**Philosophy & Ethics**

**Past Exam Questions**

**How to answer exam questions:**

1. **(1 mark questions): Usually definitions or examples that can be answered in one sentence.**
2. **(2 mark questions): Usually definitions or examples that can be answered in two sentences.**
3. **(3 mark questions): These questions come in three types:  
     
   Type 1:** Name three parts of a Christian wedding ceremony. (3)  
   This type requires an answer with three statements.   
   E.g. “One part of the wedding ceremony is the vows. Another part is the exchange of the rings. Another part is the declaration.”  
     
   **Type 2:** Describe **one** Christian attitude to divorce. (3)  
   This type requires an answer with a P.E.E (Point Evidence Explain) paragraph.  
   E.g. “One Christian attitude to divorce is that divorce is considered wrong. In the Bible it says “let man not separate what God has joined together”. This shows that divorce is wrong because when a Christian gets married it is in the eyes of God and a divorce cannot undo or erase what in performed in front of God at the marriage ceremony.”  
     
   **Type 3:** Describe how a Christian may respond to somebody wanting to remarry after divorce. (3)  
   This type requires an answer with a P.E.E paragraph **OR** an answer with three statements.   
   E.g. “A Christian may respond negatively to somebody who wants to remarry after having a divorce. This is because marriage is considered to be forever (as said in the vows, ‘til death us do part’) and if a Christian remarries it is considered adultery. This wrong as one of the commandments is ‘do not commit adultery’.” **OR**   
   E.g. “Some Christians would say remarriage is wrong as it leads to adultery. Some Christians would allow remarriage for the innocent person (if they didn’t cause the initial divorce to happen. Other Christians would say remarriage would lead to remarried person ‘living in sin’.”
4. **(6 mark questions): An answer that contains two P.E.E paragraphs**E.g. Explain Christian attitudes towards racism (6)  
     
   Some Christians believe racism is wrong because of the actions of a famous Christian called Martin Luther King. He fought racism by having non-violent protests like speeches and marches. He did this because he believed all people should be equal regardless of their race. As Martin Luther King was a Christian he will inspire other Christian to have a negative attitude towards racism.

Some Christians believe racism is wrong because in the Bible it says ‘love thy neighbour’. Jesus explained what this means by telling the Parable of the Good Samaritan. This parable teaches Christians that you should love all people, even your enemies. This teaches Christians that they shouldn’t be racist because you should love everyone regardless of their race or gender.

1. **(12 mark questions): This answer requires you to discuss a particular statement. You have to consider a range of views (including Christianity) and come to a judgement on the statement.**

**Introduction**

“This statement is suggesting…”

“There are many people who would agree/disagree with this statement…because…”

**Some Christians believe:**

“They believe this because…”

“The Bible supports this by saying…”

“This suggests…”  
(A/A\* students should specify denominations; Roman Catholics, Quakers etc.)

**Other Christians think:**

“They believe this because…”

“The Bible supports this by saying…”

“This suggests…”  
(A/A\* students should specify denominations; Roman Catholics, Quakers etc.)

**Non-Christians:**

Give an alternative view:

“Hindus believe…Scientists believe…Atheists believe…Muslims believe…

“They believe this because…”

“An example to illustrate this idea is…”

**I think**

Give your opinion – including strong and solid reasons for it. Go into as much detail as possible as this is a big part of the question.“I think…”  
“I believe this because…”  
““An example to illustrate this idea is…”

**Conclusion**

Link back to the statement and sum up what you’ve already said – try not to repeat too much – just highlight the key points you’ve made.

“Above I have considered whether…”  
“Although…”

“However I have found…”  
“In conclusion I agree/disagree…”

**Religion and Human Relationships Exam Questions**

**Short answer questions:**

Give one example of contraception that may be acceptable to Christians. (1)

What is meant by contraception? (1)

What is meant by divorce? (1)

State one thing which takes place during a Christian marriage ceremony. (1)

What is meant by marriage? (1)

What is meant by re-marriage? (1)

State two reasons a Christian couple may give for not having sex before marriage. (2)

Name two forms of contraception that may be acceptable to Christians. (2)

Give two ways a Christian may prepare for marriage. (2)

State two reasons which some Christians might give for seeking a divorce. (2)

Give two examples of artificial contraception. (2)

Give two beliefs which Christians might have about contraception. (2)

Give two reasons why marriage might be important to a Christian. (2)

Give two reasons why Christians might decide to get married. (2)

Describe the beliefs of some Christians towards sex before marriage. (3)

Describe what some Christians believe about sex before marriage. (3)

Describe how a Christian may respond to a couple who want a divorce. (3)

Describe how a Christian might respond to a couple who want a civil partnership. (3)

Name three parts of a Christian wedding ceremony. (3)

Describe Christian attitudes towards the use of contraception. (3)

Describe one belief that is reflected in a Christian marriage ceremony. (3)

Explain why Christians believe the wedding ceremony to be important. (3)

Describe the roles of men and women in a Christian family. (3)

Describe how some Christians might respond to a person getting married after divorce. (3)

**6 mark questions:**

What does the marriage ceremony tell us about Christian beliefs? (6)

Explain Christian beliefs about contraception. (6)

Explain Christian attitudes to homosexuality. (6)

Explain different Christian attitudes towards same-sex marriage. (6)

Explain Christian beliefs about the value of sexual relationships. (6)

Explain what Christians believe about the importance of marriage. (6)

Explain how a Christian marriage ceremony might guide a couple in their married life. (6)

Describe Christian beliefs about divorce. (6)

Explain Christian beliefs about the role of men and women in the Church family. (6)

Explain Christian attitudes towards sex. (6)

Explain the different roles of men and women within a Christian family. (6)

Explain Christian attitudes towards divorce and remarriage. (6)

Explain how a Christian marriage ceremony might reflect Christian beliefs about marriage. (6)

Explain Christian attitudes towards re-marriage. (6)

**12 mark questions:**

‘A sexual relationship is the most important part of a marriage’ (12 marks)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘Women have the most important role in society’ (12 marks)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer

‘Marriage should be forever, divorce is never acceptable.’ (12 marks)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘A couple should be married before they have children.’ (12 marks)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘Marriage is outdated’ (12 marks)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘God does not accept same-sex marriages’ (12 marks)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘The man should be the dominant partner in the marriage’ (12 marks)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘Women should always obey their husbands’ (12 marks)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘It is the duty of religious people to encourage contraception to avoid the world becoming overpopulated’ (12 marks)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

**Medical Ethics Exam Questions**

**Short answer questions:**

What is meant by cloning? (1)

State one way in which animals are used for research. (1)

Give the word which means ‘making an exact copy of a living creature’. (1)

What does euthanasia mean? (1)

What is meant by the term ‘suicide’? (1)

What is meant by the term ‘abortion’? (1)

What word means ‘easy death’? (1)

What is meant by the term ‘sanctity of life’? (1)

State two reasons why some Christians might oppose human cloning. (2)

State two reasons why a Christian may be against euthanasia. (2)

State two views which Christians might hold about the use of animals in medical research. (2)

Give two reasons which might lead a person to commit suicide. (2)

State two reasons why a Christian might be against suicide. (2)

Describe Christian teachings on suicide. (2)

Give two reasons why Christians might be against fertility treatment. (2)

State two reasons which might be given for seeking a legal abortion in the UK. (2)

Describe the attitudes of some Christians towards a childless couple seeking fertility treatment. (3)

Describe how a Christian might respond to the issue of cloning. (3)

Describe one Christian attitude which Christians might have towards euthanasia. (3)

Describe the attitude of some Christians towards suicide. (3)

Describe one reason why Christians might oppose abortion. (3)

What does Christianity teach about fertility treatment? (3)

Describe one Christian response to the issues raised by cloning. (3)

Describe one reason why a Christian may oppose fertility treatment. (3)

**6 mark questions:**

Explain some Christian attitudes towards abortion. (6)

Explain why Christians might have different attitudes towards a woman seeking fertility treatment. (6)

Explain why Christians have different attitudes towards suicide. (6)

Explain the attitude of some Christians to helping a terminally ill person die. (6)

Explain why Christians have different attitudes to euthanasia. (6)

Explain how a Christian may respond to someone who is considering having an abortion. (6)

Explain Christian attitudes towards fertility treatment. (6)

Describe Christian teachings about euthanasia. (6)

Explain how a Christian would respond to someone who wanted to die. (6)

Explain Christian attitudes to the use of animals in medical research. (6)

Explain Christian attitudes to abortion. (6)

Explain different Christian attitudes towards the use of animals in medical research. (6)

Explain different Christian responses to fertility treatment. (6)

**12 mark questions:**

‘Children are a gift, not a right’ (12 marks)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘We should be able to treat animals in any way we wish’ (12 marks)   
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘It is always wrong to take a human life’ (12 marks)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘Only God has the right to take life’ (12 marks)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘The use of animals in medical research is always wrong’ (12 marks)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘It is wrong to play God and clone embryos’ (12 marks)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘Every unborn child has the right to life’ (12 marks)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘It is wrong to use animals for medical research’ (12 marks)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘Abortion is never acceptable’ (12 marks)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

**Religion and Equality Exam Questions**

**Short answer questions:**

What is meant by the term ‘equality’? (1)

What does the word ‘racism’ mean? (1)

What is meant by the term ‘sexism’? (1)

What is meant by the term ‘prejudice’? (1)

What is meant be reconciliation? (1)

What is meant by forgiveness? (1)

Give two examples of inequality. (2)

Give two examples of prejudice. (2)

Give two examples of sexism. (2)

Give two examples of racism (2)

What do Christians believe about reconciliation? (2)

State three ways in which Christians might challenge inequality. (3)

Describe what Christians believe about reconciliation. (3)

Suggest how Christians might work to stop racism. (3)

Describe Christian attitudes towards the role of women in society. (3)

Describe Christian beliefs about other religions. (3)

Describe Christian beliefs about equality. (3)

**6 mark questions:**

Explain Christian beliefs about racism. (6)

Explain Christian teachings about equality. (6)

Explain Christian beliefs about forgiveness. (6)

Explain why Christians might have different beliefs about the role of women. (6)

Describe Biblical teachings on equality. (6)

Explain Christian teaching about the role of women in society. (6)

Explain Christian attitudes towards racism. (6)

Explain Christian teachings on the role of women in Christian society. (6)

Explain how Christian beliefs about forgiveness and reconciliation may affect the way they treat others. (6)

**12 mark questions:**

‘Women have the most important role in Christian society. (12)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘Religious people should treat everyone equally’ (12)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘If Christianity is right, all the other religions must be wrong’ (12)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘Religious people have a duty to convert others’ (12)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘Women should stay at home while men go out to work’ (12)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘Everyone is entitled to their own view on religion, and no one should try to make you change your mind’ (12)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘Men and women are not equal’ (12)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

**Peace and Justice Exam Questions**

**Short answer questions:**

What is meant by the term ‘social justice’? (1)

What is meant by the term ‘Just War’? (1)

What is meant by the term ‘criminal’? (1)

What is capital punishment? (1)

What is meant by ‘social injustice’? (1)

What is pacifism? (1)

Give two examples of social injustice. (2)

Give two examples of what Christians might consider to be social injustice. (2)

Give two reasons why Christians might be pacifists. (2)

State two ways in which Christians might work for social justice. (2)

Give two aims of punishment. (2)

Give two examples of ways in which a Christian might respond to social injustice. (2)

What do Christians believe about pacifism? (3)

Give three ways in which Christians might respond to social justice. (3)

Describe one attitude Christians might have towards war. (3)

Describe what the attitude of Christians might be towards capital punishment. (3)

How might a Christian respond to violence? (3)

**6 mark questions:**

Explain why working towards social justice is important for some Christians. (6)

Explain what Christians might believe about Just War. (6)

Explain why Christians might be against capital punishment. (6)

What are Christian attitudes towards was? (6)

Explain what Christians might believe about the treatment of criminals. (6)

Explain Christian attitudes to peace. (6)

Explain how a Christian would respond to war. (6)

Explain Christian response towards social injustice. (6)

**12 mark questions:**

‘Capital punishment can never be justified’ (12)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘You should always stand up to unjust governments’ (12)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘Christians should not want to punish people’ (12)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘Putting people into prison is a waste of money’ (12)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘There can be no justice unless criminals are punished’ (12)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘Violence should never be used to solve a problem’ (12)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

‘All people must be pacifists’ (12)  
Discuss this statement. You should include different, supported points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.