

Philosophy

	Theme 1: Deductive Arguments for the existence of God PLC	R	A	G
Anselm's Ontological Argument	Deductive arguments Differences between deductive and inductive arguments God as the 'greatest possible being' God as the 'necessary being' Criticisms of Anselm			
Descartes' Ontological Argument	God as 'supremely perfect being' The triangle analogy The 'mountains and valleys' analogy The 2nd formulation of the categorical imperative (humanity) Criticisms of Descartes			
Malcolm's Argument	Malcolm's criticisms of Anselm & Descartes Malcolm's argument Criticisms of Malcolm			
Challenges to Deductive Arguments	Gaunilo's argument against Anselm Kant's argument against Descartes Evaluating deductive arguments			
Skills	20 mark exam question (AO1) 30 mark exam question (AO2)			
What am I going to do to improve my red and amber areas?	Activites Completed		Date	
	1) 2) 3) 4) 5) 6) 7) 8)			

		Theme 1 - Inductive Arguments for the existence of God PLC		
		R	A	G
Aquinas' Three Ways	Inductive arguments			
	a posteriori knowledge			
	Aquinas: The First Way			
	Aquinas: The Second Way			
	Aquinas: The Third Way			
	Criticisms of Aquinas' Cosmological Argument			
The 'Kalam' argument	The Kalam Argument: summarise			
	The difference between Kalam and Aquinas			
	Criticisms of the Kalam argument			
Teleological arguments	The meaning of 'teleological'			
	Aquinas' fifth way			
	Paley's watch analogy			
	The argument from design			
	Criticisms of teleological arguments			
Tennant's argument	Tennant's Anthropic Principle			
	Tennant's Aesthetic Principle			
	Criticism of anthropic and aesthetic arguments			
Challenges to inductive arguments	Challenges to the cosmological argument: Hume			
	The big bang theory and teleological arguments			
	Evolution & natural selection			
	Evaluating cosmological arguments			
	Evaluating teleological arguments			
Skills	20 mark exam question (AO1)			
	30 mark exam question (AO2)			
What am I going to do to improve my red and amber areas?	Activities Completed			Date
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The Problem Of Evil	Theme 2: Challenges to religious belief - the problem of evil and suffering			R
	Types Of Evil and suffering			A
	Epicurus: the logical problem of evil			G
	Mackie: the inconsistent triad			
	William Rowe: Human and Animal suffering			
	Gregory Paul: premature deaths			
Augustinian theodicies	Evil and Sin			
	Evil as a 'privation'			
	The Fall of humans and the world			
	Salvation through Jesus and the cross			
Irenaean theodicies	Why does God allow evil?			
	God as craftsman			
	John Hick and the 'vale of soul-making'			
	John Hick and 'epistemic distance'			
Challenges to Evil and Suffering	Does the problem of evil prove that God does not exist?			
	Challenges to Augustine's theodicy			
	Do Augustinian theodicies succeed?			
	Challenges to Irenaean theodicies			
	Do Irenaean theodicies succeed?			
Skills	20 mark exam question (AO1)			
	30 mark exam question (AO2)			
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Types of Religious Experience	Theme 3: Religious Experience 1			R	A	G
	Religious Experience: Visions					
	Religious Experience: Conversion					
	Religious Experience: Mysticism					
	Religious Experience: Prayer					
William James	Characteristic 1: Ineffability					
	Characteristic 2: Noetic quality					
	Characteristic 3: Transiency					
	Characteristic 4: Passivity					
Rudolph Otto	The Idea of The Holy					
	The Numinous					
	The Mysterium Tremendum					
Challenges to Religious and Mystical Experience	The impact of religious experience					
	The validity of different types of religious experience					
	Evaluating William James					
	Evaluating Rudolph Otto					
	Caroline Franks Davis - objectivity and authenticity					
	Other challenges to religious experience					
Skills	The validity of challenges to religious experience					
	20 mark exam question (AO1)					
	30 mark exam question (AO2)					
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Influence of Religious Experience	Theme 3: Religious Experience 2	R	A	G
	Community: Belief Affirmation			
	Community: Promotion of Faith Value System			
	Community: Strengthening Community Cohesion			
	Individual: Restoring Faith			
	Individual: Strengthening Faith			
	Individual: Renewal of Commitment to Religion			
Miracles	Aquinas: definition			
	Hume: definition			
	RF Holland: definition			
	Swinburne: definition			
	Religious belief, personal experience and miracles			
	Miracles and sacred writings			
Hume and Swinburne	Hume's scepticism about miracles			
	Hume: Problems with testimony / credibility of witnesses			
	Hume: Susceptibility of belief and contradictory claims			
	Swinburne's defence of miracles			
	Swinburne: definitions of natural laws			
	Swinburne: responses to Hume			
Analysis	Impact of religious experience on belief and practice			
	Dependence of religions on religious experiences			
	Adequacy of different definitions of miracles			
	Are definitions of miracles contradictory?			
	Effectiveness of challenges to religious belief			
	Are Swinburne's responses to Hume valid?			
Skills	3 mark questions			
	5 mark questions			
	12 mark questions			
	25 mark questions			
What am I going to do to improve my red and amber areas?	Activites Completed	Date		
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	Theme 2: Challenges to Religious belief- Psychological Challenges to Religious Belief	R	A	G
Freud and Religion	Religion as illusion and/or neurosis The Primal Horde The Oedipus Complex Wish-Fulfilment and Helplessness Supporting Arguments including Darwin Challenges to Freud's Evidence			
Jung and Religion	Religion as necessary for personal growth The Collective Unconscious Individuation Archetypes The God Within Challenges to Jung's Evidence			
Atheism	What Is Atheism? The New Atheism (antitheism) - criticism of religion Religious responses to New Atheism Religion and Science not incompatible Increase in Religious Fundamentalism			
Analysis	Is religious belief a neurosis? Is Freud's explanation of religion adequate? Was Jung more positive than Freud about religion? Is there empirical evidence for Jung's views? Do atheists argue successfully against religious belief? Has religion responded successfully to New Atheism?			
Skills	3 mark questions 5 mark questions 12 mark questions 25 mark questions			
What am I going to do to improve my red and amber areas?	Activites Completed	Date		
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Problems of Religious Language	Theme 4: Religious Language 1		
	R	A	G
	Limitations of language for describing God		
	Are sacred texts and religious beliefs intelligible?		
	Religious language not a shared base and experience		
Religious Language: Cognitive but Meaningless	Cognitive and Non-Cognitive Language		
	Logical positivism		
	The verification principle		
	The falsification principle		
	Criticisms of Verification (inc. eschatological verification)		
	Criticisms of Falsification (Hare, Mitchell and Swinburne)		
Religious Language: Non-Cognitive and analogical	Challenges to Jung's Evidence		
	Aquinas: proportion and attribution		
	Ramsey: qualifier and disclosure		
	Challenges to analogy		
Analysis	Using analogy to understand religious teaching		
	Solutions for problems with religious language		
	Does Religious Language needs Religious Belief		
	Is religious language meaningful?		
	Is Logical positivism a valid approach to language?		
Skills	How effective are challenges to Logical Positivism?		
	In Non-cognitivism a valid approach?		
	3 mark questions		
	5 mark questions		
What am I going to do to improve my red and amber areas?	12 mark questions		
	25 mark questions		
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Symbolic Language	3)		
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Religious Language: Mythical	8)		
	Theme 4: Religious Language 2		
	R	A	G
	Functions of symbols: John Randall		
	Paul Tillich: God as an ultimate concern		
Religious Language as a Language Game	Are symbols adequate?		
	Symbols help to understand religious teachings		
	Mythical language and the purpose of existence		
	Different myths: creation, good vs evil		
	Myths help to overcome fear of the unknown		
Analysis	Myths transmitting religious, social and ethical values		
	Challenges to the value of myths		
	Wittgenstein's explanation of Language Games		
	Strengths of Language Game theory		
	Challenges to Language Games		
Skills	Usefulness of non-cognitive, analogical and mythical terms		
	Relevance of religious language issues in 21st century		
	The value of language games explanation		
	Is symbolic language an adequate form of language?		
	Do Randall and Tillich challenge logical positivism?		
What am I going to do to improve my red and amber areas?	Strengths and weaknesses of language games		
	3 mark questions		
	5 mark questions		
	12 mark questions		
	25 mark questions		
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