

The Elmgreen Sixth Form Induction Programme

Please note that projects will be used to form part of your assessment within the term.

AQA AS Philosophy

Scheme of Work: In the first year you will study two different units. The first is Epistemology which is all about knowledge, what it is, how we gain it and what our limits are. The second unit focuses on Moral Philosophy and is concerned with the concepts of right, wrong, good and bad. In the first year you'll sit one three hour paper and both units have equal weighting of the overall AS grade.

Autumn Term scheme of work outline:

In the autumn term you will be exploring the following:

- The meaning of good, bad, right and wrong within three ethical approaches; utilitarianism, Kantian deontological ethics and Aristotelian virtue ethics. Can any of these approaches give us clear guidelines on how we should act?
- Applied ethics- applying the content of ethical theories to the following areas; lying, stealing, eating animals and simulated killing (in computer games, films, plays etc.)
- Meta ethics: where do our morals principles come from?
- Are there mind- independent moral facts?

Summer research work:

You have been given a copy of the book Sophie's World from the school library. The book tells the story of Sophie Amundsen, a fourteen year old living in Norway. She begins a strange correspondence course in philosophy. Every day, a letter comes to her mailbox that contains a few questions and then later in the day a package comes with some typed pages describing the ideas of a philosopher who dealt with the issues raised by the questions. Sophie discovers that philosophy is extremely relevant to life and that if we do not question and ponder our very existence we are not really living.

The book provides a fantastic explanation of the most important philosophical theories and because it is written in the style of a novel is a more simplistic introduction to some of the topics we will be studying.

TASK:

Read the book!

Then answer these questions:

1. What were the questions in the first two envelopes Sophie found?
2. "Could anything have always existed?" What is the problem suggested counter to this possibility?
3. What were the three problems with which Sophie was presented in the first chapter?



TES6
Ever to Excel

Our Vision:
To develop Aspiration and Excellence in all.
Our Values:
High Achievement / Citizenship / Inclusivity / Independence / Joy / Team Work

Follow us on:



We look after ourselves. We look after each other. We look after our school. We look after our community.

4. "Man cannot live by bread alone." It is suggested that we all need something else other than material sustenance and care. What?
5. What is said to be the best way of approaching philosophy?
6. What can reading what other people have believed help us to do?
7. A Greek philosopher who lived more than 2,000 years ago (Plato) believed that philosophy had its origin in what?
8. What is the only thing we require to be good philosophers?
9. What do we mean by "philosophy?"
10. What is a myth?
11. What is found, not only in Norse mythology, but in almost all other cultures?
12. What does myth attempt to give people? Is this all it is or does?
13. By whom and when was much of Greek mythology written down?
14. Who was an early exponent of the view that myths were nothing but human notions and who suggested that men have created the gods in their own image?
15. In what environment did people begin to ask philosophical questions without recourse to ancient myths?
16. What was the aim of the early Greek philosophers?
17. What are the three new questions that Sophie is presented?
18. Why were the earliest Greek philosophers called "natural philosophers?"
19. What common belief did these philosophers share?
20. What is the most interesting part about the thought of these early philosophers?
21. Who is the first philosopher we know of and what did he think was the source of all things?
22. What did Anaximander (C. 6th BCE) think about our world?
23. Who thought that the source of all things must be air or vapor?
24. What did this last theory have in common with Thales (C. 6th BCE)?
25. What do we call "the problem of change?"
26. What did Parmenides (c. 540-480 BCE) think about existence?
27. What is a rationalist?
28. What did Heraclitus (c. 540-480 BCE) think was the most basic characteristic of nature? Without what would the world cease to exist?



TES6
Ever to Excel

Our Vision:
To develop Aspiration and Excellence in all.
Our Values:
High Achievement / Citizenship / Inclusivity / Independence / Joy / Team Work

Follow us on:



We look after ourselves. We look after each other. We look after our school. We look after our community.

29. What term did Heraclitus often use instead of "God?"
30. Who believed that nature consisted of earth, water, fire, and air? (see SW: Four Elements)
31. What observations led the Greeks to believe that fire was also essential elements in the physical world?
32. What two things did Empedocles (490-430 BCE) believe to be at work in nature?
33. Who held that nature is made up of an infinite number of minute, invisible particles? What else did he believe to be at work "creating animals and humans, flowers and trees?"
34. Why did Sophie find philosophy doubly exciting?
35. In what ways can Sophie and Hilde be seen to represent philosophy, philosophers, and even ourselves as philosophers?

Additional resources:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/philosophy/as-and-a-level/philosophy-7172/subject-content>
<http://www.routledge-textbooks.com/textbooks/9781138793934/additionalresources.php>

If you have any question please contact:

Teacher: Miss Brown

Email address: jbrown5@the-elmgreen-school.org.uk

Twitter: @TES6Soc

Please be aware that staff may not be available to respond to emails after Friday 20 July 2018



TES6
Ever to Excel

Our Vision:
To develop Aspiration and Excellence in all.
Our Values:
High Achievement / Citizenship / Inclusivity / Independence / Joy / Team Work

Follow us on:



We look after ourselves. We look after each other. We look after our school. We look after our community.