



A Level Religious Studies Summer Task 2023



How to be successful in RS

You need to need to be able to apply your RS knowledge by writing a **good essay**, involving critical evaluation of ideas. English Language/Lit, History and Sociology and other essay-based A level subjects will all support you with the skills needed. The expectations for homework will be at least 1 hour per lesson for each side of the course. In addition to this, independent reading will be expected of texts from outside the course text book.

There are 3 aspects to the RS course, worth 33% each:

- Religion and Philosophy
- Religion and Ethics
- Developments in Christian Thought

Please complete the tasks below for submission in your first lesson in September.



Watch the presentation on Utilitarianism. It introduces

Bentham's and Mill's Utilitarian Arguments. It will develop your ability to analyse philosophical arguments.

TASK 1: Complete a half-page profile of Bentham and another of J.S.Mill. (**Ethics**)

[Utilitarianism](#)

Crash Course Philosophy

Time: 1hr



Watch this lecture on the Person of Jesus of Nazareth.

It will give you an overview of the Person of Jesus.

TASK 2: Answer the question 'who was Jesus?' in 500 words.

(Developments in Christian Thought)

[The Person of Jesus](#)

University of Chester

Time: 2hrs



TASK 3: Complete a half-page profile of each of the following thinkers:

Plato – including his Forms and Analogy of the Cave

Aristotle – including his Four Causes and Prime Mover

St Augustine of Hippo – including his ideas on Original Sin and his response to Problem of Evil (**Philosophy of Religion**)

Time: 2hrs



Watch the TED talk below which looks at how plenty of good

things are done in the name of religion, and plenty of bad things too. (**Ethics**)

TASK 4: Write 500 words on whether you think religion is good or bad.

[Is Religion Good or Bad?](#)

TED Talks – Kwame Anthony Appiah

Time: 1hr