

R.E

Philosophy

&

Ethics



Summer Tasks

Puzzling questions for you to philosophise, moralise, theorise and generally enjoy mulling over during the long lush summer holidays.

Read the booklet and then answer ALL the questions.

1) Introduction to the key terms

Define the word 'ethics' in 100 words. Give an example of this in daily life.

Define the word 'morality' in 100 words. Give an example of this in daily life.

Based on the above, explain the difference between the terms 'ethical theory' and 'moral philosophy'.

2) Briefly define 'moral', 'immoral' and 'amoral':

Moral: _____

Immoral: _____

Amoral: _____

5.) A philosophical debate on the ethics of Aristotle between Mr. Miles and another teacher gets nasty and turns violent. Mr. Miles attacks the other teacher with a stone statue of a Chinese laughing Buddha. They are knocked unconscious. Mr. Miles bursts into tears and runs away. Do you (*please circle*):

- a.) Scream and do nothing.
- b.) Rush to the injured teacher and perform first aid.
- c.) Call the police.
- d.) Get your phone out and film them unconscious on the floor.
- e.) Place a bet on the long term implications.
- f.) Laugh hysterically.
- g.) Chase and apprehend Mr. Miles

Does your choice of a-g suggest you are moral, immoral or amoral?
Please explain:

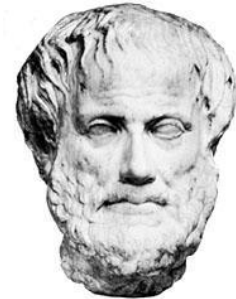
3) You walk past Room F and hear Mr. Miles and another teacher giggling. You overhear them discussing their cunning plan to enter your class for the wrong paper (they've decided on Mark's Gospel!) because your class did not hand in enough homework that year. Do you (*circle*):

- a.) Join in. You revise for Mark's Gospel and do not tell anyone else.
- b.) Burst in Room F, yell 'you're busted' and demand an explanation.
- c.) Tell your friends.
- d.) Inform the head teacher.
- e.) Get them back by hatching your own fiendish plan.
- f.) Poison them.

Does your choice of a-e suggest you are moral, immoral or amoral?
Please explain:

4) Famous moral philosophers (2 Ancient and 1 Medieval): find out some basic information and write a brief summary (150 – 200 words) for each philosopher. Use the internet to help you (or go to the local library, they do exist!)

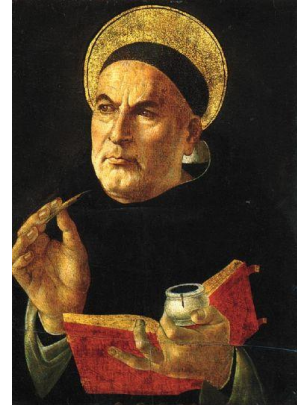
Who was Aristotle? What were his key ideas? What did he say?



Who was Plato? What were his key ideas? What was his most famous text about?



Who was St. Thomas Aquinas? What is 'Natural Law'?



10) Read this case study

Cannibalism (from Caníbales, the Spanish name for the Carib people a West Indies tribe formerly well known for their practice of cannibalism) is the act or practice of humans eating the flesh or internal organs of other human beings. It is also called anthropophagy. A person who practices cannibalism is called a cannibal. The expression "cannibalism" has been extended into zoology to mean one individual of a species consuming all or part of another individual of the same species as food, including sexual cannibalism.



The Korowai have been reported to practice ritual cannibalism up to the present day. In 2006, the television show 60 Minutes claimed that when someone in Korowai society is convicted of being a khakhua (secret witch doctor) he or she is tried, and if convicted he or she is tortured, executed, and eaten. Other unverified claims were made that the brain is usually eaten immediately, while still

warm, and that pregnant women and children don't participate in the cannibal act.

Yummy!

What would the absolutist view be on this case study?

What would a relative view be on this matter?

Finally: Sum up each of the key terms below in no more than 3 key words in each box.



a priori



a posteriori

Complete this before 3rd September!

If stuck, please email dch@richardhale.co.uk