

Year 11 Philosophy & Ethics Summer Term 2020

Extending your knowledge beyond GCSE

For the GCSE we only studied two major religions in depth; Christianity and Islam. Now is a great opportunity to find out about many more and compare and contrast their beliefs and practices to the religions we have already studied. I recommend as a starting point for research the A-Z of Religion and Beliefs, these are a series of 24 short clips that can be found here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wAekxgY9Wc4&list=PLcvEcrsF_9zKTvmTconl6YkUd3SVwOGDO

Please find below a series of questions / tasks relating to some of the clips. Once you have looked through each one you can use these to start some further research into a religion we haven't looked at in depth.

You could start by thinking about

- How and when was the religion founded?
- Where can it be found around the world?
- What are the main beliefs?
- What are the main practices?
- Are there different sub-sections?
- Are there any controversial beliefs / practices?
- What challenges does the religion face in today's society?
- Further questions you have?

A is for Atheism

What do Humanists believe about right and wrong?

1. Who do Humanists not look to the make their decisions?
2. Who do Humanists think about when they make their decisions?
3. What four values do Humanists place emphasis on when making decisions?
4. Where does morality come from?
5. What ideas do Humanists take into consideration?

C is for Creation

Why might the scientific theories be problematic for religious believers?

E is for Extremism

Why might 'thinking critically' be especially important in relation to extremism?

F is for Forgiveness

Is forgiveness more beneficial to the person who forgives or the person who is forgiven?

M is for Mediation

What is the difference between prayer and meditation?

'Answered prayers shows God does not exist' How far do you agree / disagree?

S is for Saints

You could research the criteria for becoming a saint, some of the different saints.

V is for Virtue

What is meant by; spiritual conviction, a leap of faith, agnosticism.

'Science without religion is lame, religion without science is blind' Einstein. How far do you agree / disagree?