

Religious Education

Year 9 Independent Learning Task

Aims

You are going to find out about a particular philosopher who has made a significant contribution to philosophical thought. You will come to understand more about the life, work and contribution of the philosopher you choose.

You will do this by producing a film about this philosopher which will be shown to others. It will help the audience to appreciate the contribution of this philosopher. It will also help them to see what you thought was particularly important about them.

Task

Section 1

Your teacher will put you in to groups. As a group, choose one of the following philosophers to investigate.....

Plato
Nietzsche
Aristotle
John Locke
Socrates
Hypatia
Descartes
Kant
Aquinas

There are initial sheets available for these philosophers which will get you going. Ask your teacher for one. If you want to choose a different philosopher from who is not on this list, discuss this with your teacher.

Go to <http://www.btinternet.com/~glynhughes/squashed/> to find a list of philosophers and a summary of their most famous writings which will give you an idea of the main things they said. Read this and then search for more information about your philosopher on other web sites you find.

As you do your research, bear in mind that the following should be included in your film:

1. A biography of their life (where and when born, parents, education, etc.)
2. Who they were specifically influenced by (maybe a previous philosopher)
3. Philosophical ideas that they came up with
4. How valuable do you think this philosopher was to society?
5. If they were still alive today, what do you think they would be particularly interested in, in these times? (e.g. would they try to change something in government, prisons, education etc) Give your reasons.

You will work in groups. Decide who will need to do what in order to make this film a success. Consider, who will write the script? Who would be best at filming? Who should act which role? Remember that you may have more than one job to do and more than one role to play in the film.

Decide what you will need. Whose camera shall we use? What props shall we use? What clothes shall we wear? What will be our location?

Decide when you will meet to plan, rehearse for and create your film.

Section 2

Make your film. When you show your film, it should be on a disc or memory stick so that it can be shown in the classroom using a laptop and projector.

What we **don't** want to see in the film...

Students *reading* about a philosopher.

Students *reading from a script*. Lines must be learnt.

People's *backs* to the camera

Background music that is *louder* than the actors' voices.

People *not being absolutely sure* of what they are doing.

What we do want to see in the film...

5-10 mins of film.

Creative and fun ideas

Good use of imagination

Engaging presentation

Good acting. Even if you do not feel you are a natural actor, you should remain in role.

A historical or contemporary setting...or both!

If you have any problems with your preparations for this task, you must speak to your teacher along the way. Do not wait to do this. Tackle issues as soon as you come across them.

Deadline

Your film will be shown to your class in one of the two following weeks:

Week beginning Monday 22nd February

Week beginning Monday 23rd February

Your teacher will confirm with you the exact date.

All work for this film must be completed by this time. (There will be no such thing as 'time in the lesson to finish off a few things'!)

Assessment

Your film will be peer assessed as your class watches the film. They will use the Assessment sheet as shown and you should look at this carefully in your planning to see how you can do as best as you can. Good luck!

RE Year 9 Assessment sheet

Your class will complete a table like this for your group. Study it carefully before you plan for your film so that you know exactly what is required. In each column, they will give a mark of 1-4 where 4 is the highest mark. Students can give a zero in a particular area if they think this is needed!

Group A. Names of students

Name of Philosopher

	Standard	1 - 4
1	Clear presentation of the life of the philosopher (biography)	
2	Understanding of who and what influenced this philosopher	
3	Philosophical ideas that the philosopher came up with	
4	How valuable the group think this philosopher was to society	
5	What the group think the philosopher would be interested in if they were alive today.	
6	Creative ideas	
7	Engaging presentation	
8	Good acting – e.g. staying in role	
	Total mark (add up the numbers and put at the bottom) ->	

Guidelines for levels:-

Total	Level
32	7
30-31	6a
27-29	6b
24-26	6c
21-23	5a
18-20	5b
17-19	5c
15-16	4a
13-14	4b
11-12	4c
9-10	3a
7-8	3b