

Exploring Perspectives: Beliefs About Life After Death

Learning objective: To identify and compare different religious and non-religious perspectives on life after death, and to articulate personal reflections on the concept of legacy and the afterlife.

Use this template to explore how different worldviews approach the concept of life after death. Research the core beliefs of two different religions, then use your critical thinking skills to compare these with a non-religious perspective. Finally, consider how actions in this life might relate to ideas about the future.

Word bank: Afterlife · Reincarnation · Resurrection · Legacy · Soul · Spiritual · Perspective · Existence · Consciousness · Belief

1. Belief A: Describe a religious perspective on life after death. Explain the key features of this belief system. (3 marks)

2. Belief B: Describe a second, different religious perspective. How does this differ from the first belief you described? (4 marks)

3. Humanist Perspective: What might someone who does not believe in an afterlife focus on instead? Explain the importance of 'living a good life' in this context. (3 marks)

4. Compare and Contrast: Compare a religious view of the afterlife with a non-religious view. What similarities or differences can you identify in their moral teachings? (4 marks)

5. Justify your answer: Why do you think so many cultures and religions have developed beliefs about what happens after death? Support your reasoning. (4 marks)

6. What might happen if...: Imagine a world where everyone believed that their actions today would directly impact their experience in the afterlife. How might this change the way people treat one another? (5 marks)

Extension challenge: Creative Task: Write a short reflection from the perspective of Leo the lion or Nova the owl. Imagine they are looking at the stars and contemplating the mystery of existence. How does the vastness of the universe influence their thoughts on life and legacy? Write 150 words justifying your character's viewpoint.