

Term	Definition
abortion	The deliberate termination (ending) of a pregnancy, usually before the foetus is twenty-four weeks old.
Abortion Right	A national pro-choice campaign regarding the issue of abortion.
abuse	Misuse of the world and the environment.
age of consent	The age at which an individual can legally have sex. (Currently 16 years of age in the UK.)
amateur	In sport, someone who plays for the enjoyment of the game rather than for money.
amnesty	A pardon for crimes committed (usually against the state).
Amnesty International	An organisation which takes action to try to prevent and end abuses of human rights and to demand justice for those whose rights have been violated.
apartheid	A policy in South Africa of racial segregation where whites were separated from blacks and given privileges.
asylum seeker	A person who is seeking to be recognised as a refugee and requests permission to live in safety in another country.
binge drinking	Consuming an excessive amount of alcohol in a short amount of time.
blasphemy	Talk or behaviour that insults God or the gods.
brotherhood	Group that offers companionship, help, support to each other.
business	A commercial or industrial firm. Sometimes business refers to the occupation, work or trade in which a person is engaged.
career	Way of making a living, often in a profession.
casinos	Places where people play games of chance, such as roulette, blackjack and poker.
celebrations	Festivities to mark special occasions or events.
charity	Showing generosity towards others or an organisation that helps the needy.
ChildLine	An organisation providing 24 hour counselling service for young people.
Christians in Sport	An international organisation which encourages Christians to represent and share their faith in sport.
Christmas	The Feast Day commemorating the birth of Jesus (25 December in most Churches).
citizen	A legal inhabitant of a country.
Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB)	Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) gives free, confidential information and advice to help people with their money, legal, consumer and other problems.
code of conduct	Set of rules governing how an individual may behave.
commitment	A pledge, promise or affirmation of agreement.
community	Group of people living in a particular local area.
conscience	The inner feeling of right or wrong which governs a person's actions.
contraception	The artificial and chemical methods used to prevent pregnancy taking place.
contract	An agreement concerning the responsibilities and conditions of work between employer and employee.
covenant	An agreement.
creative activities	Activities that involve imagination and original thought, often in making things.
cultural diversity	The range of different groups that make up the wider population.
culture	The customs and way of life of a group of people including religious beliefs.
custom	Accepted or habitual practice usually of long standing.



Term	Definition
decision making	The ability to decide.
differences	Being different or unlike.
disability	When a person has a mental or physical condition that limits movement or activities.
diverse workforce	Workers from a variety of backgrounds, ethnic groups, ages, gender, education, personalities and skills, etc.
diversity	The quality of having differences or variety, eg in culture and religious beliefs.
divorce	Legal ending of a marriage.
(the) economy	The system by which the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services is organised in a country. The generation of wealth through business and industry.
emigration	People leaving their home country to go and live in another country.
employee	Person employed by a company.
employer	Person who employs individuals to do a job.
empowerment	An individual having the right to make their own choices and act on them.
enterprise	Using individual initiative to set up a business.
ethnic minority	A group that has different national or cultural traditions from the majority of the population.
experience	Skill or knowledge obtained from observation or living through situations or circumstances.
fair competition	No cheating. Where the contestants have a more-or-less equal chance to win.
fair play	The idea that everyone should behave reasonably, without using underhand tactics but take part in the spirit of the game or sport.
fair wage	Appropriate pay for the time, effort and skill given to the job.
faith community	A group of people belonging to the same religion.
family	A group of people who are related by blood, marriage or adoption.
family commitments	The need to look after the family.
festival	A religious celebration.
gambling	Playing games of chance for money, eg betting on horse races.
gamesmanship	Tactics designed to distract or annoy opponents.
Greenpeace	An organisation which seeks to protect the environment.
gender	Another word for a person's sex, ie male, female.
global identity	Identity in the world.
health and safety	Issues concerning the protection of employees.
healthy living	Living a life which is good for the body, both physically and mentally.
heterosexual	A human who is sexually attracted only to members of the opposite sex.
holy days	Special days of worship including days to celebrate religious festivals.
homosexual	A human who is sexually attracted only to members of their own sex.
honesty	Truthful. Not lying or cheating.
human	A person – someone belonging to the species Homo sapiens.
human rights	The basic rights and freedoms to which all human beings should be entitled.
Human Rights Act	An Act of Parliament passed in 1998 which says that all organisations have a duty to protect the rights of all individuals in the U.K.



Term	Definition
identity	The distinct personality of an individual.
image	A characteristic of a person or group concerning style, manner of dress, how one is, or wishes to be, perceived by others.
immigration	Moving to another country to live there.
inspiration	Stimulation of the mind to be creative or motivate a person to action.
integration	Different communities starting to live and work together and see each other as equals.
interdependence	Depending on each other.
justice	Bringing about what is right or fair, according to the law or making up for a wrong that has been committed.
The (Law)	Rules in a country that govern how people live.
leadership	Refers to religious leaders who guide and help followers in matters concerning their faith.
legal rights	Rights which are protected by law.
leisure	Free time. Time when an individual is not working.
marriage	A legal union between a man and a woman.
marriage ceremonies	The ceremony in which a man and woman marry.
meaning of life	The purpose and significance of human existence.
mementos	Souvenirs
memorabilia	A collection of memorable things linked to a particular person or sport.
mental health	The psychological state of someone which affects their emotions and behaviour.
minimum wage	The national minimum wage is the lowest hourly rate that it is legal for an employer to pay to employees or workers.
minority	A small group differing from others and the majority.
minority rights	The rights of a racial, ethnic, religious, linguistic or sexual minority group in a community.
morality	A system of ethics, about what is right or wrong.
morality in sport	A system of ethics, about what is right or wrong as it applies to sport.
multicultural	A society that consists of many cultures, races and religions.
multiple identities	Several identities, eg daughter, sports captain, northerner, Briton.
natural ability	Ability that is inherited and which is revealed by a quickness to learn, understand or acquire a skill.
national identity	Who a person is within a country.
parenting	Acting as a parent.
politics	The governance and running of the country.
performance-enhancing drugs	Substances used by those involved in sport to improve their performance. This practice is illegal and is a form of cheating.
peers	A group of people of similar age or ability.
personhood	The state or condition of being a person, especially having those qualities that confer distinct individuality and the ability to reason.
physical dimension	That which can be experienced by the five senses and the physical body.
physical health	Whether or not a person is physically healthy or suffering from illness or disease.
pilgrimage	A physical journey to a special place. It can also be a person's inner spiritual journey.



Term	Definition
political correctness (PC)	Describes language, ideas, policies, or behaviour seen as trying to minimise offence to racial, cultural, or other identity groups.
prejudice	Unfairly judging someone before the facts are known. Holding biased opinions about an individual or group.
pressure groups	A group of people with a shared interest who try to change public opinion or government policy to their own views.
profession	An occupation, vocation or high-status career.
professional	In sport, taking part in an activity and being paid to do it.
protest	A statement or action as a reaction to events or situations. Usually it is against something although occasionally it can be in support.
race	A group of people with the same ethnic background.
refugee	A person who through fear of persecution, war or natural disaster flees their home or country
relaxation	The act of relaxing the body and/or mind in order to become less tense.
religious voluntary organisations	A religious organisation that runs through voluntary contributions or voluntary labour.
respect	Having an attitude of consideration and regard for the rights and feelings of others.
responsibility	The legal or moral duty which a person has and as a result may be blamed for it if it is not carried out.
rights	The legal or moral entitlements to do or not to do something.
sacred writings	Religious texts or holy books.
Samaritans	An organisation which provides emotional support to anyone in distress or at risk of suicide.
sanctity of life	Life is sacred because it is God-given.
segregation	to separate people according to their race or religion.
self	Refers to one's own self and identity.
self-worth	Valuing yourself as a person.
service	Work done by one person or group that benefits another. An act of help or assistance.
soul	The spiritual and immortal part of humans, which survives the death of the body. It is often thought to incorporate the inner awareness of each human being.
spiritual dimension	Relates to the soul or spirit in contrast to material or physical things.
sponsorship	Supporting an activity by paying money or providing equipment to ensure the activity takes place.
sport	Physical activity that is governed by a set of rules or customs and often engaged in competitively.
sportsmanship	An attitude that strives for fair play, courtesy towards teammates and opponents, decent behaviour and grace in losing.
SPUC	The Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child is a pro-life group.
state	Refers to the country or government.
state religion	The official religion of a country. Often represented at state occasions. In England the Church of England is the state church.
stress	Mental or physical distress caused by pressure or difficult circumstances.
stress relief	Reduction or removal of mental or physical distress.



Term	Definition
superstar	A widely acclaimed star, as in movies or sports, who has great popular appeal.
symbol	An object, image or action that stands for something else.
tax	Amount of money paid by individuals to the government from their wages and by businesses from their profits.
taxation	The method by which the government receives an income, eg from income tax, Value Added Tax (VAT), inheritance tax.
teamwork	Working together for the benefit of the whole team.
theocracy	A form of government in which a 'god' or 'deity' is recognized as the supreme civil ruler.
tithes	Giving of a tenth of ones income to God.
tolerance	Permit social, cultural and religious differences without protest, discrimination or interference.
trade unions	Organisations that look after the interests of a group of workers.
traditions	The handing down of customs from one generation to another.
unemployment	The state of being without a job, especially involuntarily.
United Nations (UN)	An organisation set up at the end of World War II to prevent war and encourage peace by discussing problems between countries.
United Nations Declaration of Human Rights	Document produced by the United Nations setting out the rights that all people should be entitled to.
vocation	A career which the individual feels called by God to do.
voluntary organisation	An organisation that runs through voluntary contributions or voluntary labour.
vows	Promises made by the couple to be faithful to each other.
voluntary work	Work that is undertaken without payment.
work	To exert oneself physically or mentally in order to do, make, or accomplish something.



Buddhism	
Term	Definition
the Eightfold Path	The way to wisdom and mental training and the way of morality.
the Five Moral Precepts	To abstain from harming life, refrain from stealing, refrain from wrongful sexual activity, refrain from lying, not taking drugs and alcohol that cloud the mind.
The Four Noble Truths	Dukkha, Tanha, Niroda, Magga.
kamma (karma)	The law of cause and effect. What we sow we will reap.
Wesak	The commemoration of Buddha's birth, enlightenment, and parinirvana.

Christianity	
Term	Definition
Bible	Sacred book of Christians containing the Old and New Testaments.
Chaplain	A Christian minister based in the workplace offering pastoral support to individuals.
Christians in Sport	An international organisation which encourages Christians to represent and share their faith in sport.
Christmas	Christian festival to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Hinduism	
Term	Definition
atman	Self. Can refer to the body, mind or soul depending on context. Usually the inner, or real, self.
dharma	Religion. The right conduct and law which uphold order and harmony in society.
Divali	Festival of lights around the period of the Hindu New Year.
Four Aims of Life	Dharma, Artha, Karma, Moksha.
karma	Action. The law of cause and effect.
puja	Paying respect to a deity as an honoured guest.
	2. Ways to worship in the home or temple.
reincarnation	Being reborn again in another form.
samsara (sansara)	The world, where the cycle of birth, death and rebirth takes place.
seva	Selfless service: often refers to voluntary work or work offered to God.

Islam	
Term	Definition
Allah	The Islamic name for God.
Eid ul Fitr	Celebration of the end of the fasting of Ramadan.
Hadith	Words and actions of the Prophet Muhammad. A major source of Islamic Law.
Qur'an	The Holy Book revealed to the Prophet Muhammad by the angel Jibril. Allah's final revelation to mankind.
ummah	All Muslims are regarded as part of a brotherhood; the nation of Islam.



Judaism	
Term	Definition
kashrut	Laws relating to having a Kosher lifestyle, eg keeping the food laws.
kosher	Foods which meet the Jewish laws.
Sabbath	The Jewish day of rest, from sunset on Friday to sunset on Saturday.
Pesach	Festival in remembrance of the Jewish Exodus from Egypt. Celebrated in spring.
Tenakh (Tanakh)	The 24 books of the Jewish Bible. Jewish scriptures – Torah (Law), Nevi'im (Writings) and Ketuvim (Prophets).
Torah	1. The five books of Moses and the first section of the Tenakh – the law.
	2. The whole of Jewish teaching.

Sikhism	
Term	Definition
Baisakhi	Name of a month and a Sikh festival, which celebrates the formation of the khalsa in 1699 CE.
Guru Granth Sahib	Collection of Sikh scriptures, collated by Guru Arjan and Guru Gobind Singh.
kurahit	The four prohibitions adopted by Khalsa Sikhs, moral guidelines.
Mool Mantra (Mul Mantar)	The statement of belief set out at the beginning of the Guru Granth Sahib.
Rehat (Reht) Maryada	Sikh code of discipline covering religious rites and ethical observances.
sewa	Selfless service for the Sikh community and gurdwara, also directed at all of humanity. Often refers to voluntary work or work offered to God.



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