

Name: .....

Form: .....

**OCR GCSE (Short Course) Religious  
Studies B  
Philosophy and Applied Ethics Revision  
Book J121**

**Philosophy 2 Module B602**

**Religion and Science**



## Religion and Science:

You will need to have knowledge and understanding of:

- Origins of the world and life
  - Scientific theories about the origins of the world and humanity
  - Christian teachings about the origins of the world and humanity
  - The relationship between scientific and religious understandings of the origins of the world and humanity.
- People and animals
  - The place of humanity in relation to animals
  - Attitudes to animals and their treatment (not just medical experiments but how they should be looked after).
- Environmental issues
  - Christian responses to environmental issues
  - The Christian concept of stewardship
  - Christian teachings relating to environmental issues.

## Remember

**“Beliefs”** - this is what Christians believe about their religions based on the teachings in the Bible and/or from the Church; for instance, ideas about God and Jesus; the events of the creation or crucifixion, etc.

**“Teachings”** - refers to rules/quotes/sayings from the Bible (such as *“do not murder”* or *“love thy neighbour”*) or it could refer to what the different Churches teach.

**“Attitudes”** - are the ways in which a believer interprets those beliefs and teachings. Note this is a trigger word for you to realise that some Christians believe one thing and other Christians believe another. For example, some Christians think that God created the world because..... On the other hand, others believe that science has some truths about the creation of the world because ....

**“Support”** – this means you cannot just make a statement and leave it there. You need to explain why that statement is being used.

“Christians think humans are more important than animals” **“because** God created man and woman in his image”.

**“Respond”** – this word is asking you to think about what Christians would do when faced with a particular situation.

## **The Exam Paper**

Each Module paper will be divided into three sections. Module B602 (Philosophy 2) will contain questions on: Religion and Science; Religion, Reasons and Revelation; and also Good and Evil. You must choose to do **TWO** topics out of the three you have studied in this module. In each section on the exam paper, you will find that there are six questions – from six different religious viewpoints. Ignore the religions you have not studied. You need to answer the **Christianity** question, which comes after the Buddhism question. Each question is in five parts.

All the questions are in the following form:

- (a) 1 mark for knowledge
- (b) 2 marks for knowledge,
- (c) 3 marks for knowledge,
- (d) 6 marks for understanding, and
- (e) 12 marks for evaluation.

**Total:** 24 marks.

Remember! You have to do a complete question — this means you must attempt to answer all the parts (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) from the same question. Do not mix up the religions or the topics.

### **The Part (a) Questions**

These are questions which are testing your knowledge, for example, ‘What is meant by the word environment?’ Answer: “*The environment means the world we live in*”.

### **The Part (b) Questions**

These questions are again testing your knowledge but your answer will need to contain more information than the part (a) questions. Question: “Name two environmental issues”. Answer: “*Pollution is one environmental issue – rivers can no longer support fish because they are so polluted with industrial rubbish. The ozone area is another issue – the use of CFCs is damaging the ozone layer and thus creating climate change*”.

### **The Part (c) Questions**

These may ask for three pieces of information or ask for a description. If you are asked to describe – do not just put a list of points but elaborate on them. For instant, if you were asked to answer the question: “Describe Christian beliefs about the relationship between humans and animals” – you must not just say: “they believe humans are

more important; people can do what they like to animals; animals give us food”. You would need to say: “*Christians believe that humans are more important than animals because humans can have a relationship with God – they are made in “his image”. When Adam was made God told him to “rule over” the animals and when Adam was put into the Garden of Eden God brought the animals to him to be named. These things show that humans are more important*”.

So – since you will be asked what words mean make sure you have learnt all the words in the Dictionary.

### **The Part (d) Questions**

These questions are asking you to show your understanding – you will need to show “how” and “why” things happen because of Christian beliefs or teachings. These questions will probably begin with the word “explain”. So, remember to use the word “because” in your answer. For example:

(d) “Explain what Christians believe about the origins of the world and humanity”. [6 marks]

*“Christians believe that God created the world **because** in Genesis 1 (the Bible) it tells how God commanded the world into being from nothing “ex nihilo” by saying “let there be”. The world is made in a specific order and on particular days: “on the first day God said let there be light”. God creates man and woman in his “image” in order that they can have a personal relationship with him. In Genesis 2 God is involved in the creation in a more person way **because** he plants things in the Garden of Eden and moulds Adam from dust giving him the breath of life which makes him a living being”.*

### **The Part (e) Questions**

These questions are asking you to present an argument and to evaluate. You will need to show differing points of view and you must **support** the views with examples. So if you say “Christians say science is wrong” – you need to say why they believe it is wrong and give an example. You **MUST** refer to a Christian point of view somewhere in your answer otherwise you will not achieve full marks and also you **MUST** give your own viewpoint otherwise again you will not achieve full marks. For instance:

(e) “The Bible is the word of God so the world cannot have been caused by the Big Bang”. Discuss this statement. You should include

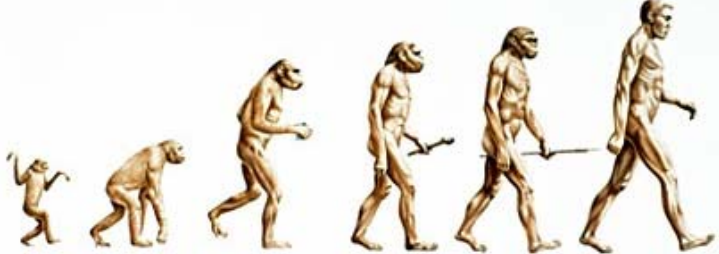
different, **supported** points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer.

**Evaluation formula:**

- Some people might agree because ...
- Other people might disagree because ...
- However some Christians might say ... because ...
- Yet other Christians might argue ... because ...
- BUT I think ... because
- So in conclusion ...
- Some people might agree that the Bible is the word of God because it is all about God. However this does not for them show that science is wrong.
- Other people might disagree that the Bible is the word of God because they do not believe that God exists because there is no evidence of him. They would therefore agree with the scientific theory of the Big Bang.
- However Fundamentalist Christians would say that every word in the Bible is true because it is “God breathed” – God inspired the writers of the Bible. Thus they do not agree with science and its theory of the Big Bang.
- Although other Christians might argue that it was God who caused the Big Bang. God is seen as the First Cause and therefore they would say that religion and science can work together. Religion explains the why the world was made and science shows how it was made.
- I think that the Bible has some truth because the sequence in Genesis 1 fits in with the scientific view. On the first day “let there be light” could be said to be the Big Bang. Science has also said that there was water first and then land appeared and then the plants and trees and finally animals followed by humans through the process of evolution. The word day in the Bible can be interpreted to mean a long period of time so this is why I believe the Bible and science can work together..
- In conclusion it all comes down to whether you believe that every word in the Bible is true or whether some of the stories and events are myths or a symbolic way of showing the why of God’s purpose in creating the world.

## DICTIONARY:

The starred words here are found in the OCR specification and so can appear as part of an exam question. A few more have been added but it is important you learn most of them in order to impress the examiners

<b>BIBLE</b>	This is the book of events and teachings of God which Christians believe to be the word of God.
<b>COSMOLOGY</b>	The word given to the scientific study of the origins of the world.
<b>CREATIONISM</b>	Is the name given to the belief that God is responsible for the creation of the world and humankind.
<b>DOMINION</b>	This word has been interpreted to mean that people have power over (“rule over”) and therefore they can do to the world and animals what they want. However others would say that God intended humankind to take care of the world and look after it for future generations not misuse it.
<b>ENVIRONMENT*</b>	This word means the world in which we live and everything around us.
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES*</b>	The word “Issues” means examples or events. The term refers to what is happening today in the world which makes people concerned about what is being done to harm the environment. For instance: global warming; climate change; pollution etc.
<b>EVOLUTION</b>	<p>This word means the way in which animals changed over millions of years into different animals and humans. Charles Darwin came up with the idea in his book “Origins of the Species”.</p> 

<b>HUMANITY*</b>	This word means humans or people
<b>INTELLIGENT DESIGN</b>	This is a relatively new theory which states that God must have created the universe and all living things because there are certain elements in the world which could only be explained by an intelligent designer and not by evolution.
<b>MYTH</b>	This is a story which is accepted as history and sets out to explain something. The “myth” of Adam and Eve shows how humans were created and how they let sin into the world.
<b>ORIGINS*</b>	This word means beginnings – the start of something.
<b>RELATIONSHIP*</b>	This word means the connection between something. Questions may be asked about the relationship between science and religious views – so you would need to talk about what is the same about them or even why they cannot agree.
<b>STEWARDSHIP*</b>	The word “steward” means look after – Christians believe they should be looking after the world for God
<b>SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST</b>	This term refers to Darwin’s belief in evolution and the fact that animals or species adapted to the environment they lived in. The stronger more adaptable animals survived whilst the weaker ones died out.

## **Cosmology** - How the world Began – The origins of the world (the beginnings)

### **Science Views**

- The Big Bang Theory (evidence from cosmic radiation and the fact the universe is still expanding)
- **Charles Darwin**'s Theories – Evolution (man evolved from apes) & the Survival of the Fittest (although there are some gaps in the fossil evidence and so this is still considered by some Scientists to only be a theory). Also scientists are putting forward new theories all the time such as there have been many big bangs.
- **Charles Lyell** – stated that geology shows that the world is millions of years old because of the fossil and rock formations. This then proves that the world was not made in 6 days. The fossils also show that many creatures are now extinct (e.g. Dinosaurs) which throws doubt on the Creation stories in the Bible – why would God create animals that then died out – there would be no purpose in this.

### **Christian View**

- Some Christians believe that the **TWO** accounts in Genesis (Bible) are the literal truth – that the world was created exactly as it says in the Bible. **First** account (Genesis 1) shows God is **transcendent** (not of/beyond this world) and that he is all powerful:

➤ God creates by command: 'Let there be'

➤ God created the world in 6 days & rested on the 7<sup>th</sup>.

- Day 1 – let there be light
- Day 2 – let the sky separate from the sea
- Day 3 – let the land appear from the sea and plants and trees grow on the land
- Day 4 – let the sun, moon and stars appear
- Day 5 – let birds and sea creatures appear
- Day 6 – let animals appear and let man and woman be made in God's image.
- Day 7 – God blessed and world and rested.

➤ God created the world from nothing (*ex nihilo*)

➤ What God created was 'all good'.

**Second** account (Genesis 2) shows God to be **personal** – he is involved in the making of the world – he “plants” & moulds Adam from dust giving him a soul (the breath of life) and Eve is made from Adam's rib because Adam is lonely.



## **Relationship between the understanding of Science and Religion**

Science and religion working together:

- Some Christians believe that God was the creator of the Big Bang (St. Aquinas taught God was the First Cause)
- Some Christians believe that the accounts in the Bible are merely symbolic – they explain how death and evil entered into the world and also show how powerful God is. Religion explains the why and science explains the how.

### **• Problems with Science**

- Evolution upsets some Christians because they believe mankind was made in a special way for a special purpose of God and if mankind has evolved from Apes this might mean that mankind is not so important.
- Fundamentalists believe that because the Bible is the literal word of God (every word is true) science cannot be right.

*So Christians can either:*

- (1) Reject Science & Darwin because they believe that every word in the Bible is the eternal truth of God (these are fundamentalists/literalists)
  - (2) Reject the Christian view altogether and say Science is right
  - (3) Believe that both Science and Genesis are correct because the Hebrew word for ‘day’ means a long period of time and therefore God is responsible for beginning and world and watching over evolution. He is seen as “the first cause” – the starter of the ‘Big Bang’.
- Some Christians believe that the stories in the Bible are merely myths (stories) or symbolic in other words they explain hidden spiritual truths such as why evil entered the world of good created by God. And explain that God created the world so that mankind can live in a loving relationship with him. They also show that God sustains (looks after) the world

**Creationism** is a theory which states that God did create the world (the Grand Canyon is evidence of Noah’s flood) and shows that the world is only a few thousand years old. In some states in the USA the theory of evolution is not allowed to be taught in schools.

**Intelligent Design** states that an intelligent designer must have created the universe and all living things. This is because there are certain elements in the world which could only be explained by an intelligent designer and not by evolution. {The word intelligent designer is used instead of God}. However there is so far no scientific evidence to support this idea.

## People and animals

***Purpose of humans:*** Christians believe that humans are more important than animals because humans were created to:

- Live in a loving relationship with God and so worship him. Humans are special because God created them differently to animals – he made Adam from dust and breathed in the breath of life, which is the ‘soul’. It is the soul which made Adam a living being.
- Look after the world for God as **stewards**. There are different viewpoints on this:
  - In Genesis 1 it says “*rule over* ”(which can be interpreted as ‘people can do what they want with the world/animals– e.g. **Dominion**. However some people might argue that the word dominion means that God is giving us power not to misuse the world but to take care of it)
  - In Genesis 2 it says ‘*God took the man & put him in Eden to work it and take care of it*’ (this is interpreted as humans should be **stewards** (caretakers))
  - In Genesis 2 God brings the animals to name thus showing he has power over them.
  - Human life is **sacred** (special or holy) - their body is a temple for the soul - but animal life is not.
  - Humans are the only species which make moral decisions.

### **Christian teachings on why humans should take care of animals**

Even though they are in charge humans should not be greedy and wasteful but should think about God and care for the poor and the animals:

- Old Testament teaches to treat animals fairly “*Do not muzzle an ox*” when it is working (Deuteronomy 25:4).
- The 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment says animals as well as people should rest on the Sabbath.
- God’s rules to Noah (**Noachide** Laws in Jewish teaching: the Talmud) said that people should not be cruel to animals
- St. Francis of Assisi taught that animals were also children of God and so should be looked after.

*Christians believe that God flooded the world (Noah) when man had misused it and this should be a warning to Christians.*



### **Christian Responses to environmental issues:**

There are many environmental issues in the world today: climate change; pollution; global warming; de-forestation; etc. Christians hope to help with these issues and so they will:

- Thank God for his gift of the world at **Harvest Festival**
- **Lent** – some Christians give up something they like (e.g. chocolate) so they can give the money they would have spent to charity – such as CAFOD which helps people in the Third World to overcome environmental concerns.
- **Chico Mendes** – (rubber tapper) used non-violence to stop deforestation and was murdered.
- Christians will try to modify their lifestyle:
  - Buy **Fair Trade** goods (to help the Third World)
  - Recycle – avoid wasteful packaging
  - Make sure they do not waste food
  - Look at their carbon footprint
  - Support CAFOD or Christian Aid who have long-term projects in the Third World such as providing clean water & educating the farmers in conservation
  - Join a conservation organisation such as Greenpeace or World Wildlife Fund

### **Stewardship**

Christians help others and the environment because they want to be good stewards. In Genesis 2, God created Adam to look after the garden of Eden. Also some Christians interpret the word “dominion” as looking after the world for God and for future generations.

### **Biblical teaching on taking care of the world (Stewardship)**

- The Psalms tell Christians that they should be stewards: “*The earth is the Lord’s, and all that is in it, The world, and those who live in it.*” (Psalm 24:1)
- In Genesis 2 Christians are told that Adam was made and then put into the garden of Eden to look after it: “*And the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed.*”
- Jesus taught: “*Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them*”. (Matthew 6:26)
- And: “*Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father.*” (Matthew 10:29)
- The Old Testament (Deuteronomy) that Farmers should not go back to pick up any left-overs from a harvest. Instead they should leave these for the poor, the strangers and the orphans. So it is a duty of Christians to share resources and not let people go hungry. (Love thy neighbour).
- The New Testament teaches “*the love of money is the root of evil*” meaning that people should not make money at the expense of the environment or poor.

## **Pope John Paul II (1988)**



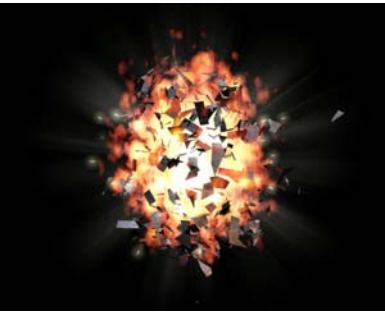

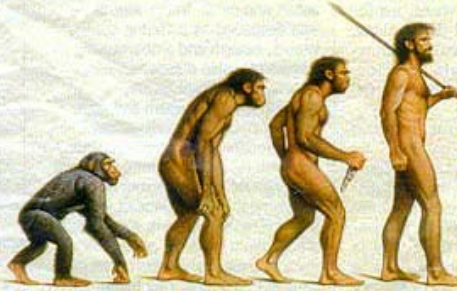

*“The earth and all life on it is a gift from God given us to share and develop, not to dominate and exploit. Our actions have consequences for the rights of others and for the resources of the earth. The goods of the earth and the beauties of nature are to be enjoyed and celebrated as well as consumed. We have the responsibility to create a balanced policy between consumption and conservation. We must consider the welfare of future generations in our planning for and utilisation of the earth’s resources.”*

In other words the Pope was saying that although humanity had been given stewardship and dominion over the world and other life forms, he did not believe that humans should dominate these forms of life.



**ACTIVITY: Scientific ideas about the origins of the world and humanity**

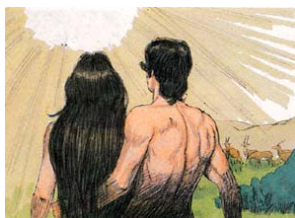
In the frame below there are six pictures and three statements (sentences). Your task is to link up two of the pictures to the correct statement.

<p>1.</p> <p>Scientists believe They believe the world began with a Big Bang. Their theory is based on the evidence of cosmic radiation and the fact the universe is still expanding.</p>	<p>A</p> 	<p>B</p> 
<p>C</p> 	<p>2</p> <p>Charles Lyell said the world was much older than the Bible said. He said it was millions of years old. He could prove this by rock formations and through fossils which showed that dinosaurs had once been on earth.</p>	<p>D</p> 
 <p>E</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Charles Darwin believed that humans were not made by God but evolved (came about) through changes in animals. He believed humans came from monkeys.</p>	<p>F</p> 

# ACTIVITY - Christian ideas about the origins of the world and humanity

**Genesis 1:** Christians believe that God created the world in six days and then rested on the seventh. Fill in the blanks and then link the pictures to the correct boxes:

In the beginning there was nothing	On the first day God said “Let there be .....	On the second day God said “Separate the ..... from the .....	On the third day God said “Let there be .....
On the fourth day God said “Let there be ..... .....	On the fifth day God said “Let there be .....	On the sixth day God said “Let there be ..... And .....	On the seventh day God saw that it was ..... and He ..... the world and then He rested.

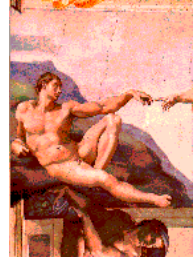
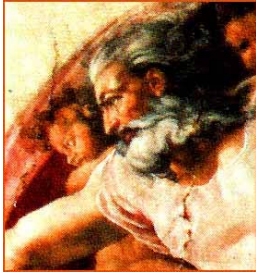




**ACTIVITY - Christian ideas about the origins of the world and humanity (continued)**

**Genesis 2:** God makes the earth and the heavens and streams water the ground then God makes man...

From the pictures below explain how Adam and Eve were made:



.....  
.....



.....  
Eve was created by: .....  
.....

Why did God create Eve?  
.....

Genesis 1 shows God to be: .....

Genesis 2 shows God to be: .....

Why were Adam and Eve created? (What is the purpose of human beings?)

.....  
.....

**ACTIVITY : The relationship between Scientific and Christian ideas on the origins of the world and humanity.**

Below are two parts of a sentence (mixed up). Link up the correct halves.

Fundamentalists believe that

...They believe that God is the First Cause. He is responsible for creating the Big Bang.

Some Christians believe that scientific ideas and religious ideas can work together because

...destroys the special relationship between humans and God.

Some Christians believe in the Big Bang because

... and religion explains the purpose, the why, the world was made.

Some Christians believe in evolution because they think that the word

...Every word in the Bible is the literal truth because God inspired the writers of the Bible so science is wrong.

Some Christians do not believe in evolution because

...day is not a 24 hour period but in fact refers to a long period of time.

Some people say that science explains the how

... when you look at the sequence of events of Genesis 1, it is very like the order science says the world was made in.

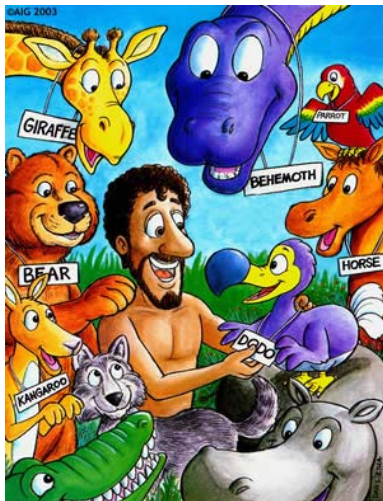
Some Christians believe that evolution is wrong because it

... humans are made in the "image of God" and if you say humans evolved from monkeys this is wrong.



**ACTIVITY: Christian views about what sets people apart from animals (makes them different)**

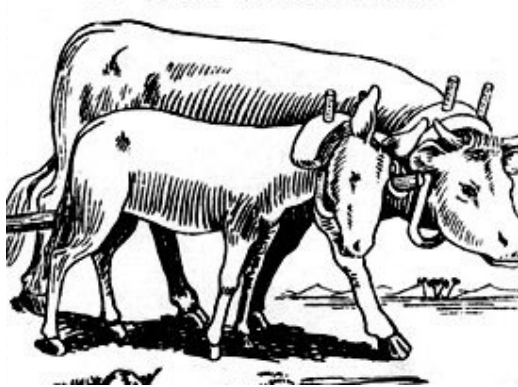
In the boxes below explain the images which show why some Christians believe humans are more important than animals.



*So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. (Genesis 1:27)*

**ACTIVITY: Christian views on treating animals kindly.**

How do the pictures below relate to Christians ideas that animals should be treated kindly.



**GOD**

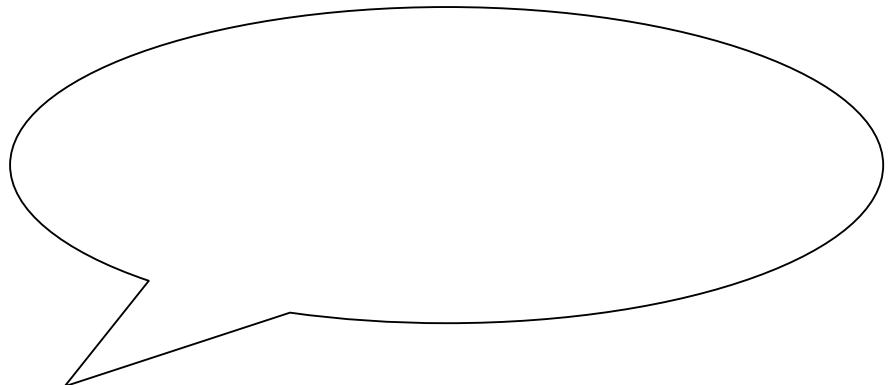
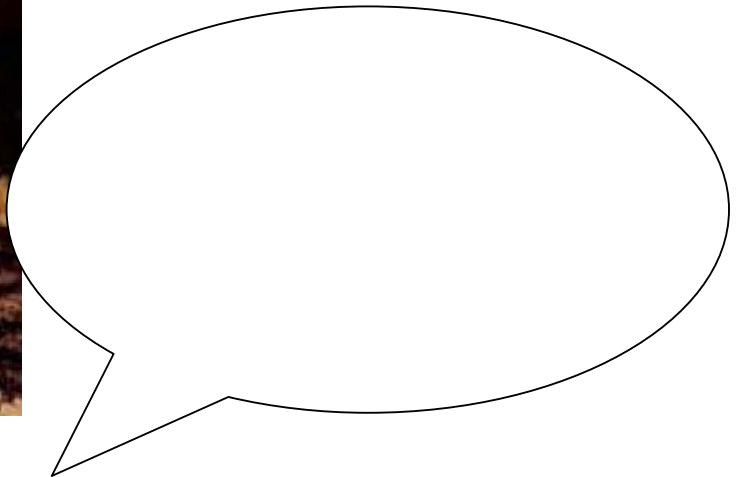
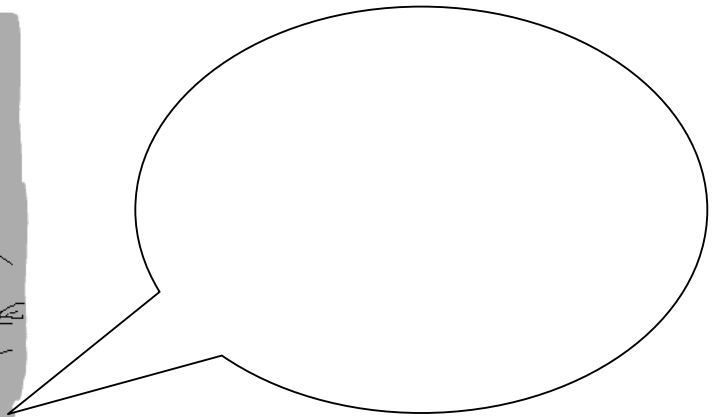
- 1: Do not worship any other gods
- 2: Do not make any idols
- 3: Do not misuse the name of God
- 4: Keep the Sabbath holy



## ACTIVITY: Animal Testing

If some Christians believe that they have “dominion” over animals, in other words they follow God’s command to “rule over” the animals, and they also believe that human beings are more important than animals, then they see no reason why they cannot use animals to test drugs to make human beings well.

Using the pictures below explain how a Christian would respond (what would they say/do) and try and support your answer with a Christian teaching.



**ACTIVITY: The Christian idea of “Stewardship”**

1. What does the word “steward” mean?

.....

2. Why do Christians believe it is important to look after the world?

.....

3. The following is a saying from the Bible – what do some Christians believe it means? *“God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground.” (Genesis 1: 28).*

.....

.....

4. What does this next saying from the Bible say? Is it giving a different message to the quote from question 3? *“The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it” (Genesis 2: 15).*

.....

.....

5. Why does the second great commandment from Jesus “Love thy neighbour” fit in with the Christian ideas of Stewardship?

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## ACTIVITY: Christian responses to environmental issues



Our 'throw-away' society

What environmental issues are there in today's world?

Why would a Christian feel it is important to be involved in looking after the world?

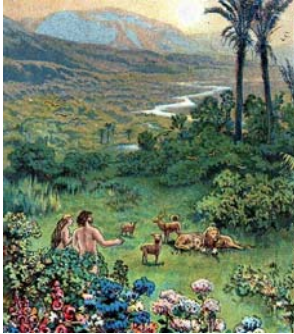


What did Chico Mendes do and why?

What can an ordinary Christian do to help the world?

## ACTIVITY: Why do Christians want to look after the environment?

Look at the pictures below and in the boxes beside them explain which teachings about looking after the environment go with the picture.



## Exam Practice

(a) What is evolution? [1 mark]

.....

.....

(b) Give two examples of how the world is being misused. [2 marks]

.....

.....

.....

(c) Describe the reasons why humans believe they are more important than animals. [3 marks]

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(d) Explain why Christians believe we should be looking after the world. [6 marks]

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.....

(e) “Religion is right about the origins of the world so science must be wrong.” Discuss this statement. You should include different, **supported** points of view and a personal viewpoint. You must refer to Christianity in your answer. [12 marks]

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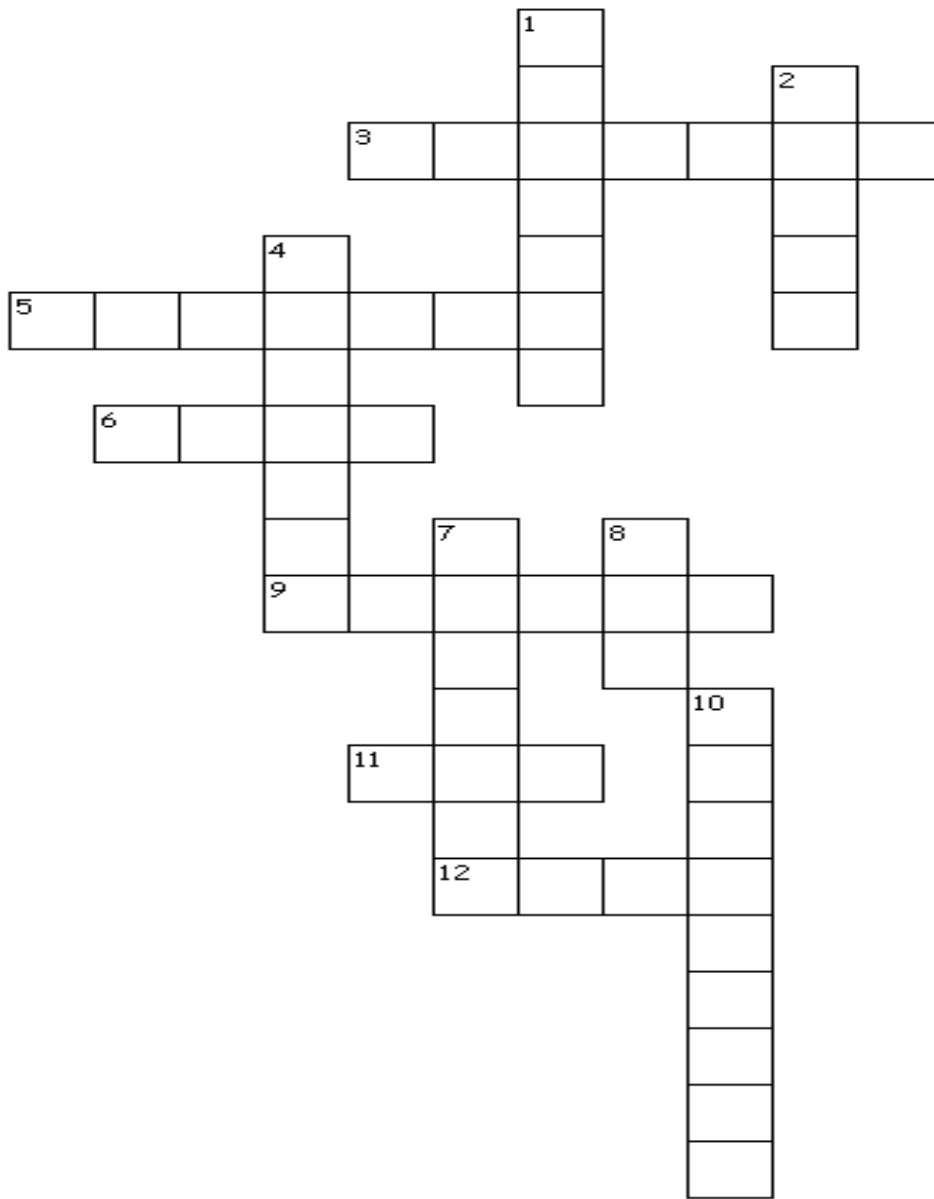
## *Saint Francis of Assisi (1182-1226)*

Saint Francis is honoured by the Catholic Church as the patron Saint of Animals and Ecology. He was born at Assisi in 1181 or 1182. His father was a prosperous merchant, and Francis planned to follow him in his trade, although he also had dreams of being a knight. In 1201 he took part in an attack on Perugia, was taken hostage, and remained a captive there for a year. As a result of his captivity and a severe illness his mind began to turn to religion, but around 1205 he enlisted in another military expedition. However, he had a dream in which God called him to his service, and he returned to Assisi and began to care for the sick. In 1206, he had a vision in which Christ called him to repair His Church. Francis interpreted this as a command to repair the church of San Damiano, near Assisi. He resolved to become a hermit, and devoted himself to repairing the church. His father, angry and embarrassed by Francis' behaviour, imprisoned him and brought him before the bishop as a disobedient. Francis abandoned all his rights and possessions, including his clothes.

One of Francis's most famous sermons is one he gave to a flock of birds. One day while Francis and some friars were travelling along the road, Francis looked up and saw the trees full of birds. Francis "left his companions in the road and ran eagerly toward the birds" and "humbly



begged them to listen to the word of God." One of the friars recorded the sermon, which overflows with Francis's love for creation and its Creator: "*My brothers, birds, you should praise your Creator very much and always love him; he gave you feathers to clothe you, wings so that you can fly, and whatever else was necessary for you. God made you noble among his creatures, and he gave you a home in the purity of the air; though you neither sow nor reap, he nevertheless protects and governs you without any solicitude on your part.*"



**Across**

- 3. This is the name of the book in the Bible which has two accounts of how God created the world
- 5. This is the name of the science which says that we can tell how old the earth is from the rock layers
- 6. God made Adam from this
- 9. This is the surname of the man who proposed the theory of evolution and the survival of the fittest
- 11. God made Eve from this
- 12. God gave this (the breath of life) to make Adam human

**Down**

- 1. Charles Darwin says humans evolved from this
- 2. This is what happened on the first day
- 4. On the seventh day God did this to the world
- 7. This word means the beginnings of the start of something
- 8. God made the world in this many days
- 10. This word means how life has changed throughout the years, for example humans were once monkeys

## Revision Quilt

Do this with a friend and see how many links you can make.

It does not matter which direction you go in but you chose a word, and then chose one of the other words from any direction which links up to it and then you have to explain the link. If you are very clever you could link up more than two words!

For example: the words “transcendent” and “Intelligent Design” link up because they are the Creationists view that an all-powerful transcendent being (God) created the world.

Creation	Command	Dust	Universe
Evolution	Dominion	Survival of the Fittest	Rib
Rule Over	Big Bang	Stewardship	Environment
All Powerful	First Cause	Ecology	Purpose
Transcendent	Intelligent Design	Personal God	Genesis