

WQE is one of the largest sixth form providers in England; a large twin-site college, centrally located in the city of Leicester. The College's most recent Ofsted inspection was in 2024 where we received a Grade 2 (Good) for Overall Effectiveness.

WQE aims to develop young professionals to be qualified to Level 3 and ready to progress to Level 4. We recognise that our students join us from a diverse range of backgrounds and are responsive to individual needs to support all students in a successful transition from school to Post-16 education.

We actively encourage you start engaging with us at this early opportunity, to consider your subject choices and ensure you are in the best possible position to be prepared for making your Post-16 choices at the start of Year 11.

The task outlined below will give you an idea of what this Level 3 course involves. We welcome you to have a try and develop your understanding of the subject. You may wish to talk to Curriculum Staff about this during our Open Day in November or at other opportunities during the Admissions process.

### **Using Ted Talks to help you engage with Religion, Philosophy and Ethics:**

Choose one, or a couple of talks or podcast episodes. While you watch your chosen Ted Talk/s/podcasts:

1. Take notes as you watch and listen – remember you can pause it and rewind!
2. Write down discussion points/questions you have.
3. Draft possible answers to those questions or write some thoughts around them in another colour.
4. Here are some questions to get you thinking:
  - a. *what were the speaker's key messages?*
  - b. *Do you agree with the speaker?*
  - c. *What might someone who disagreed say, and what might their reasons be?*



**TED talks** – these are usually wonderful, with plenty to stimulate your questioning and reasoning skills.

**Elizabeth Loftus – how reliable is your memory?**

[https://www.ted.com/talks/elizabeth\\_loftus\\_how\\_reliable\\_is\\_your\\_memory](https://www.ted.com/talks/elizabeth_loftus_how_reliable_is_your_memory)

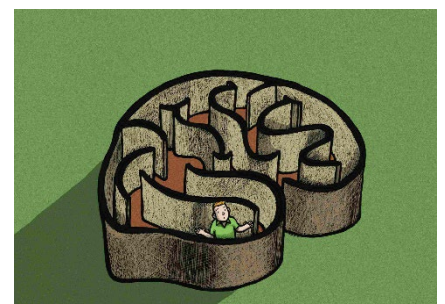
**Dan Gilbert – why we make bad decisions.**

[https://www.ted.com/talks/dan\\_gilbert\\_why\\_we\\_make\\_bad\\_decisions](https://www.ted.com/talks/dan_gilbert_why_we_make_bad_decisions)

**Richard Dawkins – militant atheism**

[https://www.ted.com/talks/richard\\_dawkins\\_militant\\_atheism](https://www.ted.com/talks/richard_dawkins_militant_atheism)

**Damon Horowitz – Philosophy in prison**



[https://www.ted.com/talks/damon\\_horowitz\\_philosophy\\_in\\_prison](https://www.ted.com/talks/damon_horowitz_philosophy_in_prison)

**We Need a Moral Operating System – a transcript of the above episode.**

[https://www.ted.com/talks/damon\\_horowitz/transcript](https://www.ted.com/talks/damon_horowitz/transcript)



**Kwame Anthony Appiah – Is religion good or bad? (This is a trick question)**

[https://www.ted.com/talks/kwame\\_anthony\\_appiah\\_is\\_religion\\_good\\_or\\_bad\\_this\\_is\\_a\\_trick\\_question](https://www.ted.com/talks/kwame_anthony_appiah_is_religion_good_or_bad_this_is_a_trick_question)

**Tom Honey – Why Would God Create A Tsunami?**

[https://www.ted.com/talks/tom\\_honey\\_on\\_god\\_and\\_the\\_tsunami/transcript](https://www.ted.com/talks/tom_honey_on_god_and_the_tsunami/transcript)

If the topic of evil and suffering interests you, consider having a look at this resource from the C.S Lewis Institute. You might know Lewis from *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* and the other books set in Narnia.

How do Lewis' views stack up against those of Tom Honey? Who do you agree with?

[Why Would a Good God Allow So Much Suffering? - C.S. Lewis Institute \(cslewisinstitute.org\)](http://www.cslewisinstitute.org)



You could also go further and read this resource which outlines the way that different philosophers have presented the so-called 'Problem of evil'.

[https://www.alevelphilosophy.co.uk/handouts\\_religion/ProblemEvilFreeWill.pdf](https://www.alevelphilosophy.co.uk/handouts_religion/ProblemEvilFreeWill.pdf)

**Using podcasts to listen to and think about issues in Religion, Philosophy and Ethics:**

The BBC has some great podcasts available:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p01f0vzr>

Practice your note-making skills by pausing and writing a summary of what you've heard so far. Think about whether you agree with what the philosopher is saying. For RS specifically, you could concentrate on the ones starred, and/or move onto others from this list:

- |                  |                 |                    |                      |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Plato's Republic | Nietzsche       | **Feminism         | **Mill               |
| **Augustine      | Al-Ghazali      | **Evil             | ** St Thomas Aquinas |
| ** The Soul      | **Duty          | Empiricism         | **Redemption         |
| **Kant           | **Good and Evil | **David Hume       | **Relativism         |
| **Utilitarianism | Altruism        | Logical Positivism | William James        |

## Audio Resources:

Listen to 'The Moral Maze' on BBC Radio 4. (Available programmes vary over time)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qk11>

- Note down the key points of argument.
- Create a flow chart of the main points of discussion.
- What are the strengths and weaknesses of the argument?
- Do you agree?



Listen to this episode of 'In Our Time'.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b01mwx64>

Based on these arguments, is it possible to argue that God necessarily exists?



Listen to this episode of 'Thinking Allowed'.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b099ypqf>

How should we help people who are dying?

Listen to this podcast from 'Philosophy Now'.

[https://philosophynow.org/podcasts/Free Will and the Brain](https://philosophynow.org/podcasts/Free_Will_and_the_Brain)

To what extent can we exercise free will?

- List ten examples of choices you have made in the last seven days.
- For each one, consider what factors influenced your choice (habit, parents, media, friends, consideration of consequences, etc)
- To what extent do you consider those choices to be 'your' choices? To what extent do you accept responsibility for them and the consequences of them?