A level EDUQAS Religious Studies Year 1 Philosophy and Ethics components

Practice questions

Inductive Arguments

Compare Aquinas' and Paley's forms of the teleological argument. (AO1 20 marks)

‘The strengths of inductive arguments outweigh their weaknesses.’ Evaluate this view (AO2 30 marks)

Compare Paley's and Tennant's forms of the teleological argument. (AO1 20 marks)

‘The challenges to the teleological argument for God's existence are convincing.’ Evaluate this view. (AO2 30 marks)

Explain Aquinas’ cosmological arguments for the existence of God. (from 2017 AS paper) (AO1 20 marks)

‘Aquinas’ cosmological arguments are not convincing’ Evaluate this view (from 2017 AS paper)

'Science, not God, tells us all we need to know about the beginning of the universe.' Evaluate this view with reference to cosmological arguments for the existence of God. (AO2 30 marks)

Explain the teleological arguments for God’s existence, with reference to Aquinas, Paley and Tennant. (AO1 20 marks)

'Scientific evidence proves beyond doubt, that there is no designer God.' Evaluate this view. (AO2 30 marks)

 Deductive Arguments

Examine the ontological arguments for the existence of God with   
reference to Anselm and Descartes. (AO1 20 marks)

'The ontological arguments are successful in proving the existence of God.' Evaluate this view. (AO2 30 marks)

The Problem of Evil and Suffering

 Explain how Augustinian type theodicies offer a solution to the problem of evil. (AO1 20 marks)

‘Irenaean type theodicies have never been successful in responding to the problem of evil.’ Evaluate this view. (AO2 30 marks)

Explain how Irenaean type theodicies offer a solution to the problem of evil. (From 2017 AS paper). (AO1 20 marks)

‘Irenaean type theodicies are not compatible with the 21st Century world view.’ Evaluate this view. (From 2017 AS paper) (AO2 30 marks)

Religious Experience – Year 1

Examine the main challenges to religious experience. (AO1 20 marks)

'The challenges to religious experiences are clearly not valid.' Evaluate this view. (AO2 30 marks)

Examine the nature of religious experience with reference to visions and mysticism (From 2017 AS paper) (AO1 20 marks)

‘Visions and mysticism are valid means of communicating religious teaching and belief.’ Evaluate this view. (From 2017 AS paper) (AO2 30 marks)

Ethical Thought – Year 1

Explain how, according to the Divine Command Theory, morality originates from God (AO1 20 marks)

‘The Euthyphro dilemma shows that the Divine Command Theory does not work.’ Evaluate this view. (AO2 30 marks)

Examine the key principles of Ethical Egoism, including the contribution of Max Stirner. (AO1 20 marks)

'The challenges to Ethical Egoism clearly illustrate it is not a good ethical system.' Evaluate this view. (AO2 30 marks)

Outline Virtue Theory with reference to Aristotle. (From 2017 AS paper) (AO1 20 marks)

‘Virtue Theory is impractical when faced with a moral dilemma.’ Evaluate this view.

(From 2017 AS paper) (AO2 30 marks)

Situation Ethics

 Explain Fletcher’s rationale for accepting agape as a basis for Situation Ethics and rejecting other approaches to ethics. (AO1 20 marks)

‘Agape provides a fair approach to ethics’ Evaluate this view (AO2 30 marks)

Apply Fletcher’s Situation Ethics to the issue of homosexual relationships. (From 2017 AS paper) (AO1 20 marks)

‘Religious believers must reject Situation Ethics as a basis for making moral decisions.’ Evaluate this view (From 2017 AS paper) (AO2 30 marks)

Utilitarianism

Explain Bentham’s hedonic calculus as a means of measuring pleasure. (AO1 20 marks)

 ‘Rule utilitarianism works better as an ethic than Act Utilitarianism.’ Evaluate this view. (AO2 30 marks)

Explain Mill’s development of Bentham’s Utilitarianism. (From 2017 AS paper) (AO1 20 marks)

‘Act Utilitarianism is not relevant in modern society.’ Evaluate this view. (From 2017 AS paper) (AO2 30 marks)

Compare Act and Rule Utilitarianism. (From 2017 AS paper) (AO1 20 marks)

‘Following Act Utilitarianism leads to immoral behaviour.’ Evaluate this view. (From 2017 AS paper) (AO2 30 marks)