

Key Concepts			
<b>Resurrection</b>	The raising of the body to life following death. Catholics believe Jesus rose from the dead.	<b>Soul</b>	The spiritual part of a human that can never die. The part created by God that lives on after the death of the body.
<b>Heaven</b>	Eternal existence in God's presence	<b>Hell</b>	The lack of God for all eternity
<b>Magisterium</b>	The teaching authority of the Roman Catholic Church that comes from the Pope and Bishops.	<b>Judgement</b>	Judging someone on their actions. Catholics believe God will judge people on how they have lived their lives.
<b>Eternal Life</b>	Spiritual existence in heaven after the death of the body.	<b>Death</b>	The end of physical life. Catholics see death as a change rather than an ending.

<p><b><u>Euthanasia, Assisted Suicide &amp; Palliative Care (Dying Well)</u></b></p> <p>Catholics believe that life is sacred and belongs to God. Any deliberate action that brings an end to human life is considered sinful and wrong. Catholics believe that humans who are dying should be supported in this process and helped to die well. This involves the use of palliative care and hospices. Catholics reject all forms of euthanasia and assisted suicide. However, some Christians and Humanists have argued that people should have a choice over their death.</p>
<p><b><u>Sources of Authority</u></b></p> <p>"And God said, Let us make man in our image” <b>Genesis</b></p> <p>“Thou shalt not kill” <b>Exodus</b></p> <p>"Say yes to life and no to death” <b>Pope Francis</b></p> <p>“I confirm that euthanasia is wrong as it breaks the law of God” <b>Pope John Paul II</b></p> <p>“We should end the suffering of patients who know they are dying and want to do so peacefully” <b>Singer</b></p>

<b>Humanist beliefs about Euthanasia &amp; Assisted Suicide (Quality of Life)</b>	<b>Euthanasia</b> and <b>Assisted Suicide</b> are ways in which a person can determine the end of their own life. The word ‘euthanasia’ means ‘ <b>easy or gentle death</b> ’. <b>Humanists</b> reject belief in God and have long supported people in their right to die. They argue that people who suffer from incurable diseases might choose to end their life before their illness reaches the final stages. It means that they can choose to control the disease or illness before it becomes too painful. Humanist, <b>Peter Singer</b> believes if a person has a poor <b>quality of life</b> then they should be able to die with <b>dignity</b> at a time they want.
<b>Catholic beliefs about Dying Well – Palliative Care (Sanctity of Life)</b>	The <b>Catholic Church</b> rejects Assisted Suicide and Euthanasia as ways of ending a life. This teaching is based on the belief that all human life is sacred. Life is a gift from God and so should be respected from conception to natural death. Euthanasia and assisted suicide are seen as going against <b>the sanctity of life</b> and against the instruction in the <b>Ten Commandments - ‘Do not murder’</b> . The Church sees ‘ <b>Palliative Care</b> ’ as alternative to euthanasia and assisted suicide. The Catholic Church, along with many other Christians, support those who provide palliative care because it respects the value of every person until their <b>natural death</b> . Medication is provided to reduce pain and to enable the individual to retain as much dignity and quality of life as possible.
<b>Arguments in favour of Euthanasia &amp; Assisted Suicide</b>	If a person is in constant pain and are unable to enjoy activities they once may have enjoyed they can be said to have a poor <b>quality of life</b> . Some would argue that if a person has a poor quality of life they have a right to die. Jesus taught that you should “ <b>Treat others as you would like to be treated yourself.</b> ” If you were suffering then you may want to end your life so we should allow others the same option. Jesus taught his followers that they should <b>love their neighbour</b> as they love themselves. Euthanasia can be seen as the <b>most loving action</b> . Many illnesses have <b>no cure</b> and the prospect for the person suffering is that they will be in more pain in the future.
<b>Arguments against Euthanasia &amp; Assisted Suicide</b>	Catholics believe in the <b>sanctity of life</b> , that all human life is sacred and belongs to God. Life is precious and should be respected from <b>conception</b> to natural death. This teaching comes from the book of <b>Genesis</b> and is reinforced in the commandments and by <b>St Catherine of Siena</b> . Catholics believe that suffering can have a purpose. This was the teaching presented by St John Paul II in ‘ <b>Salvifici Doloris</b> ’. The Catholic Church believe there is a clear alternative to euthanasia. People can be supported in their dying through <b>palliative care</b> . Assisted Suicide and Euthanasia are <b>illegal in the UK</b> . There is also a <b>slippery slope</b> argument. If we legalise euthanasia for terminal illness where do we draw the line? Do we start to allow it for depression and curable illness like the common cold?

<p><b><u>Exam Practice</u></b></p> <p>d) Euthanasia is never acceptable (15)</p> <p>b) Describe Catholic beliefs about dying well (5)</p>	<p>d) ‘Quality of life is more important than sanctity of life’ (15)</p>
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