

2024-2026 Entry into Year 12 Preparation Materials

OCR Religious Studies	
Recommended Reading	OR The Blackwell Philosophy & Pop Culture Series Philosophical spins on your favourite series and films (my personal favourites are Harry Potter, Game of Thrones and Breaking Bad!) https://andphilosophy.com/books/
Articles	www.theguardian.com/world/philosophy www.lse.ac.uk/philosophy/department-blog/ www.ethicssage.com/ www.logicmatters.net/blogfront/ www.stephenlaw.blogspot.com/ www.philosophynow.org/ www.blog.practicalethics.ox.ac.uk/ www.rockingphilosophy.com/ www.perfectchaos.blog/category/philosophy/ www.aphilosopher.drmcl.com/
Podcasts	www.philosophybites.com/ www.partiallyexaminedlife.com www.thephilosophyguy.fireside.fm/ www.thepanpsycast.com/panpsycast2/ www.philosophizethis.org/category/episode/ www.samharris.org/all-episodes/ www.philosophy247.org/ www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/philosopherszone/ www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p01gnn05
Watch	The Truman Show (ITVX), The Matrix (https://www.bilibili.tv/en/video/2040276912), Gattaca https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tzG3I7nMEks&t=1199s), The Invention of Lying – Netflix, Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind (https://archive.org/details/eternal-sunshine.of.thespotlessmind2004.m-hd.x-264), Tenet (BBClplayer),

Memento (Netflix) Free Guy (Disney+)

TV Series



The Good Place: Netflix, The 3 Body Problem: Netflix, Humans: Netflix/Channel4OD, Black Mirror: Netflix, Breaking Bad – Netflix.

Philosophy Videos + Tasks

Make notes as you watch and explain how it links to the topic.

Write down 10 key points per video and 2 big questions that it leaves you wanting answered.

Challenges to religious belief - The problem of evil and suffering

 Tsunami (where was God?) – A channel 4 programme that examines how the 2004 boxing day Tsunami both challenged and strengthened people's faith in God

Part 1: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jM tCFF8gwM Part 2: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jM tCFF8gwM

- Christians explain why they believe God allows evil and suffering: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gjcpW_kPYq0
- TED talk In the days following the tragic South Asian tsunami of 2004, the Rev. Tom Honey pondered the question, How could a loving God have done this? Here is his answer: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2wdkxdiOFJA

Arguments for the existence of God

- Leonard Susskind: Is the universe fine tuned for life? Good link to the teleological argument https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2cT4zZIHR3s
- The genius of Charles Darwin Richard Dawkins explores evolution. Good link to the teleological argument: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gf6s7tMGrFE
- Sean Carroll did the universe have a beginning? Good link to the cosmological argument:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FgpvCxDL7q4

 TED talk – Hidden miracles of the natural world. Good link to the teleological argument: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FiZqn6fV-4Y

Religious belief as a product of the human mind

- The big think The brain creates religion: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N5y5NfliMqY
- Is the brain hardwired for God? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uxREBIWvxfk
- BBC radio debate on Freud and Jung: https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b019qj15

Religious experience

- The story of God Morgan Freeman explores miracles: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Tt1LhyhiTM
- BBC radio Discussion of William James on 'The Varieties of Religious experience': https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b00s9ftw