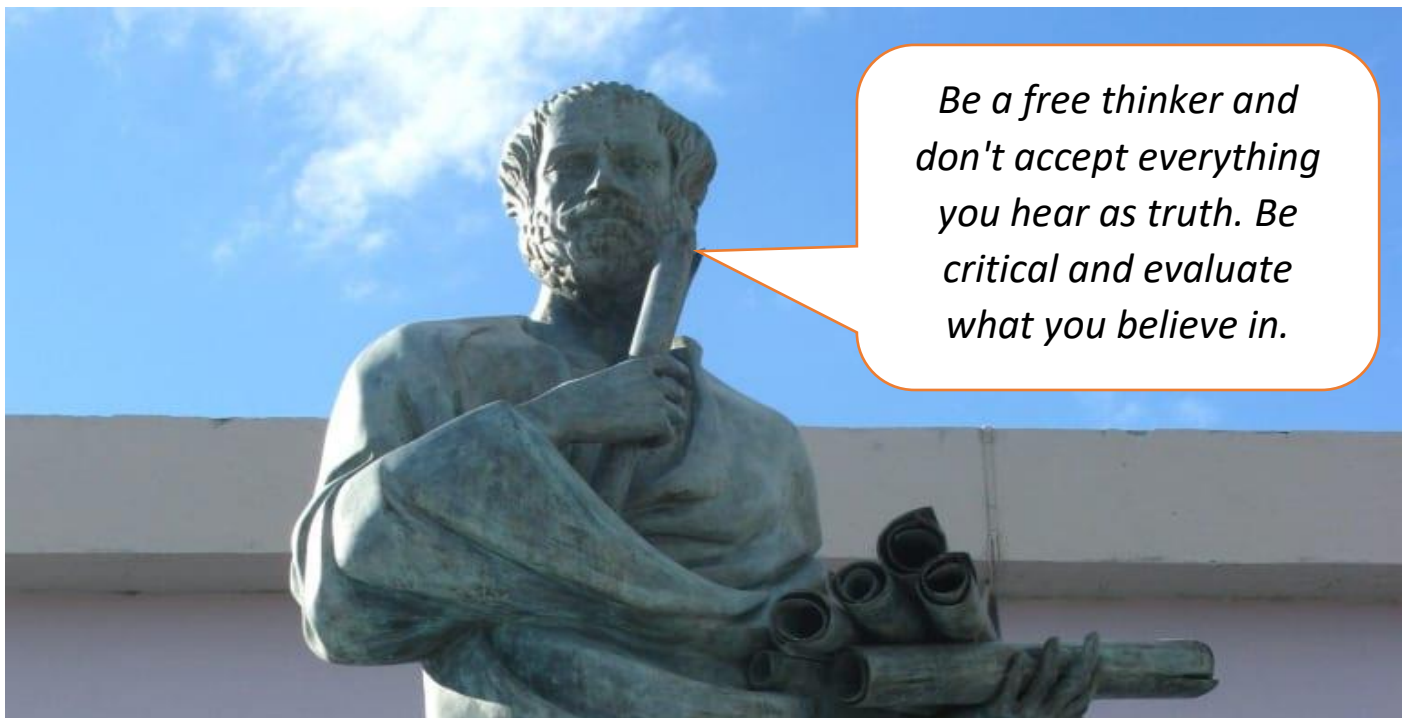


A Level

Philosophy & Ethics

Year 11 to 12 Transition

Work



Welcome, year 11! This is your transition work for A level Philosophy and Ethics, which you've chosen to take at A level this September, and good decision at that! The pack is designed to give you a flavour of what A level Philosophy and Ethics is all about. The pack will introduce you to some core philosophical, ethical and theological concepts and events, to aid your understanding of Philosophy and Ethics ready for sixth form. Don't feel you need to complete it all in one go! You can complete the tasks in this booklet in the spaces provided.

Task One: What is Philosophy and Ethics?

Go to the two links below:

- What is Philosophy (Crash Course)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1A_CAkYt3GY
- Theory of Knowledge (Epistemology)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r_Y3utleTPg

Watch each of the videos one at a time.

We recommend watching it once fully without making notes and then a second time to be able to write things down that you found.

Now complete the following task below in the space provided:

Summarise the main ideas of each video in no more than 3 sentences. Make sure you include subheadings in your notes.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Open up the link below and choose one of the videos from the interview series titled 'Why study theology?' and answer the 2 questions.

<https://www.closetotruth.com/series/why-study-theology>

1) The interview clip I have chosen is: _____

2) The main argument from this clip why to study theology was _____

Task Two: Key language for Philosophy and Ethics?

Find the meanings for the following:

Term	Explanation
Logic	
Tautology	
Cosmological	
Ontological	
Teleological	
Logical fallacy	
Normative ethics	
Divine command theory	
Teleological theories	
Deontological theories	

Task Three: Making a Case

Now I would like you to make a case for and against a particular issue. Philosophy and Ethics at A level will require you to make judgements about issues.

You need to create a for/against case for one of the following issues:

- Does God exist?
- Is there an afterlife?
- Was Jesus really the Son of God?
- Do all people go to heaven when they die?
- Should abortion be made illegal?
- Should euthanasia be made legal?

This will require you to write at least three paragraphs (approximately ¾ to 1 full typed A4 page – but if you like you can write more). Try to include evidence or scholars to support the points you make.

I've written a sample paragraph below – I'm interested in you ARGUING your case with evidence!

Some would argue that all people do indeed go to heaven when they die. This is because of the belief that God is benevolent, all loving. In the Bible it states that 'God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.' This clearly shows that because God is benevolent His love would mean that someone could never go to hell when they die. Furthermore, many people would question why God would punish someone forever if He is meant to be all-loving. On the other hand, many people would argue that not all people go to heaven as some people, like Hitler, would not deserve to go there. Heaven is a place for the sinless and therefore would not make sense if Hitler went there. Additionally, many Christians would argue that faith is really important, why should all people go to heaven, they need to believe in Jesus to be able to go there which is a fundamental belief.

Write your paragraphs below. Once you have completed this, you have finished the first Bridging the Gap task for A level politics – well done!



Task Four, extend yourself: Key scholar Research

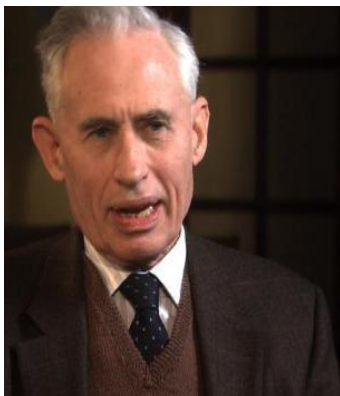
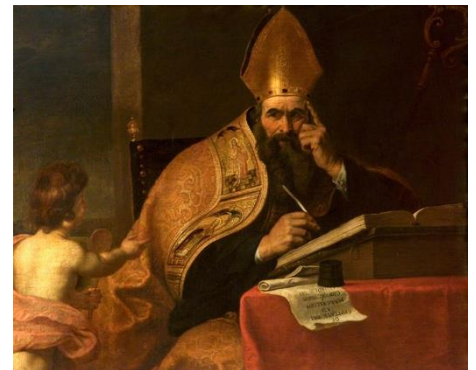
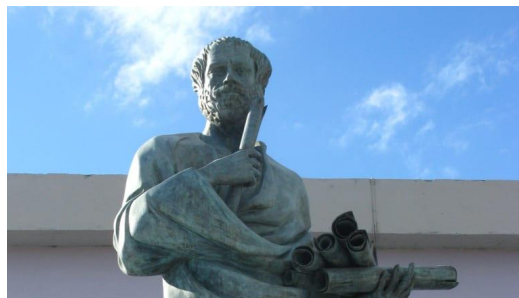
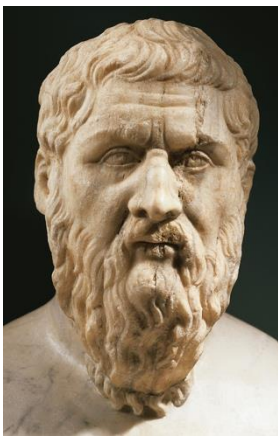
In Philosophy and Ethics you will be introduced to many scholars to support arguments you make in your essays. I want you to create some sort of leaflet/flyer about your chosen scholar. This needs to be one page of A4 typed or hand-written work.

In this you need to make sure you have completed the following success criteria:

- When were they alive?
- What key books did they write?
- What key issues did they write about?
- Are there any key quotes?
- Do you find their work convincing?

The following scholars to choose to research from are:

- Plato
- Aristotle
- St Augustine
- St Thomas Aquinas
- Richard Swinburne
- Mary Daly
- Joseph Fletcher
- Jeremy Bentham



Some things to watch and think about:

All kinds of films and series have philosophical and religious ideas in them, so follow your own interests! You could try these, or choose something else, but try and use them as a stimulus for thinking and writing, rather than just sitting in front of them:

The Good Place

The Matrix

Unorthodox

Twelve Angry Men

TED talks – these are usually wonderful, with plenty to stimulate your questioning and reasoning skills.

Some favourites:

Elizabeth Loftus – how reliable is your memory?

Dan Gilbert – why we make bad decisions

Richard Dawkins – militant atheism

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie – We should all be feminists

Damon Horowitz – Philosophy in prison

There are loads of talks on here, so use the search engine to find topics that interest you. Practise note-taking; write notes as you listen, just as you would if you were listening to a real-life lecture and practise the skill of jotting down key points at speed. Ask yourself questions when you get to the end: what were the speaker's key messages? Do you agree with the speaker? What might someone who disagreed say, and what might their reasons be?