



Religious Education

Year 4 – Unit 2

Enquiry – What do we mean by **truth**? Is seeing believing?



Stage 1 – Engage

Learning Objective: *Examine* the principles of truth and belief

RE - Learning Through a Lens



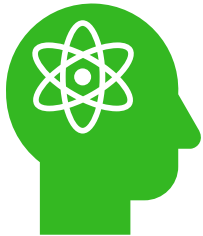
Theology Lens - Thinking through Believing

- Ask questions that believers would ask
- Think like theologians
- Explore questions and answers that arise from inside religions and worldviews



Philosophy Lens – Thinking through Thinking

- Ask questions that thinkers would ask
- Think like philosophers
- Explore questions and answers raised through considering the nature of knowledge, existence and morality



Human & Social Science Lens – Thinking through Living

- Ask questions that people who study reality would ask
- Think like human and social scientists
- Explore questions and answers raised in relation to the impact of religions and worldviews on people and their lives



Philosophy – Thinking through Thinking

Philosophy Lens – Thinking through Thinking

- **Ask** questions that **thinkers** would ask
- **Think** like **philosophers**
- Explore questions and answers raised through considering the nature of knowledge, existence and morality



Key Vocabulary

Axiom



Proof



Burden of Proof



Reality



Evidence



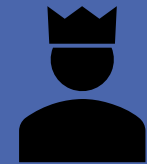
Truth



Logical Fallacy



Ultimate Reality





Explore – Facts vs Opinions



In groups, sort the statements in your secret envelope into 2 categories:

- Fact and Opinion

Try adding an example of your own to each category.

Fact	Opinion



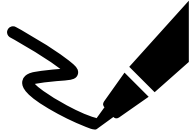
*What makes you sure something is a **fact**?*

*How do you separate a fact from your own **opinion**?*

Why can it sometimes be difficult to distinguish between fact and opinion?



Explore – Facts vs Opinions



*Let's create and capture a definition of **Fact and Opinion**.*

You could also add an example of your own to each definition





Explore – Belief: Fact or Opinion?

Do you think a belief is Fact or Opinion? Where on the scale would you 'place' belief?

Evidence



Proof



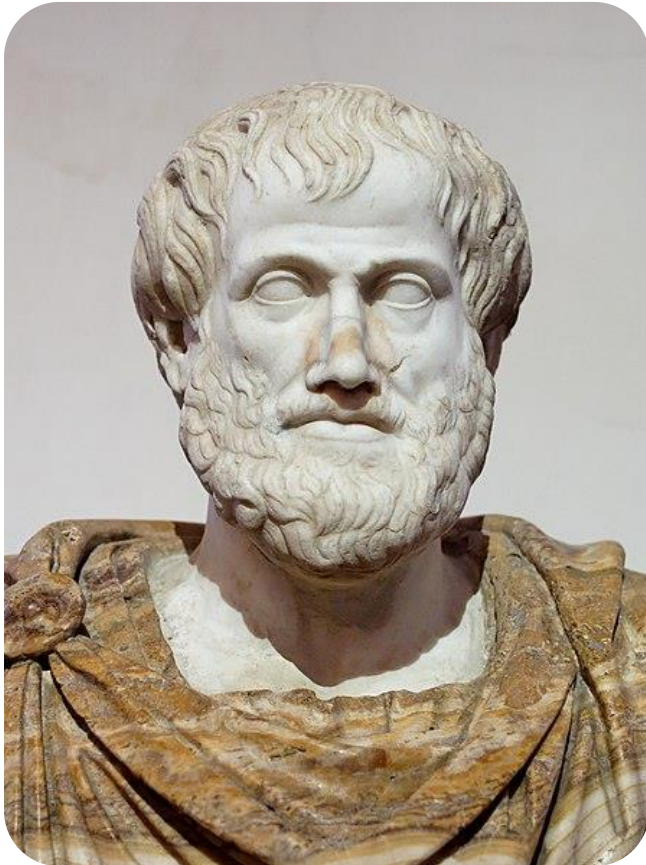
Belief

Fact

Opinion



Explore – Aristotle's Basic Axioms



Axiom



An ***axiom*** is a concept in logic. It is a statement which is *accepted without question*, and which has *no need for proof*.

An axiom is used as the **premise or starting point** for further reasoning or arguments, usually in logic or in mathematics.

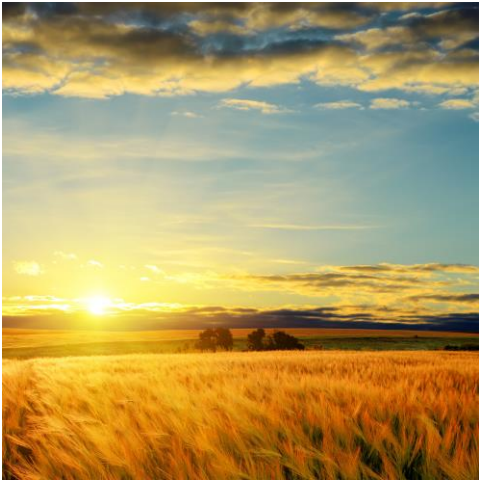
Aristotle – a Greek philosopher - defined a set of basic axioms from which he derived the rest of his logical systems:

- An object is what it is (*Law of Identity*)
- No statement can be both true and false (*Law of Non-contradiction*)
- Every statement is either true or false (*Law of the Excluded Middle*)



Explore – Accepted Axioms

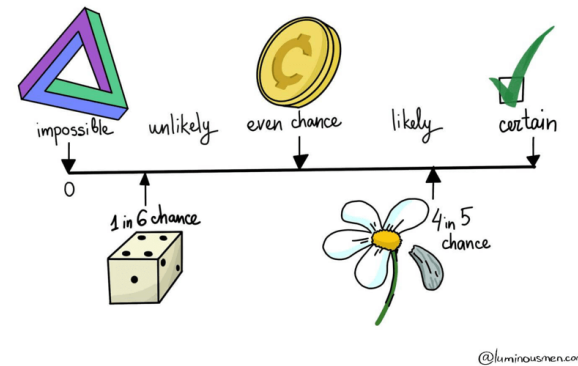
*The sun rises in the east
and sets in the west*



*The earth turns 360°
every day*



*Probability lies between
0 and 1*



*Plants need water to
survive*



**These axioms are universally accepted.
There is no need to find proof, and they are not disputed or challenged.**



Explore – Axioms for Life

*It's not the obstacle that counts,
but how you overcome it.*



*It is not how you start the race
or where you are during the
race. It is how you cross the
finish line that matters.*



Failure is success in progress.



**These axioms are also universally accepted, and state truth, but they are not based on scientific fact.
They are much like the proverbs from the Bible – and can be used to guide us.**



Model – My Turn

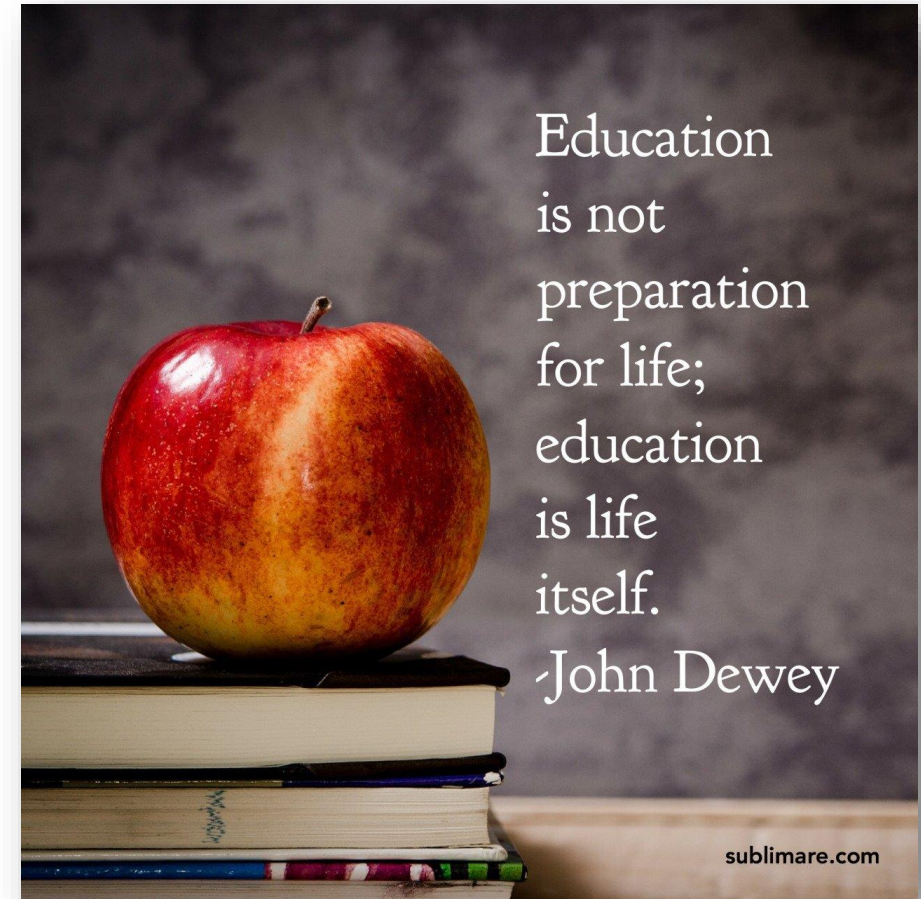
This is an axiom which I believe in.

I believe this to be true, and have many examples which prove this to be the case.

It is my 'truth' and something which guides me in my life.

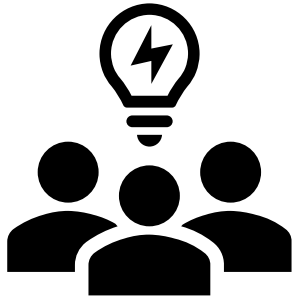


What do you think about the logic of this axiom?





Guided Practice – Our Turn



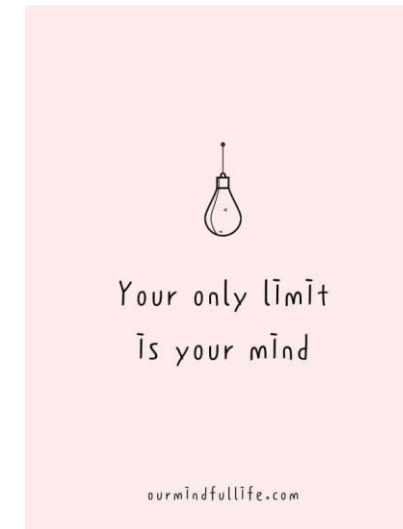
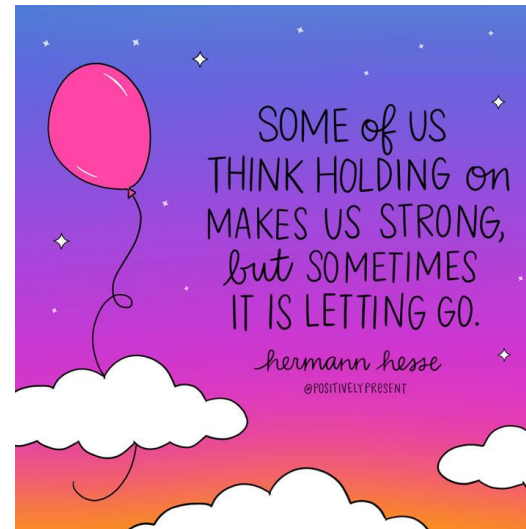
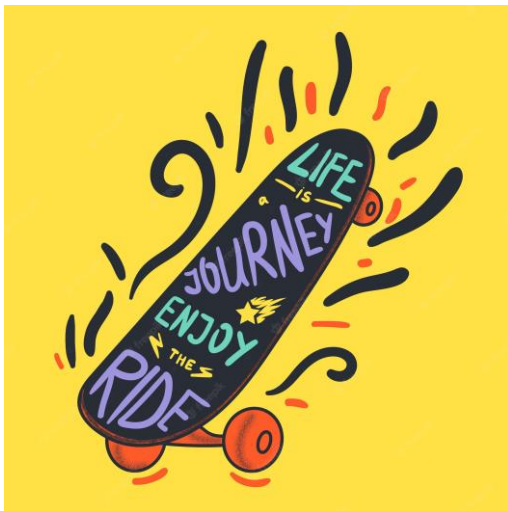
What is an axiom which guides your life?
How would you phrase it?
How could you represent it?



Independent Practice – Your Turn

Design your own axiom for life

- Consider your message – is it something you believe?
- Choose an image – how does it represent your axiom?
- Select colour – what will make your message stand out?





Reflect & Challenge

Logical Fallacy



A logical fallacy is an incorrect or false argument that is based on weak, flawed, illogical, or nonsensical claim or assertion.

Sometimes, logical fallacies 'look' and 'feel' like truth, but when they are questioned or challenged, it is clear that they are not true.



An example of a logical fallacy is:

1. Theo is a boy
2. Theo likes football
3. Therefore, all boys must like football

Is your axiom a truth, or could it be a logical fallacy?



Stage 2 – Enquire & Explore

Learning Objective: *Identify* similarities between beliefs of different religions



Philosophy – Thinking through Thinking

Philosophy Lens – Thinking through Thinking

- **Ask** questions that **thinkers** would ask
- **Think** like **philosophers**
- Explore questions and answers raised through considering the nature of knowledge, existence and morality



Key Vocabulary

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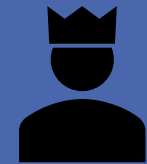
Truth



Logical Fallacy



Ultimate Reality





Explore – Religious Beliefs



In our previous session, we explored the concept of Axioms; universally accepted truths, which require no proof.



But what about the beliefs which religious people hold, like **God**, **Heaven**, **Miracles** or the **Soul** – are they axioms too? What do *you* believe?





Explore – Miracles: Philosophical View



Philosopher David Hume believed that all miracles could be explained.

He argued that miracles are mistaken for extraordinary events.

- How does Hume describe a 'miracle'?
- How is this different to an extraordinary event?
- What is given as an example of an extraordinary event?
- Why does Hume suggest we should doubt witnesses of miracles?
- What does Hume urge people to do when considering if something is a miracle?



Answer these questions in your book



Explore – Miracles: Religious View

Belief in miraculous happenings is a feature of all major religions. *Evidence* of miracles is written in sacred texts including The Bible, The Qu 'ran and The Veda. Believers consider this evidence to be proof.

Proof



Evidence



Hindus believe in the miracle that Lord Shiva brought his beheaded son back to life with an elephants head. This miracle was the birth of the elephant-headed god known as Lord Ganesh.



Muslims are told of the Six miracles of the Prophet – One being of a weeping tree. The Prophet would give sermons close to the tree, and believers said it cried and wept at his message.



Christians learn about the many miracles performed by Jesus – from feeding the 5,000 with just a few loaves and fish, to his healing of the sick, including a blind man.





Explore – Miracles: Religious View

Miracles are important elements of religion. They have served as the foundation for the historical proof of the existence of the God.

Miracles are considered to be both a test and demonstration of faith. If you truly believe in God, then you will believe in miracles, and if you truly believe in miracles, then you have faith in God.

- Why does God appear to the particular child in this film?
- How is she viewed and treated by others?
- What happens to those who believe her?



Answer these questions in your book






Model – My Turn

We know that **belief in miracles** is a commonality between the 5 major religions.
What other **beliefs** do these religions share?



1. Research each question
2. Review responses
3. Summarise key information
4. Capture details in note form

	 Christianity	 Islam	 Hindu
Is there a God/ Gods? What are they called?			
How do we communicate with God?			
What is the name of their sacred text?			
What does the symbol mean/ what beliefs does it symbolise?			
What important festivals celebrate God/Gods?			
.....			



Guided Practice – Our Turn






1. Research each question
2. Review responses
3. Summarise key information
4. Capture details in note form

5. Compare similarities

What are the similar about the question we just researched?

What is the *same* across each religion?

	 Christianity	 Islam	 Hindu
Is there a God/ Gods? What are they called?			
How do we communicate with God?			
What is the name of their sacred text?			
What does the symbol mean/ what beliefs does it symbolise?			
What important festivals celebrate God/Gods?			






Independent Practice – Your Turn



1. Research each question
2. Review responses
3. Summarise key information
4. Capture details in note form
5. Compare similarities

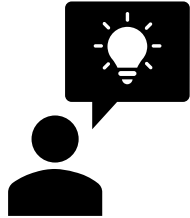


Work as a group to complete the challenge.
Take turns to *research, summarise* and
compare and record.

	 Christianity	 Islam	 Hindu
Is there a God/ Gods? What are they called?			
How do we communicate with God?			
What is the name of their sacred text?			
What does the symbol mean/ what beliefs does it symbolise?			
What important festivals celebrate God/Gods?			



Reflect & Challenge

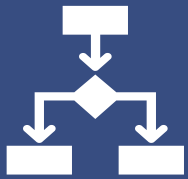


Do you believe that miracles can happen?

Or are miracles *extraordinary events* which can be explained by science or by natural order?

If you don't believe in miracles, can you still believe in God?





Stage 3 - Evaluate

Learning Objective: *Compare and contrast* differences between religious beliefs, practices and rituals



Philosophy – Thinking through Thinking

Philosophy Lens – Thinking through Thinking

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Ultimate Reality





Recall & Review

BINGO!

- Draw a 3 x 2 grid on your Whiteboard
- Think back to our last session – exploring the similarities in religious beliefs
- In each section, write down something which you identified as a similarity

Let's play Bingo!



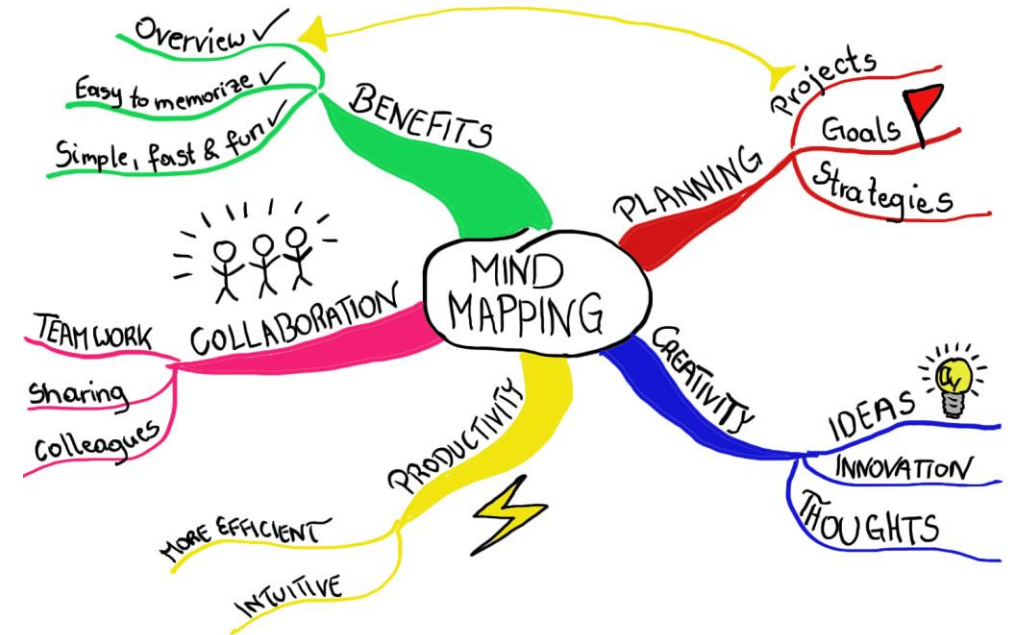
Explore – Differences in Religious Beliefs

There are many similarities between religious beliefs, but also fundamental differences.

As we explore our subject today, we will be creating a mind map filled with:

- Details
- Facts
- Dates
- Numbers
- Words & Phrases
- Images
- Colour

Our mind map will then be used to help us write a short Explanation Text about those key differences.

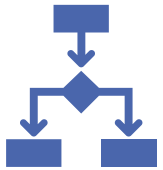


In the centre of your Mind Map – write the word ***Sikhism***



Explore – Sikhism Daily Life

While **Christianity** is about 2,000 years old, **Sikhism** is a newer religion that originated 500 years ago in northern India. Both religions are *monotheistic* (this means they believe in one god) but their beliefs, rituals and practices are very different.



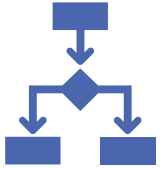
Take notes for
your *mind map*

- How many people follow Sikhism?
- How many Guru's founded the religion?
- What is the name of the Sikh God?
- What does it mean?
- What is the Sikh view of equality?





Explore – Sikhism beliefs about God



Sikhs have many *names* for God, including Waheguru. Sikhs believe that God exists as an ultimate reality which is beyond description.

Ultimate Reality



God is beyond colour and form, yet His presence is clearly visible.

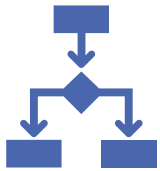
Guru Granth Sahib 74

- Sikhs do not believe that God – Waheguru -is a *person or being* like us - so you won't see any pictures
- Sikhs believe that God is neither male or female, and does not have a 'form'
- Sikhs believe that God is **ineffable** – so amazing that words cannot describe it
- Sikhs believe that Waheguru is present in all of us in the form of a divine spark – this is our soul
- Sikhs do not believe in worshipping an image or statue of God: Idolatry is not permitted
- Sikhs do not believe that God can save us – but that we save ourselves
- Sikhs have a modern, philosophical belief which is not based on miracles or rituals
- Sikhs do not believe in miracles





Explore – Sikhism and Prayer



The Mool Mantar is the Sikh statement of belief. It is the basis of Sikhism and contains the key beliefs about Waheguru.

Listen here: [Mool Mantar](#)

- Unlike the Lords Prayer, the Mool Mantar does not offer salvation or forgiveness or ask that Waheguru lead followers on a path from evil towards power and glory.
- Sikhs believe that we master our own fate, and through Sewa - self-less service and helping others.

There is only one God	Ik Onkar
The name is truth	Satnam
He is the creator	Karta Purakh
No fear	Nirhau
No hatred	Nirvair
Immortal without form	Akaal Moorat
Beyond birth and death	Ajouni
Self-existent	Saibhang
By the Guru's grace	Gur Prasad



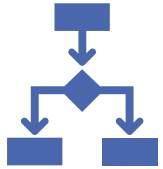
Try memorising some of the words from the Mool Mantar



- The Mool Mantra is part of Sikhs' daily prayer, and can be repeated up to 108 times
- Sikh prayer is more like meditation than Christian prayer
- Sikhs focus on the **Ik Onkar** symbol during meditative prayer



Explore – Sikhism and Traditions



Take notes for
your *mind map*

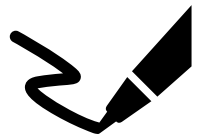
- Who was Guru Nanak?
- What principles do Sikhs believe?
- Where do Sikhs gather?
- What else is their place of worship used for?
- Who is celebrated in their festivals?
- What happens at festivals?



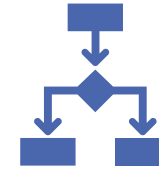
Was Guru Nanak a philosopher?



Model – My Turn



We will be writing a short Explanation Text about the main differences between Christian and Sikh beliefs.



Use the notes from your *mind map*

Features	Details
Text Title	<i>What makes Sikhism different to Christianity?</i>
Introduction	<i>Who, What, When, Where, How many?</i>
2 – 4 Main Topics	<i>Views of God, Place of Worship, Important people - Gurus</i>
1 – 2 Details of Interest	<i>No Images or Pictures / Prayer like meditation</i>
Range of Conjunctions	<i>Although, However, Illustrated by, One example is</i>
Pictures & Images	<i>Sikh Symbol / Ik Onkar</i>
Personal Belief	<i>Sikh views more like philosopher David Hume - miracles</i>

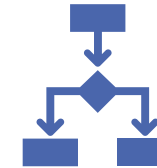
ADDING and as well as moreover furthermore in addition too on top of that another point is	SEQUENCING first, firstly, first of all second, secondly.. third next meanwhile now subsequently	ILLUSTRATING for example such as for instance in the case of as shown by illustrated by take... one example is..
COMPARING similarly likewise as with like equally in the same way	QUALIFYING but however although unless except apart from as long as if	CONTRASTING whereas alternatively unlike on the other hand conversely having said that nevertheless however



Guided Practice – Our Turn

Using the information from our Mind Map, highlight 2 to 4 differences that you would like to focus on.

- What interesting details will you include?
- Which images will complement your text?



Use the notes from your ***mind map***

Features	Details
Text Title	
Introduction	
2 – 4 Main Topics	
1 – 2 Details of Interest	
Range of Conjunctions	
Pictures & Images	
Personal Belief	

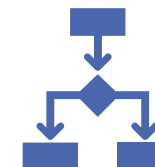
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Independent Practice – Your Turn



Using your plan, write your Explanation Text, including the details and images you have chosen.



Use the notes from your ***mind map***

Features	Details
Text Title	<i>What makes Sikhism different to Christianity?</i>
Introduction	<i>Who, What, When, Where, How many?</i>
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COMPARING similarly likewise as with like equally in the same way	QUALIFYING but however although unless except apart from as long as if	CONTRASTING whereas alternatively unlike on the other hand conversely having said that nevertheless however



Reflect and Challenge

The ***Guru Granth Sahib*** – the holy scripture of Sikhism - says of God:

‘One Light fills all creation. That Light is You.’

- What does this mean to you?
- How do you interpret the statement?
- Does the word *You* refer only to God, or also to Sikh followers?
- Why is God – Waheguru – described as light?
- How is this description similar to Christian ideology?
- In what ways is it different?



Pantheist



Pantheists believe that everything that exists is a part of God or that God is a part of everything that exists.



Stage 4 – Express

Learning Objective: *Compose* an argument supported by ‘evidence’ to express a personal belief



Philosophy – Thinking through Thinking

Philosophy Lens – Thinking through Thinking

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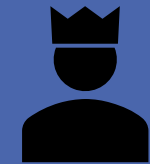
Truth



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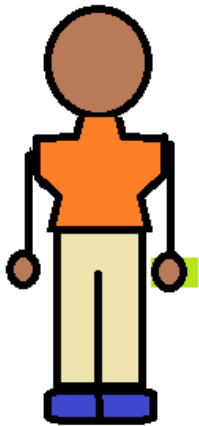
Ultimate Reality



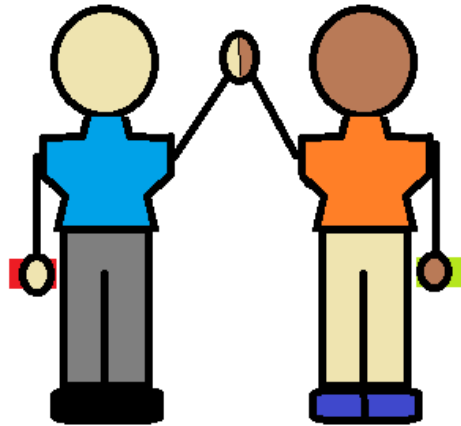


Recall and Review

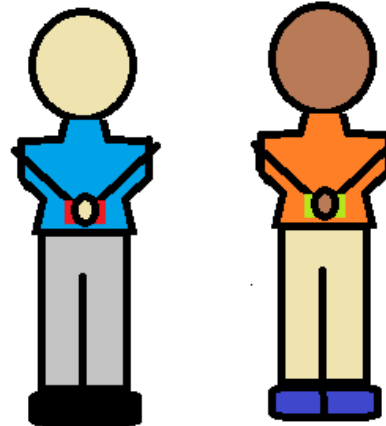
Quiz Quiz Trade – Let's Play!



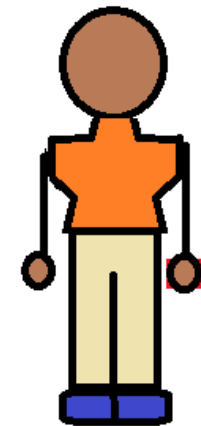
#1 Look for
a classmate.



#2 Pair Up with
a high five



#3 Each person reads their
question while the other answers.



#4 Trade Cards
Repeat!



After 4 minutes, return to your book and write down some key knowledge you've remembered.



Explore – I Believe & I Care About...



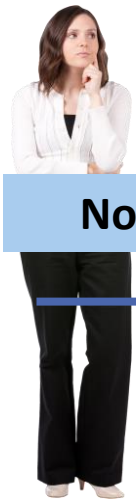
All opinions and beliefs are valid



It's ok to think differently



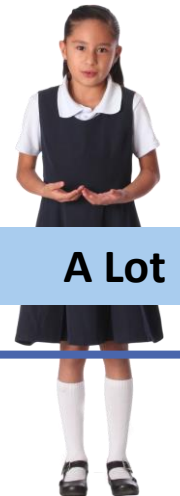
There are no right or wrong answers



Not At All



Sort Of



A Lot

Continuum of Belief



I care about / believe _____ because _____.



Explore – Is seeing believing? Do you believe in Miracles?

- **Sort Of Group:** Miracles did happen at the time of the Bible, but miracles don't happen anymore.
- **Not At All Group:** Miracles can all be explained away by science, miracles do not happen.
- **A Lot Group:** Miracles did happen in Biblical times, and still happen today.

Not At All

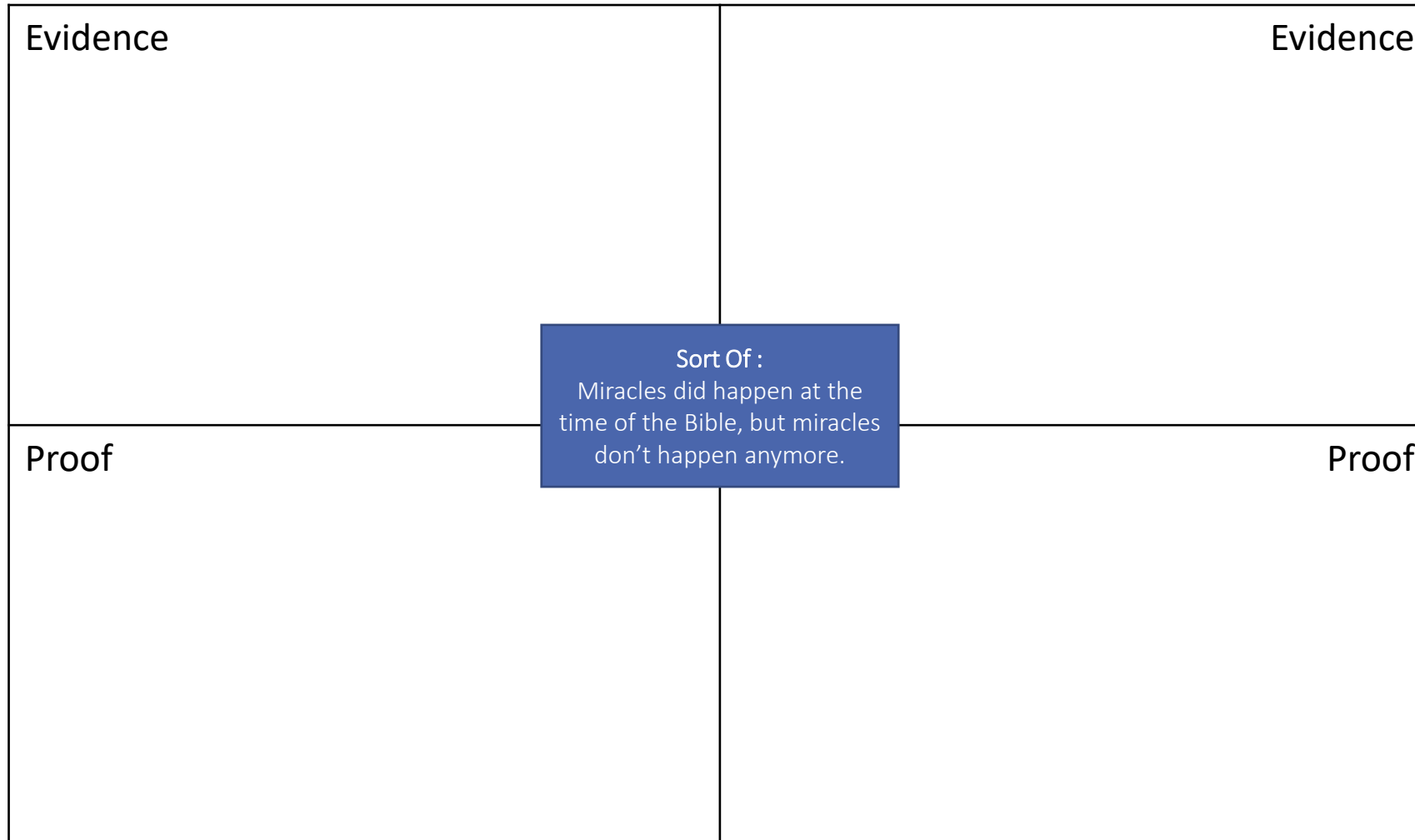
Sort Of

A Lot

Continuum of Belief



Model – Creating an Evidence Base



Philosopher David Hume believed that all miracles could be explained.

He argued that miracles are mistaken for extraordinary events.



Christians learn about the many miracles performed by Jesus – from feeding the 5,000 with just a few loaves and fish, to his healing of the sick, including a blind man.



The earth turns 360° every day

Aristotle – a Greek philosopher - defined a set of basic axioms from which he derived the rest of his logical systems:

- An object is what it is (*Law of Identity*)
- No statement can be both true and false (*Law of Non-contradiction*)
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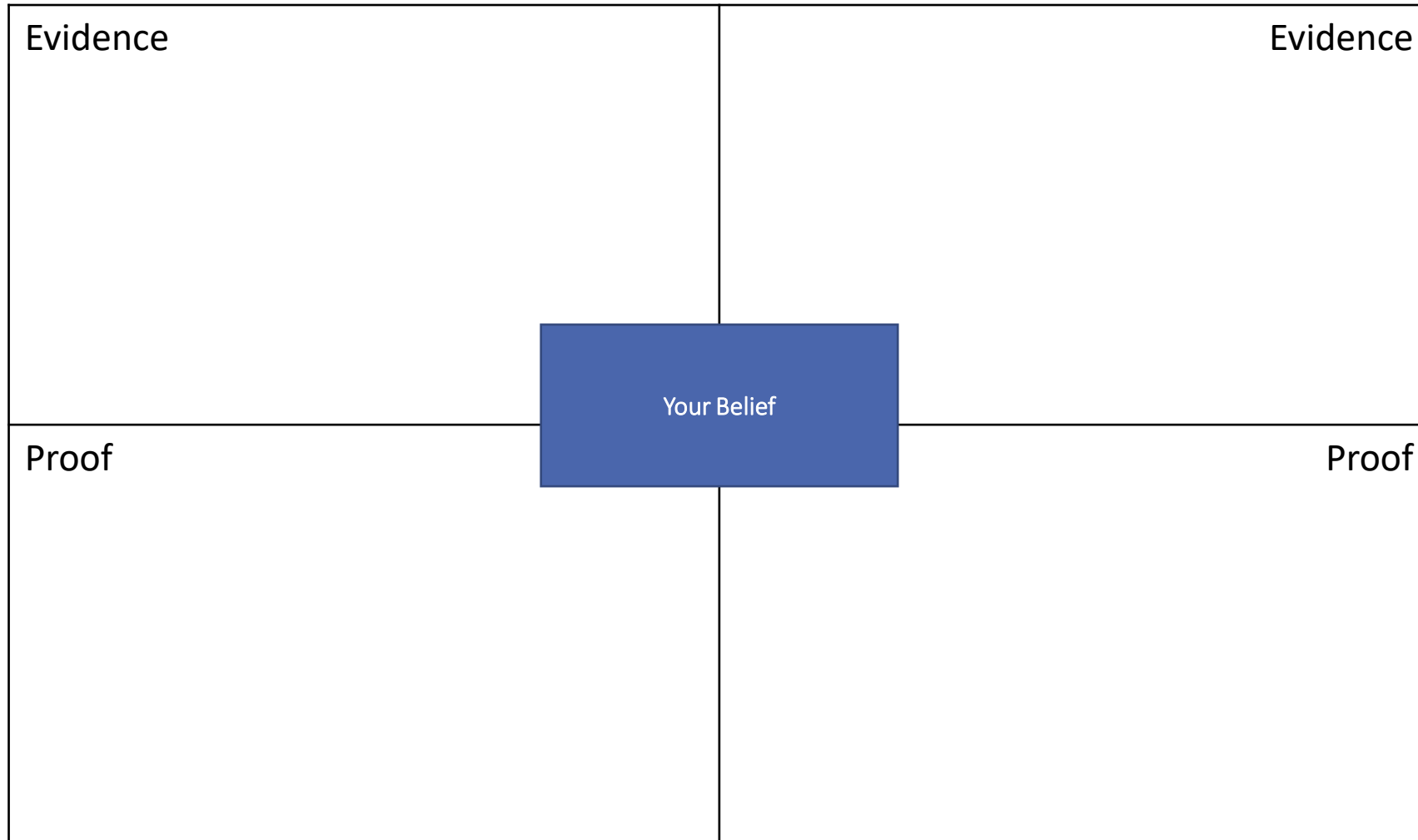


Ultimate Reality





Guided Practice: Create an Evidence Base



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Independent Practice: Present your Case



Targeted Talk: Role Card

Initiator



Begins the discussion or opens up new topics for discussion

Will Say:

I would like to start by saying...
I think we should consider...
Let's also think about...



Targeted Talk: Role Card

Developer



Builds on, adds to or agrees with an idea

Will Say:

I agree, and would also add...
Building on that idea, I think...
Linking to that, I think...



Targeted Talk: Role Card

Summariser



Identifies the main ideas – during the discussion to help move forward, or at the end

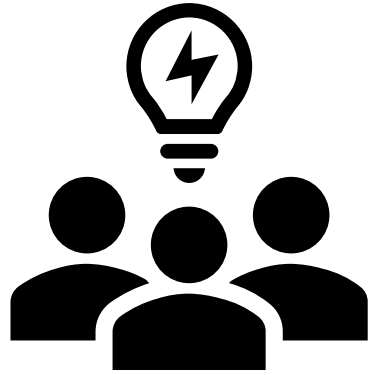
Will Say:

Overall, the main points were...
Our discussion focused on...
The two things we talked about were...





Reflect and Challenge



Enquiry

What do we mean by truth?
Is seeing believing?

