

WHAT IS PHILOSOPHY?

Philosophy means the LOVE OF WISDOM.

It allows you to study life's biggest question. That does not mean you will find the answers but you will have fun getting there.

To prepare for year 12 you will start your philosophical journey over the summer.



Philosophy is a sense of wonder.

As we grow we lose the sense of wonder, because we are used to the world. Life becomes a habit. Philosophy tries to make us look beyond what we have learnt to accept, to go beyond our routine and get back to the sense of wonder.

TASK 1. Read these quotes and WRITE in great detail (1 side) what you think they mean

“The unexamined life is not worth living” Socrates

“The only wisdom is knowing you know nothing at

What you will need on your philosophical journey.

TASK 2. A copy of **Sophie's World** by **Jostein Gaarder**, this is your holiday reading as you go on your journey. Use this website to help you understand. <http://www.sparknotes.com/lit/sophie/>

TASK 3. Have a quiet moment to **reflect and WRITE answers these questions. 1 side minimum**

- What is the most important thing in life?
- Who are you?
- Why are you here?
- How was the world created?
- Do all things have purpose?
- Can you create something out of nothing?
- Does everything in life have a cause? If so what was the first cause?

Philosophy Summer Assignment 2016



Lucia lived in a town where the lights were on, but nobody was ever home. She lived among zombies.

This was not as scary as it might sound. These zombies were not the flesh-eating ghouls of horror films. They looked and behaved just like you and I. But there was one key difference: they had no minds. If you pricked them they would say 'ouch' and wince, but they felt no pain. If you 'upset' them they would cry or get angry, but there would be no inner turmoil. If you played them soothing music they would appear to enjoy it, but in their minds they would hear nothing. On the outside, they were ordinary humans, but on the inside, nothing was going on.

This made them easy to get along with. It was easy to forget that they didn't have inner lives as she did, since they spoke and behaved just like ordinary people and that included references to how they felt or what they thought. Visitors to the town would also fail to notice anything strange. Even when Lucia let them in on the secret, they refused to believe her.

'How do you know that they have no minds?' they would ask. 'How do you know that other people do?' would be Lucia's reply. That usually shut them up.



TASK

1. Write an explanation of how you know that the Zombies have no mind?
2. Write an explanation of how you know that you have a mind.
3. Explain the things that you feel that you know (as opposed to things that you cannot claim to know about). Think about proving how you know these things.

WRITE NO MORE THAN ONE SIDE OF A4

Ethics Summer Assignment

'Everyone has the right to choose when to die.'

Should Tony Nicklinson have the right to assisted suicide if and when he considers the time is right to end his life?

Do your own research on the case of **Tony Nicklinson** who had 'locked-in syndrome'. This case hit the news headlines two years ago when Tony was interviewed by the BBC's Medical Correspondent, Fergus Walsh: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-18499878>

Find out as much detail as you can about this particular case through the Internet and newspapers. Follow the case over the next few weeks as there may well be developments.

What did Tony Nicklinson hope to achieve? What were his aims?

Find out how **the Law** stands in this country regarding euthanasia and assisted suicide. Why will the Law **NOT** allow euthanasia in the case of Tony Nicklinson?

Write down a list of arguments **FOR** the use of euthanasia in a case such as this.

Write down a list of arguments **AGAINST** the use of euthanasia in a case like this.

Investigate two opposing *Christian* views on a case such as this (look at the teaching/ views of the Roman Catholic Church and at the view which may be taken by a follower of Situation Ethics)

When you have done enough research:

Use your research and your own opinions to write an answer to the following question (approximately 1000 words):

Should Tony Nicklinson have the right to assisted suicide if and when he considers the time is right to end his life?

Your own opinion should be evident but you should also include a variety of other views on euthanasia and this case in particular.

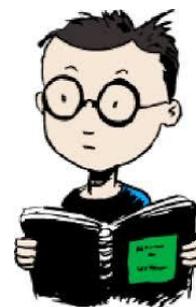
Attention must be given to spelling, punctuation and grammar. Read through your work and ensure that all your factual information is correct and that your arguments are clear.

This assignment must be given to your Ethics teacher on or before 11th September

Reading List for AS/A2 Religious Studies OCR

Holiday Reading

- Gaarder, J. *Sophie's World* Pheonix **ISBN-10:** 1857992911
- Magee, B. *The Story of Philosophy* DK ELT/Schools **ISBN-10:** 0751333328
- Thompson, M. *Teach Yourself Ethics* Teach Yourself **ISBN-10:** 0340926961
- Vardy, P. *The Puzzle of Ethics* Fount **ISBN-10:** 0006281443



AS Philosophy

Essential Reading

- Jordan, A., Lockyer, N. & Tate, E. *Philosophy of Religion for A Level - OCR Edition* Nelson Thornes **ISBN-10:** 0748780785
- Taylor, M. *OCR Philosophy of Religion for AS and A2* Routledge **ISBN-10:** 0415468248
- Vardy, P. *The Puzzle of God* Fount **ISBN-10:** 0006281435

Wider Reading

- Cole, P. *Philosophy of Religion* Hodder Education **ISBN-10:** 0340957786
- Davies, B. *Philosophy of Religion; a Guide and Anthology* OUP Oxford **ISBN-10:** 019875194X
- Dawkins, R. *The God Delusion* Black Swan **ISBN-10:** 055277331X
- Hick, J. *Philosophy of Religion* Prentice Hall **ISBN-10:** 0136626289
- Hick, J. *Classical and Contemporary Readings in Philosophy of Religion* Prentice Hall **ISBN-10:** 0131369040
- Hick, J. *Evil and the God of Love* Palgrave MacMillan **ISBN-10:** 0230522009
- Mackie, J. L. *The Miracle of Theism* (Chapter 9 The Free Will Defence) OUP Oxford **ISBN-10:** 019824682X
- McGrath, A. *The Dawkins Delusion* SPCK **ISBN-10:** 0281059276
- Taylor, I. *Philosophy and Ethics for OCR* Heinemann **ISBN-10:** 0435303627
- Vardy, P. *The Thinker's Guide to God* O Books **ISBN-10:** 190381622X
- Vardy, P. *The Thinker's Guide to Evil* O Books **ISBN-10:** 1903816335

AS Ethics

Essential Reading

Bowie, R. *Ethical Studies* Nelson Thornes **ISBN-10:** 0748780793

Oliphant, J. *OCR Religious Ethics for AS and A2* Routledge **ISBN-10:** 0415468256

Vardy, P. *The Puzzle of Ethics* Fount **ISBN-10:** 0006281443

Wider Reading

Deanne-Drummond, C. *A Brave New World* Continuum International Publishing Group - T & T C **ISBN-10:** 0567089363

Geisler, N. *Christian Ethics* Baker Academic **ISBN-10:** 0801038790 (Jan 2010)

Glover, J. *Causing Death and Saving Lives* Penguin **ISBN-10:** 0140134794

Hoose, B. *Christian Ethics* Geoffrey Chapman **ISBN-10:** 0826449689

Lafollette, H. *Ethics in Practice* WileyBlackwell **ISBN-10:** 140512945X

Macquarrie, J. (Ed.) *A New Dictionary of Christian Ethics* SCM Press **ISBN-10:** 0334022045

Norman, R. *Ethics, Killing and War* Cambridge University Press **ISBN-10:** 0521455537

Palmer, M. *Moral Problems* Lutterworth Press **ISBN-10:** 0718830512

Peters, T. *Playing God* Routledge **ISBN-10:** 0415942497

Pojman, L. *Ethics: Discovering Right and Wrong* Wadsworth Publishing Co Inc **ISBN-10:** 0534551815

Singer, P. *Practical Ethics* Cambridge University Press **ISBN-10:** 052143971X

Singer, P & Kuhse, H. *Bioethics –an Anthology* WileyBlackwell **ISBN-10:** 1405129484

Singer, P. *Rethinking Life and Death* Oxford Paperbacks **ISBN-10:** 0192861840

Smart, J & Willams, B. *Utilitarianism: For and Against* Cambridge University Press **ISBN-10:** 052109822X

Wilcockson, M. *Issues of Life and Death* Hodder Education **ISBN-10:** 0340957751

