

I should already know:

The Abrahamic faiths have similar descriptions for the nature of God: Omniscient, Omnipotent, Omnibenevolent, transcendent, immanent. Muslims have 99 names for Allah Christians believe in the trinity. Jews use G-D or Adonai as a mark of respect.

I will learn:

Philosophical arguments for and against the existence of God by exploring the following:

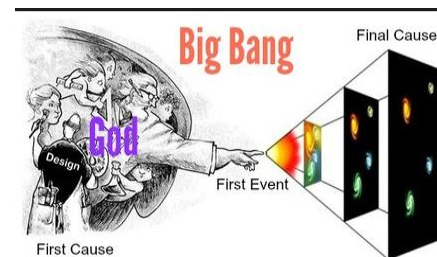
- What the genesis creation story is
- What the liberal and literal interpretations of the creation story are
- What the design argument is
- What the cosmological (causation) argument is
- The argument from evil and suffering
- The argument from unanswered prayers

This will help in the future:

In Y8 when you study Christian and Muslim theology. In Y9 when you study philosophy and theology of eastern faiths. Throughout the GCSE..

Key Words

Agnosticism	Not being sure if God exists
Atheism	Believing that God does NOT exist
Cosmological Argument / First cause argument	Their must have been a uncaused cause that made everything happen. God is the uncaused ; the unmoved mover
Design Argument	The universe is so complex that it must have had a designer; that designer must be omnipotent and therefore can only be God
Free Will	The idea that humans are free to make their own choices
Theism	The belief that God / gods does/do exist
Moral Evil	Actions done by humans which cause suffering
Natural Evil	Things which cause suffering but have nothing to do with humans
Prayer	An attempt to communicate with God, usually through words
Theism	Belief that God does exist



Greater Depth Challenge

“The cosmological argument proves that God exists”

Evaluate this statement giving reasons for and against



Further Reading

https://www.youtube.com/user/MrMcMillanREvis/playlists?view=50&sort=dd&shelf_id=7

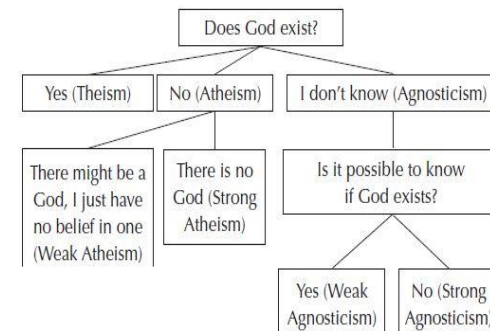
Summarise your learning	
	Explanation
Creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The genesis creation story states that the world was made in 6/7 days by God. There are literal and liberal interpretations of this story. The literal / fundamental interpretation is that the world was made exactly as stated in the Bible. The liberal explanations are ... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> gap creation - where there was a gap of billions of years between the making of the heavens and the earth and the everything else the day age theory where each day could be billions of years
Design / Intelligent Design / Watchmaker Analogy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The theory that the world is too complex and beautiful to have been a coincidence, therefore it must have a designer. The designer must be transcendent and omnipotent, and that can only be God. The watch maker theory by William Paley was also used as an analogy to explain this theory. <p>Strengths William Paley said that there must have been a designer because the world appears to have organised parts and a purpose and function.</p> <p>Weaknesses Everything is a result of evolution, not God. Why do we have evil and suffering if God designed the universe?</p>
Cosmological / first cause / causation	<p>The theory that everything has a cause and effect. The cause of the universe being created is God; He is the unmoved mover.</p> <p>Strengths Everything seems that have, and need a cause A first cause (God) is more likely that cause and effect going back forever</p> <p>Weaknesses If everything has a cause, what caused God? The big bang was random and spontaneous, not caused by God. Religious creation stories are just myths</p>
Evil and suffering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evil and suffering is sometimes used to prove that God does not exist. It is also used to prove that God does exist. There are two types of evil: moral evil and natural evil. Moral evil is evil caused by human beings, natural evil is caused by natural disasters. Some say that God could stop all evil and suffering due to his nature (omnipotent etc), Others say that God has give us free will and therefore it is up to humans to stop evil and suffering.
Unanswered prayers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prayers that people feel have not been answered by God. Some people say that this means that there is no God. Others say that God answers all prayers, perhaps just not in the way that you expect. In addition to this, if what you are asking for is not part of His plan for you he will not allow you to have it as it may not be in your best interest.

Key Teachings
Creation
<p>"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth"</p> <p>"The earth was void, formless and desolate and the spirit hovered over the waters"</p>

Arguments for the existence of God	Arguments against the existence of God
Creation Design First cause Answered prayers	Big Bang Evolution unanswered prayers Evil and suffering

"If God exists, how do we explain all the tragedy and death in the world?"

"Look at all the religious texts that exist. A god must exist in some form."



Summarise your learning	
	Explanation
Creation	
Design / Intelligent Design / Watchmaker Analogy	
Cosmological / first cause / causation	
Evil and suffering	
Unanswered prayers	

Key Teachings
Creation

Arguments for the existence of God	Arguments against the existence of God

“If God exists, how do we explain all the tragedy and death in the world?”

“Look at all the religious texts that exist. A god must exist in some form.”

