

Religious Studies AS – Philosophy and Ethics Year 11 to 12 Bridging Task



There are three tasks we would like students to engage in before starting the course in September of Year 12.

1. We would like you to research the life and key philosophical ideas of one. We would like you to research the life and key philosophical ideas of one of Plato or Aristotle, being ready to feedback to the class. You need to look at:
 - The background of the philosopher (i.e. life and times of) including any key moments in their lives personally, and nationally/internationally (approximately 125 words)
 - Two key ideas/theories of the philosopher (approximately 125 words)

2. We would like you to research the ideas of Ethical theory either Bentham and Utilitarianism or Aquinas and Natural Law. Again please look at:

- The background of the philosopher (i.e. life and times of) including any key moments in their lives personally, and nationally/internationally (approximately 125 words)
- The key principles of this Ethical theory (approximately 125 words)

Who won this debate?

Watch the debate between these two heavy weight thinkers. The debate is detailed and goes over a range of complex arguments. Your job is to decide who wins and why.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e8MzPmkNsgU>

Search on Youtube: Debate: Atheist vs Christian (Christopher Hitchens vs William Lane Craig)

Task 3

a. Take notes in the form of a mindmap as this allows you to add and link ideas logically as you watch. If you don't know how to make a mindmap watch this clip

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wLWV0XN7K1g>

b. Once you have watched the whole debate chose one argument from each speaker that you thought was their strongest summarise their argument and explain why you think this argument is convincing (please write approximately 250 words)