

Subject	Religious Studies: Ethics Component
Context	The following tasks will help you to gain an overview of the first Theme that you will study in A Level Ethics. The aim is to begin to develop your understanding of the key philosophers, vocabulary and concepts that you will encounter when you start the A Level course.
Securing	<p>Learn the names and details of the people below. You may wish to create flash cards with the names of the people on one side, and the details on the reverse. Test yourself on these details so that you are ready for a quiz in our first lesson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socrates • Plato • Aristotle • Thomas Aquinas • Robert Adams • Max Stirner
Processing	<p>1. Use the following websites to help you to produce an overview of each of these theories, please write a short summary of the key ideas/vocabulary for each theory using the website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Divine Command theory – https://peped.org/philosophicalinvestigations/summary-divine-command-theory-ethics/ • Virtue theory - 7 virtue ethics revision notes.pdf (wjec.co.uk)
Exploring	<p>Listen to the following podcast: https://thepanpsycast.com/panpsycast2/episode70-p1</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Summarise the Euthyphro Dilemma put forward by Socrates. 3. How does this dilemma challenge Divine Command Theory? 4. How convincing do you find this challenge? Can you think of any responses that could be made to deal with this challenge?
Reviewing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Based on the work that you have completed, write down 5 questions that you would like to ask your teacher about the Divine Command Theory in your first lesson. 2. Please learn the key words and definitions below for a quick vocab test during your first Ethics lesson in September

Key words and definitions to learn:

Key word	Definition
Euthyphro's dilemma	Whether God commands things because they are good in themselves, or are things good because God commands and approves them?
Objective truth	Reality as it is, apart from what we think or feel about it.
Omnipotence	the all-powerful, almighty and unlimited nature of God
Omnibenevolence	God is all loving
Meta-ethics	attempts to assign meanings to the abstract language of moral philosophy
Metaphysics	a branch of philosophy that investigates the ultimate nature of reality
Religious pluralism	Accepting all religions as having an equal right to coexist, a potential problem for DCT - which religion and which commands?
Divine Command Theory	a theory asserting that the morally right action is the one that God commands
Modified Divine Command Theory	Philosopher Robert Adams' attempt to modify the Divine Command Theory to address the challenges of the Euthyphro Dilemma.
Normative Ethics	The study of the principles, rules, or theories that guide our actions and judgments
Absolutist	An ethical system that believes there exists a standard of right and wrong that applies to all human beings.
Relativist	Evaluates ethicalness subjectively on the basis of individual and group experiences
Deontological Ethics	The idea that actions are right and wrong in themselves independently of any consequences
Teleological Ethics	moral goodness is determined by the end or result
Consequentialism	an ethical system that determines the level of goodness or evil from the effect or result of an act