BRIDGING THE GAP

Religious Studies

Course Title	Examination Board & Web Address
A-Level Religious Studies (**Philosophy**, **Religion and** **Ethics**, **Developments in Religious Thought** – *Christianity*)	OCR Religious Studies https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/242913-specification-accredited-a-level-gce-religious-studies-h573.pdf

Units/Topics Studied:

• Philosophy of religion - ancient philosophical influences
• Religion and Ethics - normative ethical theories, applied ethics (medical ethics and business ethics)
• Developments in Ethical Thought (sexual ethics).
• Developments in Religious Thought – (after life, moral action and challenges of secularism).

Bridging Task

Part One: Philosophy
Find out the answers to the following questions:

1. Research and find out about Plato's Cave.
2. Rewrite, in your own words – Plato's cave story.
3. Explain the analogy of the cave (what does it mean)
4. Create a cartoon which tells the story AND explains the hidden meaning of the story
5. Research Aristotle's four causes
6. Write 4 paragraphs explaining each of the four causes
7. Research the meaning behind The world of Forms – what does that mean?

Plato's Cave

Useful websites:
http://www.rsrevision.com/Alevel/
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FOoffXFpAlU
http://alevelphilosophytutor.co.uk/ocr/#asocrphilosophy
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpvhlSLzg2LT89FNUuN-Sig
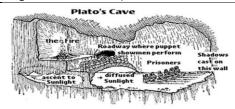http://rsrevision.com/contents/index.htm

Part Two: Ethics

Is it sometimes good to do something bad for a good outcome?
Who decides what is `good'?   How do you know what is good?

Betty's cat was killed in a tragic accident with an out of control lawnmower. She had heard that cat meat was jolly tasty, so she cut up her cat, cooked it, and ate it for dinner. To date, she has never regretted her culinary experiment and she claims not to have suffered any harm as a result of cooking and eating Toodles. Betty argues that her action is morally acceptable.
Do you consider Betty's eating of Toodles to be…
   Morally acceptable   or   Morally unacceptable ?
   Explain your reasons why you think it is morally permissible or impermissible.

- Ask adults at home/friends.
- Write down their reasons and then rank them in terms of strength.
- What would you say makes a reason strong or weak?
- Have you been convinced to change your mind?

2. You could start a 'Who's Who' folder for some Philosophers. Begin by researching famous Philosophers.

- **Rene Descartes**
- **David Hume**
- **Thomas Aquinas**
- **Immanuel Kant**
- **Jeremy Bentham**
- **Bertrand Russel**
- **Plato**
- **Aristotle**

Mrs A C Friend