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| **Key Terms and Topic Information**  **Good** = that which is morally excellent, virtuous, righteous and pious.  **Evil** = that which is profoundly wrong, immoral and wicked. When used to describe a person’s actions, it often means what they have done is depraved and malicious.  **Free will** = a person’s decision-making, which allows them to choose to do whatever they wish in any situation of choices. However, they will be made to take responsibility for any actions (including reward or punishment after death).  Islam views life as a test of deciding between good and evil. The aim is to get closer to Allah, so every good act takes a person closer, and every evil act takes them further away. The concept of Free Will and how it is used gives Muslims a choice as to whether they fall into the temptation of crime or not. Muslims should follow the Qur’an; the Hadith and Sunnah help them understand how to do that. By following these, they obey Allah and can expect to be rewarded with Paradise at the Judgement. In terms of wrong behaviour, there are varying levels – from absolutely forbidden (eg murder) to not liked (eg divorce) – only those things forbidden can be classed as evil. The Qur’an gives set punishments to reflect their level of ‘wickedness’. Allah will also punish people at the Judgement after death.  Islam also says that only Allah knows what is truly good or evil – humans apply their own ideas and perceptions onto things, and can never be sure they are right or wrong (until the Judgement when all becomes clear).  Al-Qadr v free will  According to Islam, Allah has given humans free will to make choices in their lives but only God has foreknowledge of our destiny, and He has total control over what happens. This is because Allah sees all things at all times in all places at once – so knows everything all the time. | **Relevant religious teachings**  And [mention] when We said to the angels, "Prostrate before Adam"; so they prostrated, except for Iblis-He refused and was arrogant and became of the disbelievers’. (Suggests the source of evil is Iblis so humans give into to his evil temptations which then leave hem open to falling into crime. A lack of a moral code from a worshipful Muslims makes Iblis’ work easier)  ‘Whoever does righteousness – it is for his own soul; and whoever does evil, does so against it’ – Qur’an 41:46 (suggests humans are capable of good and evil, for either of which they will be held accountable)  Say, ‘Only what God has decreed will happen to us. He is our Master: let the believers put their trust in God.’ – Qur’an 9:51 (suggests Allah has decided everything already)  but it is possible that you dislike a thing which is good for you, and that you love a thing which is bad for you. But God knows, and you know not. – Qur’an 2:216 (only God knows what is really good or evil – we may be confused about them!) | **Religious attitudes to**  **Similar**  All Muslims believe that a being exists – Iblis – who tries to tempt humans away from doing what Allah wants them to. This being was an angel who refused to bow down before Adam, so was cast out of heaven by Allah.  All Muslims believe that they have free will to choose to do right actions, however – at the same time – they also believe in al-Qadr, that Allah knows each person so intimately that He knows what they will do even before they do it.  All Muslims believe it is important to obey the Qur’an and follow the Hadith – without question – in order to be rewarded with Paradise after the Judgement. So being good (obeying Allah) is the right use of free will; being bad (disobeying Allah) will receive punishment in the afterlife.  **Contrasting/Different**  Many religious people believe in the existence of an evil force – the devil – which tempts people and tries to lead them away from morally good behaviour(with its heavenly reward); whereas some religious and non-religious people do not believe in the devil. They offer other reasons for evil –   * Our personality is shaped by previous life experience and the development of our ‘soul/spirit/self’, and this makes us more or less inclined to commit crime. * There is a genetic predisposition to being good or bad in each of us. This is developed by our experiences and upbringing, to make us more or less likely to commit crime. * All human evil is a result of personal choice, with no supernatural influence - either good or bad.   Whilst Muslims believe in al-Qadr, no other religion believes our destiny is already known, and non-religious believers do not believe there is a God (so no al-Qadr). |
| **GOOD AND EVIL**  **C:\Users\LESLEY\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\DM2JWM30\GoodEvil[1].jpg** |
| **Issues for debate**  Is anyone truly evil – what does that mean, and how does it happen?  Has everyone got the capacity to be evil (or good)?  Do we control our decisions, or do they control us?  Free will or fate?  If Allah knows everything we will do, is there really such a thing as free will? |

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| **1m Questions**  What is meant by free will?  A Making decisions between good and bad choices  B A gift of God C Good behaviour  D Bad behaviour  Which of these titles does not refer to the being who tempts humans to disobey God?  A devil B Satan C Iblis D Gabriel | **Relevant religious teachings**  And [mention] when We said to the angels, "Prostrate before Adam"; so they prostrated, except for Iblis-He refused and was arrogant and became of the disbelievers’.  ‘Whoever does righteousness – it is for his own soul; and whoever does evil, does so against it’ – Qur’an 41:46  Say, ‘Only what God has decreed will happen to us. He is our Master: let the believers put their trust in God.’ – Qur’an 9:51  but it is possible that you dislike a thing which is good for you, and that you love a thing which is bad for you. But God knows, and you know not. – Qur’an 2:216 | **2m Questions**  Give two reasons why many religious believers think free will must be used wisely  Give two religious teachings about good and evil  Give two religious teachings about evil  Give two religious teaching about free will |
| **GOOD AND EVIL**  **C:\Users\LESLEY\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\DM2JWM30\GoodEvil[1].jpg** |
| **4m Questions**  **(Explain two different/similar/contrasting views about….)**  **Explain two contrasting religious views about free will**  **Explain two similar religious views about good and evil**  ***(Remember to answer these using two paragraphs and develop each idea)***  **One view is …………**  **The second view is…..** | **12m Questions**  **‘Free will is a burden for humans‘**  **‘All criminals are evil‘**  Evaluate this statement. In your answer you:   * Should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement * Should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view * Should refer to religious arguments * May refer to non-religious arguments * Should reach a justified conclusion.   NB – you need to know the terms well to be able to answer these questions well. Make yourself a glossary and keep adding to it so that you don’t get caught out in exams. It isn’t enough to just know definition – why are they important words/ideas, what implications does belief in them have etc |
| **5m Questions**  **(Explain two religious teachings about………)**  **…evil**  **…human free will**  ***Remember to answer these using two paragraphs and develop each idea)***  *One teaching is\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ which means\_\_\_\_\_*  *The second teaching is\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ which means \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* |