

Candidate 6 evidence

Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies National 5 Resource Sheet

Candidate Name

Scottish Candidate Number

- ① No evidence - artefacts, clues
 'In his image'
 'Contradicts science'
 Fossil record - timescale (6 days - 3-7)
 Humans want to know why / on purpose
- ② Darwin's theory
 Advantages passed on - those less well adapted die out
 Characteristics increase our chances found in individuals
 Nature picks those best to survive
- ③ Challenges to Genesis
 Existence of God - not required for explanation
 Importance of humanity
 Special creations
 Sophisticated animals - species that inhabit Earth
- ④ Creationist Christian
 Not up for discussion
 Science is wrong - no challenge
 Infallible word
 Taken literally
 Animals and plants - Adam & Eve
 Science is always changing
 Evolution just a theory
- ⑤ Liberal Christian
 Nature so intricate & complex - designer
 Paley's Teleological
 Random chance
 Rules formulated by God
 'Programmed' simple - complex life forms
 'Science - how'
 'Religion - why'
- ⑥ conclusion

To what extent is it reasonable to believe that God created human life?

It is unreasonable to believe that God created human life. Firstly I would like to address why I do not believe God created human life, there is no evidence that God even exists. There are no artefacts, no clues to suggest that God exists, there are only religious texts written by men that suggest God humans in 6 days in his image. The Bible is in a simple, clear format to ensure we are able to understand it but this directly contradicts science, science is complicated and usually understood by scientists who then try and explain it to non-scientists. It is clear why man thought the Biblical account of creation was how human life was created and how God created human life and the world in 6 days but this contradicts science as the fossil record shows that the oldest fossil is 3.7 million years old which contradicts the timescale of life. This is an important question to humans as we want to find out where we came from and if we were created on purpose.

Charles Darwin's theory of evolution is that he believed our advantages were passed on through reproduction and those who were less well adapted and unable to adapt would die out and become extinct. Darwin also believed that our characteristics that would increase our chances

of survival were found in an increasing number of individuals. Darwin believed that nature selected those who were most able to survive, they would then pass on their characteristics and the cycle would go on. My opinion on Darwin's theory is it is a good way to look at things and it makes sense on how we evolved through reproduction and how human life was created.

There are many challenges to Genesis, evolution gives us a specific explanation on how human life was created and God is not required for that explanation. Our importance on humanity and how we were made in the 'image of God', we are God's special creations but science would suggest different and say we are just here by random chance, maybe we just came from all the chaos at the beginning of everything. Science would also suggest that humans are just sophisticated animals who are just another species that inhabit Earth.

Creationist Christians believe as to who or what created human life is not up for discussion when it comes to what they believe. Creationists believe that science is wrong therefore they don't see it as a challenge, they believe that the Bible is the infallible word of God, it is historically and

scientifically true. In the Creationist Christian society the Bible is taken literally, God created the world and everything within in 6 days. God created all animals and plants in their final form and then came Adam and Eve and creation was complete. Creationist Christians don't believe in science because it is always changing but the word of God is constant and always remains the same therefore only the word of God can be trusted. Creationists also don't believe^m anything other than God because they believe evolution is just a theory and is not proven fact. My opinion on Creationist Christians believe is mixed as in some ways I understand their reason for not believing in science as it is always changing but at the same time there is a lot more evidence that can show us instead of just having full faith in the Bible.

Liberal Christians believe that nature is so intricate and complex that there may have been a designer that created human life, God. Paley's Teleological argument suggests that the complexity and design of nature suggests there was an intelligent designer. Liberal Christians believe that we may have evolved but our rules of evolution could have been formulated by God. Our world has been in a sense 'programmed' but in order for there to be a programme there had to be a programmer.

for us to be able to grow from simple life forms to complex life forms. Science also explains 'how' we evolve but religion gives us an explanation as to 'why' we are here.

In conclusion my overall opinion on to what extent is it reasonable to believe God created human life is there are many different theories and opinions that could make you question your belief but I stand by my opinion that I do not believe God created human life due to the lack of evidence religion provides.