

RE, Philosophy and Ethics (RPE) –

Absent Student work for Year 8

In RPE over the last two Years, we have been looking at religion, beliefs, ideas from different philosophers and how different people may respond to different ethical situations. You are going to complete an investigation into the status of religion in Britain today.

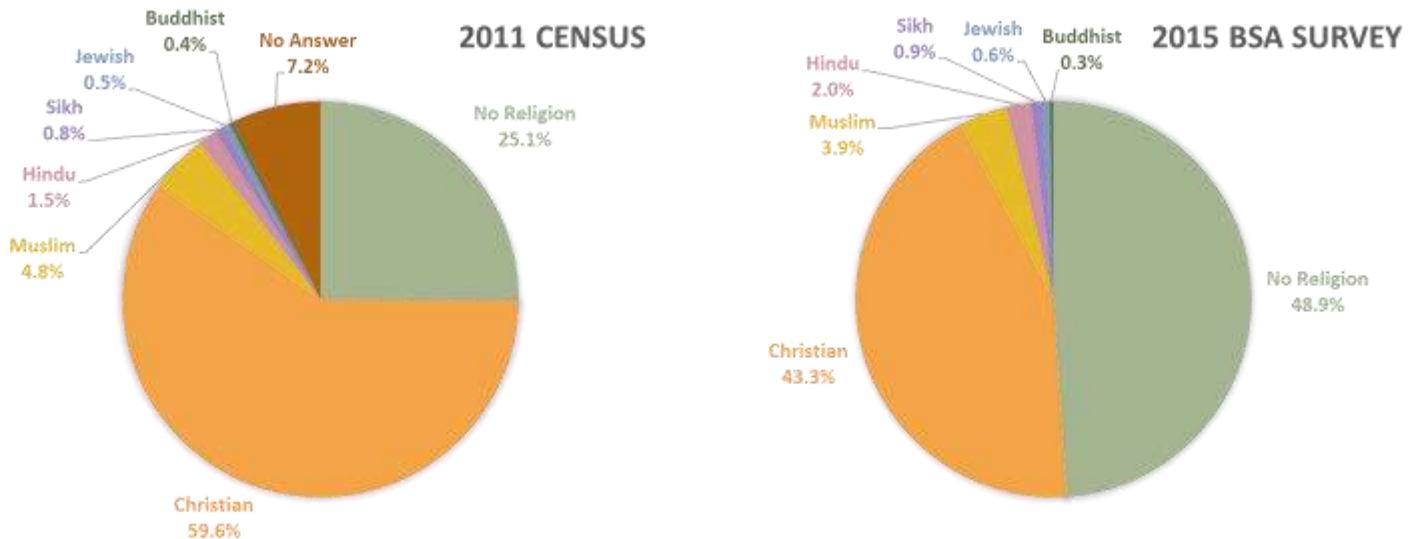
1. Using the information, below, please summarise the knowledge, write the questions on paper and respond to those questions on paper.
2. Then, you need to write a short article for a newspaper with the headline of: Is Britain becoming a non-religious country? Use the information you have just summarised to help you. Include a 'yes' explanation, a 'no' explanation and you also need to provide a conclusion.

You do not need to print any of this work. Please write on paper.

Investigation: is Britain becoming a non-religious country?

We are going to look at some evidence to ask if Britain is moving from a Christian country to an atheist country.

Data Source 1: 2011 Census and 2015 British Social Attitudes data



Q1. In 2015 were the majority of people surveyed Christian?

Q2. Was this still the case in 2015?

Q3. What do the two graphs tell us about the number of non-religious people in the UK between 2011 and 2015

Stretch and Challenge. The census surveyed 52 million people, the BSA surveyed 4,000 – how might this affect the results?

Data Source 2: Infographic from 2017 survey about religious belief

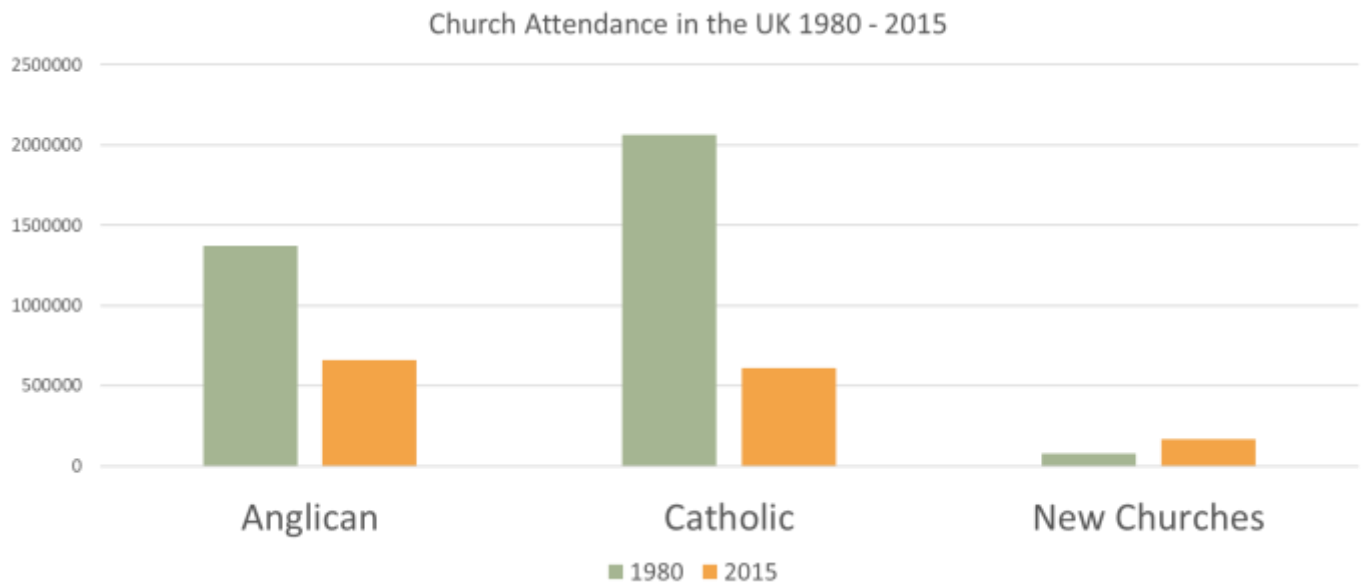
For every one British convert from 'no religion' to religion there are 19 British converts from religion to 'no religion' (atheism or agnosticism)



Q1. Describe what the infographic shows about religious converts

Q2. What will happen to the numbers of religious people in the UK if this trend continues?

Data Source 3: Graph from Church Statistics showing church attendance



Q1. Describe the general trend of church attendance in the UK from 1980 to 2015?

Q2. Approximately how many Anglicans (Church of England) went to church in 1980 and 2015?

Q3. Which type of church grew in numbers between 1980 and 2015?

Stretch and Challenge. Why might a new, informal, modern church attract people when a traditional, formal church like the Catholic church has lost members?

NEWS

70% of young Brits are 'not religious'

By Shiona McCallum
Newsbeat reporter

Nearly three-quarters of young Brits identify as having no religion, a report suggests.

Researchers asked the religious views of people aged 16 to 29 across Europe.

It found nearly two-thirds of young people in the UK never pray, and 59% never attend religious services apart from special occasions.

Professor Bullivant, a professor of theology and the sociology of religion at St Mary's University in London, lead the report.

He says lots of young people won't have entered a church since their baptism and only go to church for events like weddings and funerals.

Professor Bullivant predicts even fewer young people will be religious in the future, but says those who do practise will be even more devout.

"Over the next 10 to 20 years, we're near certain to see a rise in the proportion of people with no religion across the UK.

Q1. Summarise the article in two bullet points

Q2. What does Professor Bullivant say will happen to the number of people saying they have no religion in the UK in the future?