

OCR RS: Philosophy and Ethics

Course Code: H573 (first assessment 2018)

The syllabus begins with a look at the foundations of many philosophical ideas through the thought of two Greek philosophers- Plato, and his student Aristotle.

Task 1

Find a copy of Plato's "Allegory/ Analogy of the Cave". This is freely available online.

Read the analogy and then identify as many key elements within the story as you can, e.g. the prisoners, the cave itself. **Clue:** the exam board think there are seven elements which you should be able to describe in some detail.

For each of the elements you identify try to determine what each one may represent. You will find lots of freely available resources on the web to help you to accomplish this task.

Task 2

Two key terms we will use in the study of ethics are **deontological** and **teleological**.

What do you understand by each of these terms? Can you identify any particular thinkers whose ideas are associated with each of these two terms? Which of the two views do you find most appealing and why?

Reading

Plato's Analogy/ Allegory of the Cave

BBC Duty Based Ethics: http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/introduction/duty_1.shtml