

Activities to prepare you for **Religious Studies** **(Philosophy and Ethics)**



New College Durham

One of the main skills you will gain when studying religious studies is building, analysing and evaluating arguments. An argument is a reason or set of reasons given in support of an idea, action or theory.

For example:

Idea: When my uncle visits tomorrow my dog will bark.

Argument: I know this because my dog has done this everytime he visits.

The Existence of Miracles

A debate is where people have opposing arguments about ideas and concepts. One issue that is heavily debated is the existence of miracles. Watch the below clip (you may need to watch it a couple of times!):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?=&CeG1HDOgzCQ>



Task 1

Answer the following questions:

1. What examples of miracles are given at the beginning of the clip?
2. How does David Hume define miracles?
3. Identify three arguments David Hume gives against the existence of miracles

Task 2

Answer the following questions:

1. Research an example of a miracle from the bible
2. How does David Hume's argument apply to this example?
3. Do you agree with David Hume? Explain your answer

Additional reading

<https://www.educas.co.uk/media/eehbbam/wjec-re-a3-poster-artwork.pdf>
<https://www.educas.co.uk/media/5mmjb4cb/educas-rewarding-careers.pdf>

If you are interested in studying A Level Religious Studies and have any questions, please email lisa.temple@newdur.ac.uk

