

Topic	Knowledge
<p><b>Science &amp; Creation</b></p>	<p>* <b>Science proposes that the universe was created via the Big Bang Theory</b>, this states that the universe started as a single tiny hot COMPRESSED point, it exploded which caused the universe to EXPAND. New ATOMS and particles were created which make up our UNIVERSE today, <b>this happened over 13.7 BILLION years ago.</b></p> <p>* <b>Charles Darwin</b> wrote the book <b>‘The Origin of the Species’</b>, he travelled and studied plants and animals, <b>he came up with the theory that all living things descend from common ancestors and that different species have evolved over millions of years across many generations – the Theory of Evolution.</b> * The theory of evolution by <b>natural selection</b>, was first formulated in Darwin's book "On the Origin of Species" in 1859. It is the process by which <b>organisms change over time as a result of changes in inherited physical or behavioural traits.</b> Changes that allow an organism to better adapt to its environment will help it survive and have more offspring.</p>
<p><b>Islam &amp; Creation</b></p>	<p>* Muslims believe that <b>Allah made the universe in 6 periods and he then settled himself on his throne.</b> They believe he makes the night cover the day and <b>he created the sun, moon and stars. He also made vegetation, animals and humans.</b> All he created are subservient (obey without asking questions) to Allah. <b>He is also considered to be a sustainer of the universe.</b> Muslims respect science and do not believe that it contradicts their story at all.</p>
<p><b>Christianity &amp; Creation</b></p>	<p>* <b>Christians believe in the 7-day creation story, found in Genesis.</b> In this story, God creates the universe and all of life in 6 days and rested on the 7th. Day 1: Light. Day 2: Sky. Day 3: Land, sea and plants. Day 4: Sun and stars Day 5: Sea and sky animals. Day 6: Land animals and humans. Day 7: Rest</p> <p>* <b>Literal Christians take this story literally – word for word truth</b>, they believe that the world is only 10,000 years old, events detailed in the Bible such as Noah’s Ark actually took place and some believe that Dinosaur fossils are a test from God and did not actually exist.</p> <p>* <b>Liberal Christians take this story mythically – not word for word true but God is responsible for creating the world and humans, they often support the Big Bang theory but propose that God started it, it was deliberate not an accident.</b></p> <p>- <b>Henry Morris:</b> Some <b>creationists</b> claim in Genesis the word <b>‘Yom’ (meaning day) can be interpreted as ‘era’</b> thus the Bible reads that the world was created in 6 ‘eras’ not actual days. <b>Morris rejects this interpretation and argues that ‘Yom’ always means a 24 hour period</b> and there is an entirely different world used for ‘era’. <b>For Morris there is no uncertainty what so ever that God created the world in 6 actual days.</b> For some creationists dinosaur fossils are a test of faith, planted by the devil to deceive human minds. Morris rejects this notion and does not deny the existence of dinosaurs at some point in history, he suggests they were created on the fifth and sixth day and have since become extinct. He claims that dinosaurs are mentioned in the Bible referred to as ‘Behemoth’ and ‘Tannin’ both words used to describe ‘monsters’.</p> <p>- <b>Georges Lemaitre: Was a well-educated scientist and Catholic Priest who helped to create the Big Bang Theory</b>, which Lemaitre himself called his “hypothesis of the primeval atom”. He argued that the universe is expanding and started as a single hot point <b>HOWEVER He said that this theory didn’t disprove – or prove Gods existence</b>, he said we should decide in other ways. He argued that the Bible contained a creation story – it was a myth, not fact. For Lemaitre science provided the facts and God provide the reason for existence. He believed it was possible that God created the Big Bang.</p>
<p><b>Buddhism &amp; Creation</b></p>	<p>* <b>There is no story of the creation of the Earth within Buddhism, or any mention of scientific explanations for the Earth's existence. This is partly due to the fact that Buddhists do not believe in any God who has created the world.</b></p> <p>* According to Buddhist teaching, <b>the Buddha refused to answer questions about the origins of the Earth.</b> As a result, <b>Buddhists do not tend to focus on questions that they cannot answer.</b> Rather, the focus is on the concerns of the present and how to avoid suffering in the here and now. Nevertheless, Buddhists believe that as with life, worlds follow a cycle of decay, death and rebirth.</p> <p>* Buddhists often reflect on a story told by Buddha which tells of <b>the parable of a man who was shot by a poisoned arrow.</b> This foolish man refused to have the arrow removed until he found out all about the person who shot the arrow. By the time his attendants discovered these unnecessary details, the man was dead. Buddhists believe this is the same as questioning creation – there is no point to value in it, we must live for the now.</p>

<p><b>The Design Argument</b></p>	<p><b>* This is a philosophical argument which seeks to prove God’s existence by proving the world must have been designed.</b></p> <p>Premise 1: Anything which shows order, regularity and purpose shows design. (and must have a designer)</p> <p>Premise 2: The universe shows order, regularity and purpose.</p> <p>Conclusion 1: The universe shows design (so must have a designer)</p> <p>Premise 3: The only think capable of designing something like the universe must be an all-powerful, all present, eternal creator.</p> <p>Premise 4: God is All powerful, all present, eternal and a creator.</p> <p>Conclusion 2: God must be the designer of the universe.</p> <p>Conclusion 3: God exists.</p> <p><b>* William Paley</b> was responsible for writing the ‘<b>Watchmaker Analogy</b>’ which <b>seeks to prove God designed and created the universe like a watchmaker designed and created a watch.</b> He stated: ‘If you were to walk along a field you saw a watch (having never known about watches before) you would think that it had been designed (not there by chance). It must have a been done by someone who was capable of designing and making watches: A watchmaker. In the same way, <b>the universe is so intricate that it shows similar signs of design and so must have been made by a universe maker: God.’</b></p> <p>* There are many criticisms of the design argument, such as the suggestion that the universe is actually a poor design due to the amount of disease and illness. However the main criticism is based on the premise that is everything <b>MUST</b> have a designer – then who designed God?</p>			
<p><b>Creation Comparison</b></p>	<p><b>Similarities between Science and Religion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Both believe in a starting point to the beginning of the universe.</li> <li>• Some Christians think scientific claims can fit with the creation story.</li> <li>• The Muslim story have no timeframe so fit with the science timeframe.</li> <li>• Humans were around later than other animals.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Similarities: Christian and Muslim</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All believe God had a role to play in creation.</li> <li>• Christians and Muslims – God created the world in 6 stages and rested/admired his work on the 7<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>• All believe Animals and Humans were made later.</li> <li>• All believe that creation will come to an end, Christians and Muslims – End of the world will bring judgement day for all to assess their afterlife.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Differences between Science and Religion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Science does not attribute creation to God but to randomness.</li> <li>• There was no design or though put into it.</li> <li>• The Big Bang may not have had a starting point (some scientists believe there is an infinite series of universes that expand and contract from Big Bangs to Big Crunches.</li> <li>• Man evolved and was not created</li> <li>• Buddhists reject and ideas of creation</li> </ul>	<p><b>Differences: Christian, Buddhist Muslim</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christians think creation happened in a set order whereas Muslims do not.</li> <li>• Christians and Muslims think only one God was responsible for Creation (Buddhist reject all notions of God).</li> <li>• Christians believe God made man in His image.</li> <li>• Buddhists focus on the here and now and see in importance in looking for answers about creation</li> </ul>

Key Word	Definition
Creation	The action or process of bringing something into existence.
The Big Bang	The scientific theory which explains the beginning of the universe.
Evolution	The scientific theory which explains the emergence of humans.
Literal Christian	The belief that the Bible is 100% literal fact. They believe the world was created in 7 actual days.
Liberal Christian	Someone who thinks the Bible is a story – the world was created by God but probably by the Big Bang.
The Design Argument	The philosophical argument which seeks to prove God’s existence by proving the world must have been designed.
Infinite	Something that is boundless or endless

Quotes	Topic
‘The mystery of the beginning of all things is insoluble by us; and I for one must be content to remain an agnostic’ <b>(Charles Darwin)</b>	Science & Creation
‘In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth’ <b>(The Bible)</b>	Christianity
‘God created man in his own image’ <b>(The Bible)</b>	Christianity
‘The universe is so intricate that it shows similar signs of design and so must have been made by a universe maker: God.’ <b>(William Paley)</b>	The Design Argument
“Radiate boundless love towards the entire world...” <b>(Buddha)</b>	Buddhism

