

Philosophy Summer Work



Philosophy tries to answer questions such as:

- What is real? How do we know?
- What is the cause of us? The world? God?
- Can we ever know the answer?

This year in philosophy we will be studying:

1. **Ancient Philosophical influences:** we will study Plato and Aristotle and consider what they thought was real, and how we know.
2. **The existence of God:** we will study a priori and a posteriori arguments for the existence of God, including the cosmological, ontological and teleological arguments for the existence of God.
3. **Challenges to religious belief:** we will study evil and suffering and the theodicies.
4. **Religious experience:** we will look at different types of experience and focus on William James.
5. **Soul, mind and body:** again we will focus on Plato and Aristotle.

Compulsory Tasks – handed to your teacher FIRST LESSON BACK in Year 12:

1. Research **one** philosopher of your choice. Produce a **5-minute** presentation to give on the first lesson back. You must explain the **background** of the person, and at least **two philosophical theories or ideas** that the person is known for.

Recommended Tasks - go for these as well if you are aiming for top marks next year!

Read:

- **A Little History of Philosophy** by Nigel Warburton and **produce a 500 word (max) review** of what you learnt/thought about. This book is widely available from any bookshop, amazon, or you could loan it from a library.
- **The Philosophy Book** by Will Buckingham, Peter J. King at al.
- **Understanding Religious Studies for OCR** by Libby Ahulwalia (books for an old spec but still brilliant as an intro)

Watch:

- **The History of Western Philosophy** 3 part series, available on YouTube
- **The God Delusion: Roots of all Evil**, part 1 and 2 (Richard Dawkins) available on YouTube
- **'The Good Place'** on Netflix has some interesting references to Philosophy and Ethics
- Check out the **'School of Life – Western Philosophy'** on YouTube

