PAST PAPER QUESTIONS
2011-2014

MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY

UNIT 1: SECTION 3
UNIT 1 – MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY

2014 – Question 5

(a) What is promiscuity? (2)

(b) Do you think all Christians should accept sex outside marriage? Give two reasons for your point of view. (4)

* (c) Choose one religion other than Christianity and explain its views on homosexuality. (8)

(d) “Religious people should never divorce.” In your answer you should refer to at least one religion.

(i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion. (3)
(ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you. (3)

(Total for Question 5 = 20 marks)

2014 – Question 6

(a) What is meant by contraception? (2)

(b) Do you think all Christians should accept homosexuality? Give two reasons for your point of view. (4)

* (c) Choose one religion other than Christianity and explain why it teaches that family life is important. (8)

(d) “Pre-marital sex is always wrong.” In your answer you should refer to at least one religion.

(i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion. (3)
(ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you. (3)

(Total for Question 6 = 20 marks)
UNIT 1 - MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY

2013 - Question 5

(a) What is faithfulness? 

(b) Do you think all Christians should accept the use of contraception? Give two reasons for your point of view. 

* (c) Explain why family life is important for Christians. 

(d) “Sex before marriage is always wrong.” In your answer you should refer to at least one religion. 

(i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion. 
(ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you. 

(Total for Question 5 = 20 marks)

2013 - Question 6

(a) What is meant by a nuclear family? 

(b) Do you think all religious people should accept homosexuality? Give two reasons for your point of view. 

* (c) Choose one religion other than Christianity and explain why some of its followers accept contraception. 

(d) “Attitudes to divorce have not really changed.” In your answer you should refer to at least one religion. 

(i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion. 
(ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you. 

(Total for Question 6 = 20 marks)
UNIT 1 - MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY

2012 - Question 5

(a) What does homosexuality mean? (2)

(b) Do you think that all religious people should accept the use of contraception? Give two reasons for your point of view. (4)

*(c) Choose one religion other than Christianity and explain why some of its followers allow divorce. (8)

(d) “Marriage is the best way to begin family life.” In your answer you should refer to at least one religion.

(i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion. (3)
(ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you. (3)

(Total for Question 5 = 20 marks)

2012 - Question 6

(a) What is a re-constituted family? (2)

(b) Do you think faithfulness within marriage is important? Give two reasons for your point of view. (4)

*(c) Explain why some Christians allow divorce. (8)

(d) “Everyone should accept homosexual relationships.” In your answer you should refer to at least one religion other than Christianity.

(i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion. (3)
(ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you. (3)

(Total for Question 6 = 20 marks)
UNIT 1 - MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY

2011 - Question 5

(a) What is promiscuity? (2)

(b) Do you think that sex outside marriage is acceptable? Give two reasons for your point of view. (4)

*(c) Explain why some Christians accept homosexuality and some do not. (8)

(d) "A religious family is a happy family."

In your answer you should refer to at least one religion other than Christianity.

(i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion. (3)

(ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you. (3)

(Total for Question 5 = 20 marks)

2011 - Question 6

(a) What is a civil partnership? (2)

(b) Do you think all religious people should accept divorce? Give two reasons for your point of view. (4)

*(c) Choose one religion other than Christianity and explain why most of its followers do not accept sex outside marriage. (8)

(d) "Contraception should be accepted by all religious people."

In your answer you should refer to at least one religion.

(i) Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion. (3)

(ii) Give reasons why some people may disagree with you. (3)

(Total for Question 6 = 20 marks)
2014 - Question 5

(a) What is promiscuity?

Having sex with a number of partners without commitment / having (casual) sex with a number of people / being indiscriminate in sexual relationships / sleeping around

(b) Do you think all Christians should accept sex outside marriage? Give two reasons for your point of view.

Answers which think all Christians should accept sex outside marriage are likely to use such reasons as:
• it is acceptable if the couple will marry at some point
• society has changed so should Christians
• it is a matter of conscience

Answers which do not think all Christians should accept sex outside marriage are likely to use such reasons as:
• it is against the Ten Commandments
• it breaks up families
• it breaks the vows stated at weddings

* (c) Choose one religion other than Christianity and explain its views on homosexuality.

Islam

Muslim reasons why homosexuality is not acceptable include:
• Hadith condemn it
• Muhammad spoke against it
• Allah created male and female to be together
• it goes against Muslim teachings on family life
• the Qur’an has several statements against it

Muslim reasons why homosexuality is acceptable include:
• Islam is a religion of tolerance.
• they accept scientific information about homosexuality.
• only Allah can judge
• God created humans, therefore created homosexuals
(d) “Religious people should never divorce.”
In your answer you should refer to at least one religion.

Reasons for supporting this statement could be:
• it is against many religious teachings
• it can lead to unhappy families
• in the New Testament it teaches that it can lead to adultery

Reasons for not supporting this statement could be:
• it allows people to be happy
• it reduces suffering
• it might be the lesser of two evils

2014 – Question 6

(a) What is meant by contraception?

Intentionally preventing pregnancy from occurring
• the deliberate prevention of impregnation

(b) Do you think all Christians should accept homosexuality?

Give two reasons for your point of view.

Answers which think that all Christians should accept homosexuality are likely to use such reasons as:
• it is the most loving thing to do
• homosexuality is legal
• homosexuality has been shown by science to be natural

Answers which do not think that all Christians should accept homosexuality are likely to use such reasons as:
• homosexual sex is not procreative
• homosexuals cannot marry in church
• God created man and woman to be together
* (c) Choose one religion other than Christianity and explain why it teaches that family life is important. (8)

Islam

The main Muslim reasons include:

• the family is created by Allah
• it is where children learn about their faith
• Muhammad had a family
• the Qur'an states 'show kindness to your parents'
• Hadith show family is important

(d) “Pre-marital sex is always wrong.”
In your answer you should refer to at least one religion.

Reasons for supporting this statement could be:
• the Bible teaches against fornication
• marriage is the secure place for intercourse
• it can lead to abuse/unhappiness

Reasons for not supporting this statement could be:
• it is now socially acceptable
• it an opportunity to find out more about your partner
• a person can use their conscience to decide

2013 – Question 5

(a) What is faithfulness? (2)

Staying with your marriage partner and only having sex with them / only having sex with your partner / devotion to your spouse
(b) Do you think all Christians should accept the use of contraception? Give two reasons for your point of view. (4)

Answers which think all Christians should accept the use of contraception are likely to use such reasons as:
- it increases the standard of living within families
- it allows partners to become close without the risk of pregnancy
- it protects the health of the mother

Answers which do not think all Christians should accept the use of contraception are likely to use such reasons as:
- it is against some religious teachings
- it is not natural
- it could be regarded as against the will of God

*(c) Explain why family life is important for Christians. (8)*

The main reasons include:
- it is the place where children are taught the faith
- it is the basis of society
- the commandment teaches that children should honour their parents
- St Paul teaches that children should care for their parents
- St Paul teaches that parents should care for their children

(d) “Sex before marriage is always wrong.” In your answer you should refer to at least one religion.

Reasons for supporting this statement could be:
- it is against many religious teachings
- it can lead to unwanted pregnancies
- it can give a person a bad reputation

Reasons for not supporting this statement could be:
- it allows partners to become closer
- it is acceptable to some Christians
- it is a way of finding out if you are sexually compatible
UNIT 1 - MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY

2013 - Question 6

(a) What is meant by a nuclear family? (2)
Mother, father and children living as a unit / parent(s) and children living together

(b) Do you think all religious people should accept homosexuality? (4)
Give two reasons for your point of view.

Answers which think that all religious people should accept homosexuality are likely to use such reasons as:

• some religions accept homosexuality so why not all?
• homosexuality is legal
• homosexuality has been shown by science to be natural

Answers which do not think that all religious people should accept homosexuality are likely to use such reasons as:

• homosexual sex is not procreative
• homosexuals cannot marry
• some religions teach against homosexuality

* (c) Choose one religion other than Christianity and explain why some of its followers accept contraception. (8)

Islam

The main Muslim reasons include:

• contraception can improve a family’s standard of living
• contraception protects the health of the mother
• contraception can be used if there is a risk of the baby being born handicapped
• there is nothing in the Qur’an against it
(d) “Attitudes to divorce have not really changed.”
In your answer you should refer to at least one religion.

Reasons for supporting this statement could be:
- divorce is still frowned upon
- counselling is expected before people are allowed to divorce
- some religions do not allow divorce

Reasons for not supporting this statement could be:
- divorce is now socially accepted
- it is now much easier to get a divorce
- divorce is now accepted by some religions

2012 – Question 5

(a) What does homosexuality mean? (2)

(Sexual) attraction to the same sex / Same sex attraction / Having sexual feelings towards people of the same sex / Being (sexually) attracted to members of the same gender / Being gay/lesbian

(b) Do you think that all religious people should accept the use of contraception?
Give two reasons for your point of view. (4)

Answers which think that all religious people should accept the use of contraception are likely to use such reasons as:

- Contraception helps improve the standard of living of the whole family
- Contraception is accepted by some religious people so why not by all
- It allows religious people to concentrate on the unitive aspect of sexual intercourse

Answers which do not think that all religious people should accept the use of contraception are likely to use such reasons as:

- It is against some religious teachings
- It might encourage adultery/promiscuity
- Religious people should use their own consciences
*(c) Choose one religion other than Christianity and explain why some of its followers allow divorce.

Islam
The main Muslim reasons include:
• The Qur'an allows divorce
• The Shari'ah allows divorce
• It might be the best thing in a given situation
• Marriage is a contract so it can be ended

(d) “Marriage is the best way to begin family life.”
In your answer you should refer to at least one religion.

Reasons for supporting this statement could be:
• Marriage forms a stable background for having children
• Marriage is a public statement that a family has been formed
• Some Christians view marriage as partnership with God and so the only context in which to raise a family

Reasons for not supporting this statement could be:
• Families only need love not marriage to be happy
• Marriage is not needed for a family to be strong
• There are lots of different types of families

2012 – Question 6

(a) What is a re-constituted family?

Where two sets of children (stepbrothers and stepsisters) become one family when their (divorced) parents marry each other
• The joining of two adults by marriage who have had previous relationships and children from them
• A family where there are children from previous relationships
• A family containing step-siblings
(b) Do you think faithfulness within marriage is important? Give two reasons for your point of view. (4)

Answers which think that faithfulness within marriage is important are likely to use such reasons as:

• Christians promise at their wedding that they will remain faithful
• Faithfulness brings stability to a family
• Religions teach that being unfaithful is unacceptable (sinful)

Answers which do not think that faithfulness within marriage is important are likely to use such reasons as:

• Love is more important and does not always require faithfulness
• Happiness is important in a marriage and this does not always need faithfulness
• Forgiveness is more important than faithfulness

*(c) Explain why some Christians allow divorce. (8)

The main reasons include:

• It is better to divorce than live without love
• Divorce might be the lesser of two evils
• Divorce is legal
• Divorce is acceptable for adultery
• Christians encourage forgiveness which is possible after divorce
• Jesus allowed divorce
(d) “Everyone should accept homosexual relationships.”
In your answer you should refer to at least one religion other than Christianity.

Islam
Reasons for supporting this statement could be:
• It is respectful to accept a person’s sexual orientation
• Homosexuality is nothing to do with religion
• Some religions allow homosexuality, so why can’t all?

Reasons for not supporting this statement could be:
• Homosexuality is condemned in the Qur’an and so cannot be accepted
• Muhammad said homosexuality is wrong
• Homosexuals cannot marry and sex outside marriage is wrong

2011 - Question 5

(a) What is promiscuity? (2)
Having sex with a number of partners without commitment / having (casual) sex with a number of people / being indiscriminate in sexual relationships / sleeping around

(b) Do you think that sex outside marriage is acceptable? Give two reasons for your point of view. (4)

Answers which think that sex outside marriage is acceptable are likely to use such reasons as:
• Sex before marriage allows partners to become closer
• Sex before marriage is acceptable in society
• Sex before marriage is a way of finding out if you are sexually compatible

Answers which do not think that sex outside marriage is acceptable are likely to use such reasons as:
• It is against many religious teachings
• Adultery breaks the marriage vows
• It can lead to increased STI
*(c) Explain why some Christians accept homosexuality and some do not. (8)*

Some Christians accept homosexuality because:
- Homosexuality is accepted in society
- The Bible records instances of same sex relationships
- They think that God is the only one who should judge
- Homosexuality has been shown to occur naturally

Some Christians accept homosexuality, but do not accept that homosexuals should have sexual relationships because:
- Homosexuals cannot be married
- Homosexual sexual relations are not procreative
- It is in the catechism

Some Christians do not accept homosexuality because:
- Homosexuality is regarded as sinful
- Homosexuality is regarded as not natural
- In Genesis God made man and woman as partners
- In the Old Testament it states that homosexuality is not acceptable

An answer which does not refer to two attitudes can not go beyond level three.

(d) “A religious family is a happy family.”

In your answer you should refer to at least one religion other than Christianity.

Islam

Reasons for supporting this statement could be:
- Everyone believes the same thing
- The Qur’an has rules for family life
- Religion teaches parents and children to respect each other

Reasons for not supporting this statement could be:
- Families only need love to be happy
- Religion can cause conflict in families
- Religion imposes unnecessary rules on families
UNIT 1 - MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY

2011 - Question 6

(a) What is a civil partnership? (2)

A legal ceremony giving a homosexual couple the same rights as a husband and wife
• A legal relationship between two people of the same sex
• A lawfully recognised union of two people of the same sex

(b) Do you think all religious people should accept divorce? Give two reasons for your point of view. (4)

Answers which think that all religious people should accept divorce are likely to use such reasons as:
• Some religions allow their followers to divorce, why not all?
• Divorce is legal
• Divorce might be the lesser of two evils

Answers which do not think that all religious people should accept divorce are likely to use such reasons as:
• Divorce breaks vows (promises) made to God
• Divorce breaks up the family unit which is wrong
• Some holy scriptures teach against divorce

*(c) Choose one religion other than Christianity and explain why most of its followers do not accept sex outside marriage. (8)

Reject answers which do not refer to a religion other than Christianity.

Islam

The main Muslim reasons include:
• Muslims regard sex before marriage as fornication (or adultery)
• Sex outside marriage is forbidden (haram)
• Sex outside marriage could lead to unwanted pregnancies/STIs
• Muhammad said (hadith) that adultery is wrong
• Adultery can break up the family
(d) “Contraception should be accepted by all religious people.”
In your answer you should refer to at least one religion.

Reasons for supporting this statement could be:
• Contraception is nothing to do with religion
• Contraception allows a better standard of living
• Some religions allow contraception, so why can’t all?

Reasons for not supporting this statement could be:
• Some Christians believe that artificial contraception is unnatural
• Some religious people think some contraceptive methods are the same as abortion
• Some religious people think that contraception interferes with God’s plan for life