

# Introduction to A Level Philosophy

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Welcome to A Level Philosophy and congratulations on choosing an interesting and exciting subject. Philosophy lessons involve reading, discussion, thinking and debating new ideas. So preparing to for a new subject like this over summer can be difficult – you may not have anyone to debate with!

We are giving you some reading to do in preparation for your first lessons. We are also going to ask you to do some writing. This is so that you get your ideas down on paper. There are two side to your course – so there are two pieces of reading for you.

1. Bertrand Russell – ‘What is the value of Philosophy?’

‘Philosophy is a waste of time.’ Discuss. Use the views of Russell and your own arguments on both sides in order to answer this question and come to a conclusion. Your essay should be between 1-2 sides of A4.

2. The Trolley Problem

- a. Would you have thrown the switch? Explain your answer. (1 side)
- b. If you were on the jury what verdict would you have reached? Explain your decision (1 side)

Mr Langhorn and Miss Hopkins