**THE NATURE OF CHALLENGE**

**TO A PARTICULAR RELIGIOUS TRADITION OVER TIME**

**Area of Study 4.1**

**Outcome:** To discuss, analyse and compare stances and supporting responses

taken by religions as they are challenged

The second part of this Area of Study requires the analysis and comparison of 4 examples of challenges over time to theology, ethics and continued existence of a particular Religious Tradition/Denomination. In order to demonstrate this second part of the Area of Study, the following knowledge and skills need to be developed.

**For a Particular Religious Tradition/Denomination over time - Analyse and Compare**

An Overview of Challenges (minimum 4) involving theology, ethics and continued existence for at least one Religious Tradition/Denomination.

* the sources of the challenges the aspects of religion which are involved
* when and where the challenges occurred/are occurring
* the aspects of religion which are involved
* what makes the challenges significant
* the stances adopted in the face of challenges
* the responses supporting the stances

**Interpret, Synthesise and Apply**

Reference to a variety of both Primary and Secondary Resources is helpful in order to support the above analysis, explanation and comparison.

**Religious Tradition – Roman Catholicism**

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| **Category of Challenge** | **Continued Existence or Ethics or Theology or Mixture**  **Theological, continued existence , ethics** |
| Identification | The Challenge of Luther’s theology |
| Sources | Johann Tetzel – sale of Indulgences  The teachings of Martin Luther as a reformer who challenged the Church’s teachings on the nature of revelation, the sacraments and salvation |
| When | 16th Century |
| Where | Europe – particularly Germany and Rome |
| Aspects Involved | Social structures; texts, spiritual experience, rituals |
| Significance | This led to a major schism in the Church and so was clearly about defining major beliefs that would impact on the authority of the papacy; the practice of the Eucharist; and an understanding of salvation. |
| Stances | Luther – aim to reform the Church’s teachings  Pope Leo X: demands Luther recant or be excommunicated  Holy Roman Emperor Charles V – supportive of Rome  Frederick III Saxony – Luther’s theology had political ramifications and allowed for the shifting in the power structure of Europe |
| Supporting Responses | Anabaptist movement, Calvin, Zwingli, Henry VIII etc.  The Council of Trent – Reform of the Roman Catholic Church |