

# AQA A2 Philosophy

## AQA Philosophy (AS) - 2017 Spec

### Personal Learning Checklist - Moral Philosophy

This is a checklist of every topic you need to know about for the Moral Philosophy section of your exam. For each topic indicate your level of understanding in both columns.

Topic/Ability	Know (see above)	Confidence (see 1-10)
What the term normative ethics means		
Utilitarian Ethics		
Jeremy Bentham's quantitative hedonistic utilitarianism (his utility calculus)		
John Stuart Mill's qualitative hedonistic utilitarianism (higher and lower pleasures)		
Mill's proof of the greatest happiness principle		
Non-hedonistic utilitarianism (including preference utilitarianism)		
Act utilitarianism and rule utilitarianism		
Challenges to utilitarianism		
Rawls' deontological ethics		
Specialist: Kant's account of what is meant by a 'good will'		
The distinction between acting in accordance with duty and acting out of duty		
The distinction between hypothetical imperatives and categorical imperatives		
The First formulation of the categorical imperative (including the distinction between a contradiction in conception and a contradiction in will)		
The second formulation of the categorical imperative		
Challenges to Kantian Deontology		
Aretha's Virtue Ethics		
The good for human beings: the meaning of Eudaimonia as the final end and the relationship between Eudaimonia and pleasure		
The function argument and the relationship between virtues and function		
Aristotle's account of virtues and vices: virtues as character traits/dispositions; the role of education/habituation in the development of a moral character; the skill analogy; the importance of feeling; the doctrine of the mean and its application to particular virtues		
Moral responsibility: voluntary actions and non-voluntary actions		
The relationship between virtues, actions and reasons and the role of practical reasoning/practical wisdom		
Challenges to Aretha's Virtue Ethics		
I can apply normative and meta-ethical philosophies to the following issues: cheating, punishing, killing animals and killing lies		
Meta-Ethics		
The range of moral principles: reasons, emotions/instincts, or society		
The distinction between cognitivism and non-cognitivism about ethical language		
Moral realism: there are mind-independent moral properties/facts		
Moral non-realism (cognitivist) - including non-realist forms of utilitarianism (including Bentham) and of virtue ethics		
Moral non-realism (non-cognitivist) - including intuitionism and Moore's open question argument; against all relativist meta-ethical theories and the Naturalistic Fallacy		
Challenges to moral realism		
Moral anti-realism: there are no mind-independent moral properties/facts		
Error theory (cognitivist) - Mackie		
Emotivism (non-cognitivist) - A.J. Ayer		
Prescriptivism (non-cognitivist) - Richard Hare		
Challenges to moral anti-realism		
I can critically evaluate all three normative ethical theories		
I can critically compare any two normative ethical theory with another		
I can critically compare moral realism and moral anti-realism		

**Personal Learning Checklist & Review**  
Philosophy AS (Moral Philosophy)

1. What is your general (overall) feeling about how this course is going? How confident are you that you will reach your target? Circle where you are on the tree.

A. My target grade is...  
B. My current grade is...  
One question I need to ask...

C. My exam technique target is...

D. My revision focus is...

**Key-Word Checklist**  
See the keyword list and complete the following boxes.

Total number of keywords I don't understand...  
Three keywords I will research the meaning of before next lesson...

Normative Ethics	Utilitarianism	Deontology	Virtue Ethics	Meta-Ethics
Eudaimonia	act utilitarianism	cognitivism	emotivism	prescriptivism
error theory	'good will'	rule utilitarianism	preference utilitarianism	
mind-dependent	mind-independent	non-hedonistic utilitarianism		
hypothetical imperatives	contradiction in conception	vice	categorical imperatives	
hedonistic	utility calculus	nihilism	contradiction in will	
			Nazi's experience machine	apropos

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