**0 1 'War is never right.’ 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. [12 marks]

**Answer A** *Sometimes war can be justified by the reason, the intent and the means used to fight the war. If the intent, the means and the reason for going to war are just, for example, to defend your country. However in a war there is no denying that millions of people become displaces, are injured or killed. Moreover most Christians believe that it is better to forgive rather than have to seek retribution. However, war is right in some situations but should be used as the last resort.*

**Answer B** *Many people, e.g. Quakers, argue that war is never right and in many ways I agree with them. It causes untold misery to so many people who lose loved ones on the front line. Jesus taught his disciples not to use violence when he was being arrested in Gethsemane. He said, ‘Those who live by the sword die by the sword.’ We can see from the Middle East that all the conflict there over the past twenty years has resulted in yet more conflict. The many deaths as a result of war cause lifelong suffering for families and the terrible injuries from cluster bombs and other explosive devices lead to trauma for those injured. War ruins a country’s economy and infrastructure, leaving people homeless and hungry. They are left with absolutely nothing and may flee the country, becoming refugees. We see this in the world today, where nothing good has come from the war in Syria. War also uses a lot of money which could be put to much better use. It is bad stewardship to spend huge sums on killing while letting so many people die of starvation. According to Jesus, we shall be judged on how we have treated those in need. This means we should be feeding and educating people, not killing them. However, it could be argued that in certain situations war is the lesser of two evils. Although it is never good, it may sometimes be right. If a corrupt regime is in power, the only way of overthrowing it, then surely as an absolutely last resort, a nation like ours with the means to get rid of it is justified in doing so to help the population of that country. The Just War theory is a Christian theory that tries to limit the wars being fought, but it does accept that in some cases, going to war might be justified. Overall, though I think that the statement is right. Jesus told his disciples to love not only their neighbours but also their enemies. Going to war against our enemies is hardly loving them.*

**Answer A: This is a Level 2 response. A short answer at 87 words. The answer makes reference to Just War criteria, and to the importance of forgiveness, but it lacks development overall. For example, the Christian view on forgiveness could have been expanded upon, and some clear evaluation could have been added to the concluding statement to help move the answer up into the next band.**

**Answer B: This is a Level 4 response. A well-argued response with reasoned consideration of different points of view. Logical chains of reasoning leading to an effective conclusion. Sound religious content is included. This is a longer answer (349 words) than would generally be expected in up to 15 minutes (approximately 250 words).**

**Twelve Mark Questions Mark Scheme**

**Level 4**: A well-argued response, reasoned consideration of different points of view. Logical chains of reasoning leading to judgement(s) supported by knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence and information. References to religion applied to the issue. (**10-12 marks)**

**Level 3:** Reasoned consideration of different points of view. Logical chains of reasoning that draw on knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence and information. Clear reference to religion. **(7-9 marks)**

**Level 2:** Reasoned consideration of a point of view. A logical chain of reasoning drawing on knowledge and understanding of relevant evidence and information. OR Recognition of different points of view, each supported by relevant reasons / evidence. Maximum of Level 2 if there is no reference to religion or the argument is one-sided. **(4-6 marks)**

**Level 1:** Point of view with reason(s) stated in support. **(1-3 marks)**

**Level 0:** Nothing worthy of credit. **(0 marks)**