

Year 9 Term 1: Do we need to prove the existence of God?

Philosophy = this is about *'thinking'*. It is about finding out how and whether things make sense. It deals with questions of morality & ethics. It takes seriously the nature of reality, knowledge & existence

Key vocabulary

Knowledge = facts, information, and skills acquired through experience or education

Fact = something that can be proved to be true.

Belief = facts, information, and skills acquired through experience or education

Opinion = a view or judgement formed about something, not necessarily based on fact or knowledge

Numinous = The feeling of being in the presence of a power much greater than you and that cannot be easily described or explained .

Natural evil = suffering that is caused by nature

Moral evil = suffering caused by humans

Inconsistent triad = 3 ideas, but only 2 of them can be true

Kalam Cosmological argument

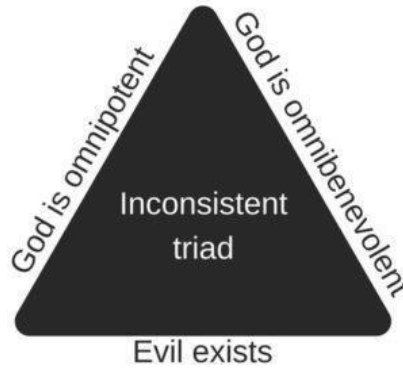
1. Everything that has a **beginning** of its existence has a **cause** of its existence.
 2. The **universe** has a **beginning** of its existence
- Therefore _____
3. The **universe** has a **cause** of its existence.
 4. If the universe has a cause of its existence then **that cause is God, a being without beginning or end.**

Therefore we must conclude that God exists.

Does everything that exists have a **'cause'**?



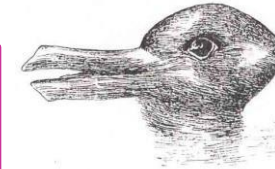
Can you still believe in God if there is evil in the world?



Some Christians believe that all people inherited the tendency to sin from Adam and Eve. This belief is called **'original sin'**. According to this belief, all humans are born with a tendency towards evil and the ability to cause suffering

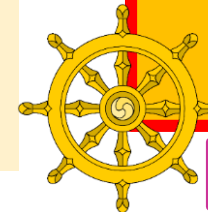


What role does 'interpretation' play?



Does God serve a useful purpose, regardless of whether He exists or not?

A religious experience has significance for the person who experiences it. It involves a sense of the holy or **numinous**. A person may say they had personally 'seen', 'heard' or 'felt' God.

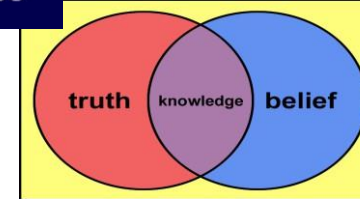


If I am not judged, do I have to be a good person?



Tolerance

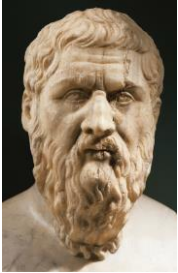
Mutual respect



Plato defined knowledge as...

Justified true belief

Plato was an Athenian philosopher during the Classical period in Ancient Greece, founder of the Platonist school of thought and the Academy, the first institution of higher learning in the Western world



- Most Buddhists believe that there is **no proof that God exists**, so they do not find it helpful to discuss his existence.
- Buddhists believe that people believe in a god or gods out of fear of what they don't understand .
- Some Buddhists think that people believe in God because this can explain human origins. Many modern Buddhists would say that science, and not a god, can explain this.