



Wallington
County Grammar School

Y11-L6 Template

Bridging Work and Reading List 2024/25

NAME OF SUBJECT	
Name and email address of Subject Leader to be contacted if you have any issues with this Bridging Work:	Mr Philippou aphilippou@wcfgs.foliotrust.uk
Time required to complete this task:	3 hours maximum
Task details:	<p>Welcome to your bridging work for Year 12 Philosophy! This work will introduce you to the nature of Philosophy.</p> <p>Compulsory Activities</p> <p>1. Watch the first two of Michael Sandel's "Justice" Lectures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Watch the first two lectures by Michael Sandel.• Answer the provided questions to deepen your understanding of ethical dilemmas and philosophical reasoning. <p>2. Watch Shelly Kagan's Lecture on Metaphysical Issues of Persons:</p>

- Watch Professor Shelly Kagan's lecture on metaphysical issues.
- Answer the provided questions to explore concepts of personal identity and the possibility of life after death.

Optional Activities

1. Watch More Lectures:

- Watch additional lectures from both Michael Sandel and Shelly Kagan to further your knowledge and see how philosophical discussions are conducted.

2. Recommended introductory reading:

- Read introductory books on philosophy to help you grasp complex concepts more easily:
 - Think: A Compelling Introduction to Philosophy by Simon Blackburn
 - (more challenging) Philosophy: Basic Readings by Nigel Warburton
 - (more challenging) Reality+: Virtual Worlds and the Problems of Philosophy by David Chalmers
 - Knowledge: A Very Short Introduction by Jennifer Nagel (an excellent introduction to epistemology)

Why This Work is Important

Philosophy is challenging but incredibly rewarding. Engaging with these materials will enhance your understanding and give you insight into philosophical inquiry. Watching discussions, especially the interactive ones at Harvard, will help you see how to articulate your thoughts and contribute to debates.

Part 1. Doing Moral Philosophy Watch <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kBdfcR-8hEY> and then answer these questions (handwritten):

1. Trolley Car Dilemma: What are the main reasons given by those who would turn the trolley onto the side track, and how do these reasons reflect consequentialist moral reasoning?

2. Pushing the Bystander: Why do most people find it harder to push the bystander off the bridge than to turn the trolley onto a side track, even though both actions save five lives at the cost of one?
3. Transplant Surgeon Case: Why is the transplant surgeon's case, where five patients need organs from one healthy person, generally considered morally impermissible, even though it involves saving five lives at the cost of one?
4. Consequentialism vs. Categorical Moral Reasoning: What is the fundamental difference between consequentialist moral reasoning and categorical moral reasoning, as discussed by Sandel?
5. Consent in the Dudley and Stephens Case: How might the moral judgement of the Dudley and Stephens case change if Parker had given his consent to be sacrificed? Why is consent significant in moral reasoning?

Part 2. Doing Moral Philosophy. Watch

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0O2Rq4HJBxw&t=1755s> and then answer these questions (handwritten):

6. What is the main principle of Jeremy Bentham's utilitarian philosophy, and how does it apply to both personal and political morality?
7. How does Bentham's utilitarianism justify the use of cost-benefit analysis in decision-making, and what are some examples Sandel provides to illustrate this?
8. What were the key points of the cost-benefit analysis used by Ford in the Pinto case, and why did it appal the jurors during the trial?
9. How did the Philip Morris study in the Czech Republic use cost-benefit analysis to justify smoking, and what was missing from their calculation according to Sandel?

10. What are two major objections to utilitarianism discussed by Sandel, and how do these objections challenge the theory's application to real-life scenarios?

Part 3: Doing metaphysics. Watch <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gh-6HyTRNNY&list=PLE0D425F951001F57&index=2> and then answer these questions

11. Nature of Death: According to Kagan, why is it essential to understand what a person is and the concept of survival before discussing the possibility of life after death?

12. Personal Identity: What is the philosophical question of personal identity, and why is it crucial for understanding if we can survive our deaths?

13. Dualism vs. Physicalism: What are the main differences between the dualist and physicalist views of a person as described by Kagan?

14. Survival of the Soul: How does the dualist perspective argue for the possibility of a soul surviving the death of the body?

15. Material Influence on the Soul: Why does Kagan suggest that even if the soul is immaterial, physical processes might still affect it, potentially leading to its destruction?

Resources required:	Youtube Write answers on lined paper
Submission details:	Answers will be checked during the first Philosophy lesson after the Summer holiday.

Reading list

Title:	Author(s):	ISBN:	Amazon Link:	When needed:
(Essential) AQA A-level Philosophy Year 1 and AS: Epistemology and Moral Philosophy	Jeremy Hayward (Author), Gerald Jones (Author), Dan Cardinal (Author)	ISBN-13 978-1510400252	https://www.amazon.co.uk/AQA-level-Philosophy-Year-Epistemology/dp/1510400257	September 2024
(Essential) AQA A-level Philosophy Year 2: Metaphysics of God and metaphysics of mind	Jeremy Hayward (Author), Gerald Jones (Author), Dan Cardinal (Author)	ISBN-13 978-1510400269	https://www.amazon.co.uk/AQA-level-Philosophy-Year-Metaphysics/dp/1510400265/ref=sr_1_1?crid=ZMT972V5X0H6&dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.1TuDyH1V13XLKt0_3xEQr-2fPwGMnCKa1yD8vSpl-GiM7K0tFuSjvPmOE94SdkV.i-tqvwsyoe6K mz6a5KbBRdpjdz_j_8aGuze7qmS6Tk4&dib_tag=se&keywords=AQA+A-level+Philosophy+Year+2%3A+	September 2025

			Metaphysics+of+God+and+metaphysics+of+mind&qid=1721151329&s=books&sprefix=aqa+a-level+philosophy+year+2+metaphysics+of+god+and+metaphysics+of+mind%2Cstripbooks%2C136&sr=1-1	