breathing	Meditation that focuses on the experience of breathing
Zazen	The practice of bringing one's attention to experiences occurring in the present moment, usually by meditation
Visualisation of the Buddha	The practice of visualising images of Buddha forms and reciting sacred sounds and mantras
Mantra	A sequence of sacred syllables to be recited by Buddhists
Sacred syllables	Are mantras which hold infinite meaning and the dhamma in a single syllable
Mala beads	Prayer beads that are used to count the number of recitations of a mantra
Temple	The place where Buddhists meet to worship
Gompa	The place where Tibetan Buddhists meditate
Vihara	A Buddhist temple which has living accommodation for monks or nuns
Shrine	A place with a statue of a Buddha, providing a focus for believers' meditation and devotion
Buddha rupa	A statue of the Buddha
Bodhi tree	the sacred fig tree under which Siddhartha Gautama gained enlightenment

Puja	An act of worship
Mourning rituals	Activities and ceremonies which take place after the death of someone
Retreat	A period of time spent apart from ordinary life in order to focus on meditation and religious activities
Wesak	The festival which celebrates the birth, enlightenment and death of the Buddha in Theravada Buddhism
Vassa/Rain retreat	The three month annual retreat observed by Theravada Buddhists
Kathina	The festival which occurs at the end of Vassa, and is a time of giving where the laity express their gratitude to monks and nuns
Uposatha Days	Times of renewed dedication to Dhamma practice by lay followers and monastics
Hanamatsuri	The festival of flowers in Japan, commemorating the birth of the Buddha
Obon	A Japanese Buddhist festival to honour those who have passed away
Parinibbana	A Mahayana festival to commemorate the passing away of the Buddha
Lama Tsong Khapa Day	The celebration of the passing of Lama Tsong Khapa, the founder of the Gelug tradition of Buddhism

1RBO-3D_S4

Useful Terminology	Definition
Human rights	The basic rights and freedoms that belong to every person
Upekkha	Equanimity: a perfect, unshakeable balance of mind, rooted in insight
Inequality	When two people or groups of people are not equal in status, rights or responsibility
Religious freedom	The right to choose a religion (or no religion) without interference by an authority
Multi-faith society	Many different religions living together in one society
Prejudice	When someone believes another person should have a different status, rights or opportunity because of certain characteristics they might have
Discrimination	When someone is given different status, rights or opportunity because of certain characteristics they might have
Racial harmony	People of different races living together peacefully in society
Multi-ethnic society	Many different races living together in one society
Social justice	Fairness in terms of the equal distribution of wealth, opportunities and privileges within a society. The process of ensuring that individuals fulfil their roles and receive what was their due from society
Distribution of wealth	The way in which the wealth and income of the world are divided among nations
Wealth	The ownership of a large amount of money and possessions
Absolute poverty	When the income of a person falls below the level necessary to meet basic needs
Relative poverty	When the income of a person falls below the average in society

1RBO-3G_S1

Useful Terminology	Definition
Mool Mantar	Means 'Main Chant' and is a statement of all the core beliefs found at the beginning of the Guru Granth Sahib
Guru Granth Sahib	The holy scriptures of the Sikh faith
Karta Purakh	He is the creator
Karma	Consequences of one's actions
Rebirth	Born into a new body, the return of the soul
Mukti	Liberation from the cycle of birth, death and rebirth
Gurmukh	God- centred- focused on God
Manmukh	Self -centred- focused on oneself
Haumai	Pride or self-ego- not focused on God but oneself
Sewa	Selfless service
Tan	Physical service
Man	Mental service
Dhan	Material service (sewa)
Sangat	A company of Sikhs meeting in the presence of the Guru Granth Sahib, can also refer to the community of Sikhs
Sat Sangat	'True congregation'

1RBO-3G_S2

Useful Terminology	Definition
Gurbani	Composed of two Sikh words 'Gur' meaning the Gurus and 'bani' meaning word- the word of the Gurus
Guru Nanak	The founder of Sikhism the first Guru
Janamsakhis	Birth stories related to Guru Nanak
Visions/mystical experiences	Seeing something especially in a dream or a trance that shows something about the afterlife and the nature of God
Hallucinations	An experience involving the perception of something that is not present to others
Numinous	Having a strong religious quality usually connected with the divine
Enlightenment	Gaining true knowledge about God, nature or self, usually through meditation, therefore gaining freedom from the cycle of rebirth (in Buddhist, Hindu or Sikh tradition)
Miracles	A seemingly impossible event that cannot be explained by natural or scientific laws, which is usually good and related to the action of God
The design argument	The argument that God designed the universe because everything is so intricately made and could not have happened by chance
Guru Granth Sahib	Regarded as the ultimate authority- the Sikh Holy scriptures
Atheist	A person who believes there is no God

1RBO-3G_S3

Useful Terminology	Definition
Harmandir Sahib	The temple of God – The Golden Temple in Amritsar
Amritsar	A city in northwestern Indian state of the Punjab where the holiest gurdwara is (the Golden temple)
Nishan Sahib	Nishan means ‘symbol’ and is the Sikh triangular flag which holds the emblem of Sikhism- the Khanda
langar hall	The hall where free food is served
Langar	Guru’s kitchen or the free kitchen in the gurdwara
Nam Japna	Meditating on God’s name
Akhand path	A continual reading of the Sikh holy book, the Guru Granth Sahib- usually performed during special occasions
Gurpurbs	Festival of the Guru’- festivals which celebrate the anniversary of a birth or death of a Guru
Commemorations	A celebration or event where a person or past event is remembered
Vaisakhi	The most important of the Sikh festivals- the birth of the Khalsa, harvest festival
Gurbilas	A poetic account of the life of Guru Gobind Singh
Patshahi 10	10 religious hymns written by Guru Gobind Singh
Guru Arjan	The 5 th Guru who was martyred for his faith
Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji	The 9 th Guru who was martyred for his faith. The father of Guru Gobind Singh
Naam Karan	A Sikh ceremony of naming a child which usually takes place in the gurdwara

Hukamnama	A sacred hymn that is read after the Ardas prayer- Hukam means 'command' namah means 'letter'
Amrit sanskar	The Sikh initiation ceremony
Khalsa	The 'pure ones' a community of committed Sikhs
Singh	Means 'lion', a name given to a male Sikh
Kaur	Means 'princess' a name given to a female Sikh
Amrit	A mixture of sugar and water prepared by the Panj Piare (5 pure ones) used in the ceremony of initiation and birth ceremony

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Useful Terminology	Definition
Human rights	The basic rights and freedom to which all humans should be entitled
Equality	The state of being equal, in rights, status and opportunities
Inequality	Lack of equality
Religious freedom	Freedom to choose your religion
Guru Gobind Singh	The 10th and final human Guru
Dasam Granth	Collection of writings by Guru Gobind Singh
Prejudice	Unfairly judging someone before knowing the facts- holding a biased opinion of an individual or group
Discrimination	Taking actions against a group or individual as a result of prejudice
Guru Arjan	The fifth guru of the Sikh faith and the first one to be martyred
Situation ethics	An ethical theory based on whether the action is right or wrong depending on the situation
Social justice	Promoting fairness in regards to the distribution of wealth, opportunities and privileges in society
Khalsa	Meaning 'pure ones'- a community of committed Sikhs
Guru Granth Sahib	The ultimate authority- the Sikh Holy scriptures