

A LEVEL TRANSITION WORK

Religious Studies (A Level)

Transition Work

Specification –OCR

<https://ocr.org.uk/Images/242913-specification-accredited-a-level-gce-religious-studies-h573.pdf>

Content

Philosophy	Ethics	Buddhism
1. Ancient Philosophical Influences 2. Soul, mind and body. 3. Arguments based on reason (Ontological) 4. Arguments based on observation (Cosmological) 5. Religious Experience 6. The Problem of Evil 7. Arguments from observation (Teleological) 8. The Nature of God 9. Religious Language; negative, analogical and symbolic 10. Religious language; 20 th Century	1. Natural Law 2. Situation Ethics 3. Business Ethics 4. Kantian Ethics 5. Utilitarianism 6. Euthanasia 7. Meta Ethics 8. Sexual Ethics 9. Conscience	1. The Buddha 2. Three marks of existence. 3. Samsara 4. Meditation. 5. Development of Mahayana Buddhism. 6. Buddhism in the Far East. 7. Madhyamaka and Prajnaparamita. 8. Engaged Buddhism and Activism. 9. The Three Refuges 10. Four noble truths. 11. Buddhism in the West. 12. Buddhism and Gender

A Level Religious Studies involves the study of three disciplines: Philosophy, Ethics and Buddhism. The jump from GCSE to A Level is considerable and the following transition tasks are designed to make the transition easier.

Expected Transition work (to be reviewed in the first 2 weeks of the course)

Ethics

TASK: Create a detailed glossary of the following terms; deontological, consequential, meta ethics, utilitarianism, teleological, sanctity of life, quality of life, corporate social responsibility, greenwashing, whistleblowing

Research Task: Research the issue of euthanasia, looking at the legal and moral issues raised.

- The UK Government has voted in favour of a review of assisted dying in the UK. Using the BBC website or similar trusted sources, research some of the details of this bill and some of the arguments in favour and against it. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/topics/cljev4r3zgxt>
- Write an 800 word (approx) essay “The introduction of the assisted dying bill in the UK is not in the best interests of society.” Evaluate this statement

Your essay must include: Your viewpoint on why euthanasia is moral or immoral and why you believe it, statistics and real life example cases to support your ideas and the benefits you believe keeping euthanasia illegal/legal would have for the future.

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Key terms to include:

- sanctity of life
 - quality of life
 - voluntary euthanasia
 - non-voluntary euthanasia
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Optional Extension transition work (this will not be reviewed in the first 2 weeks but may support your later studies in the further 2 components of the A Level course)

Philosophy

TASK: Create a detailed glossary of the following terms:, inductive, synthetic, a priori, a posteriori, deductive, analytic, omnipotent, omnibenevolent, omniscient and eternal

TASK: Watch the following YouTube videos

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1A_CAKYt3GY&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtNgK6MZucdYldNkMybYIHKR

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NKEhdsnKKHs&index=2&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtNgK6MZucdYldNkMybYIHKR>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FmTsS5xFA6k&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtNgK6MZucdYldNkMybYIHKR&index=9>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TgisehuGOyY&index=10&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtNgK6MZucdYldNkMybYIHKR>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7e9v_fsZB6A&index=11&list=PL8dPuuaLjXtNgK6MZucdYldNkMybYIHKR

TASK: Does God exist? Explain whether or not God exists. Write a 500-word essay to explain your point of view; you must refer to one of arguments for the existence of God. (Religious Experience, Cosmological, Teleological arguments and Ontological)

TASK: Read the following article -

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/geography/natural_hazards/tsunamis_rev2.shtml

Do events like this mean that God cannot exist? Or does it just mean that God can exist but cannot be omnibenevolent, omniscient or omnipotent? Explain your opinion in less than 300 words.

Buddhism

TASK: If you did not study Buddhism at GCSE you could do some general reading about Buddhism to familiarise yourself with the basics.

<https://global.oup.com/education/product/9780198370321/?region=uk> - this is the AQA text book that is used for GCSE - copies are available from NHGS.

The following online articles and visual clips will give you an overview of some of the basic content in Buddhism.

<https://www.bbc.com/timelines/zg8c9j6>

<https://www.thebuddhistociety.org/page/fundamental-teachings>

<https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x152cdb>



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