

A2 Ethics PLC

RED
AMBER
GREEN

A2 Ethics Exam Technique

Writing in timed conditions			
Understanding what the question is <i>asking</i>			
Identifying key terms			
Selecting the <i>most</i> relevant material to include			
Structuring essays			
Writing introductions			
Formulating thesis statements			
Linking to the main philosophical debates of the topic			
Linking back to the question throughout the answer			
Clarity of explanations			
Including key terms			
Including a range of different views			
Evaluating in each paragraph (counter-points and counter-counter...)			
Sustaining an argument			
Writing conclusions			

Meta-Ethics

The use of ethical language			
how words like 'good', 'bad', 'right', 'wrong' are used in ethical statements			
How meta-ethics differs from normative ethics			
Key Term: Cognitive			
Key Term: Non- cognitive			
Key Term: Analytic Statements			
Key Term: Synthetic Statements			
Ethical Naturalism : Key Principles			
Naturalist approaches of Aquinas and Utilitarianism			
Evaluation of Naturalism's strengths and weaknesses			
Intuitionism : Key Principles			
Approach of G.E. Moore to Intuitionism			
Approach of H.A. Prichard to Intuitionism			
Approach of W.D. Ross to Intuitionism			
Knowledge and Understanding of the Prima Facie Duties			
Evaluation of Intuitionism's strengths and weaknesses			
Key differences between Naturalism and Intuitionism			
Naturalistic Fallacy (is-ought gap)			
Key Term: Verification Principle			
Views of Logical Postivists			
Emotivism : Key Principles			
A.J.Ayer's Boo Hurrah Theory			
Approach of C.L.Stevenson to Emotivism			
Evaluation of Emotivism's strengths and weaknesses			
Perscriptivism : Key Principles			
Approach of R.H. Hare to Perscriptivism			
Evaluation of Perscriptivism's strengths and weaknesses			
Application of different approaches to Ethical Statements			

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Free-Will & Determinism

Key term: Hard Determinism			
Key term: Soft Determinism			
Key Term: Libertarianism			
Key Term: Incompatibilism			
Key Term: Compatibilism			
Hard Determinism: Key Principles			
Views of Clarence Darrow in regard to Hard Determinism			
Views of Ted Honderich in regard to Hard Determinism			
Views of John Locke in regard to Hard Determinism			
Relevant scholars linked to concept of Hard Determinism e.g. Marx, Skinner			
Relevant examples supporting concept of Hard Determinism			
Evaluation of Hard Determinism's strengths and weaknesses			
Religious Determinism (Predestination): Key Principles			
Views of Jean Calvin in regard to Predestination			
Views of St Paul and St Augustine in regard to Predestination			
Evaluation of Predestination's strengths and weaknesses			
Soft Determinism: Key Principles			
Views of David Hume in regard to Soft Determinism			
Key Term: External cause			
Key Term: Internal cause			
Relevant scholars linked to concept of Soft Determinism e.g. Aristotle, Kant			
Relevant examples supporting concept of Soft Determinism			
Evaluation of Soft Determinism's strengths and weaknesses			
Libertarianism: Key Principles			
Views of Jean-Paul Sartre in regard to Libertarianism			
Relevant scholars linked to concept of Libertarianism e.g. Descartes, Camus			
Relevant examples supporting concept of Libertarianism			
Evaluation of Libertarianism's strengths and weaknesses			
The influence of social conditioning on moral choices			
The influence of environment on moral choices			
The influence of psychology on moral choices			
The influence of genetics on moral choices			
Example of Pavlov's Dog			
The implications of different approaches to for moral responsibility			
The link between free will, determinism and moral responsibility			

Conscience

Overview of different views of conscience			
Views of Freud on Conscience			
Detailed understanding of the Id, Ego, Superego			
Strengths and weaknesses of Freud's approach to Conscience			
Views of Piaget on Conscience			
Knowledge and understanding of Heteronomous morality			
Knowledge and understanding of Autonomous morality			
Strengths and weaknesses of Piaget's approach to Conscience			
Views of Fromm on Conscience			
Knowledge and Understanding of the authoritarian conscience			

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Knowledge and Understanding of the humanistic conscience			
Strengths and weaknesses of Fromm's approach to Conscience			
Views of Augustine on Conscience			
Conscience as the voice of God			
Strengths and weaknesses of Augustine's view on Conscience			
Views of Aquinas on Conscience			
Key Terms: Synderesis & Conscientia			
Strengths and weaknesses of Aquinas' view on Conscience			
Views of Butler on Conscience			
Key Terms: Self-love & Benevolence			
Strengths and weaknesses of Butler's view on Conscience			
Views of Newman on Conscience			
Key Terms: ' Law of the mind ' & ' Voice of God '			
Strengths and weaknesses of Newman's view on Conscience			
Evaluation of Conscience in guiding ethical decision-making			
Virtue Ethics			
Overview of Virtue Ethics: Agent-centred not Act-centred			
Principles of Aristotle's approach to Virtue Ethics			
Key concept: Eudaimonia			
Key concept: Phronesis			
Key concept: Intellectual Virtues & Moral Virtues			
Key concept: Doctrine of the Mean			
Key concept: 4 cardinal virtues			
Importance of practising virtues & example of virtuous people			
Strengths and weaknesses of Aristotle's approach			
Approach of Elizabeth Anscombe to Virtue Ethics			
Strengths and weaknesses of Anscombe's approach			
Approach of Alisdair MacIntyre to Virtue Ethics			
Three concepts; Practice, Narrative Unity, Traditions of moral enquiry			
Strengths and weaknesses of MacIntyre's approach			
Approach of Stanley Hauerwas to Virtue Ethics			
Strengths and weaknesses of Hauerwas' approach			
Additional modern Virtue Ethicists e.g. Foot, Taylor Hursthouse			