**Knowledge Organizer: Philosophy of religion**

**1. Arguments for the Existence of God:**

* **Cosmological Argument:**
  + Suggests that the existence of the universe requires a cause, often identified as God.
* **Teleological Argument (Design):**
  + Argues that the complexity and order in the universe imply a purposeful designer.
  + Paley's Watch Analogy: Comparing the intricacy of a watch to the complexity of the universe.

**2. Arguments Against the Existence of God:**

* **Problem of Evil:**
  + Questions the compatibility of a benevolent, omnipotent God with the existence of evil.
* **Absence of Empirical Evidence:**
  + Challenges the lack of scientific proof or direct empirical evidence for God's existence.

**3. What if God Was One of Us? (The Nature of God):**

* **Theists' Beliefs:**
  + Theists believe in a transcendent, omnipotent, omniscient, benevolent God.
  + Various religious traditions provide specific attributes and characteristics.

**4. Did God Really Design the World? (Teleological Argument):**

* **Paley's Watch Analogy:**
  + William Paley's argument compares the intricacy of a watch to the complexity of the universe.
  + Suggests that design implies a purposeful designer, in this case, God.

**5. We Can Think About God; Surely He Exists?! (Ontological Argument):**

* **Ontological Argument:**
  + Anselm's argument posits that the concept of God, as the greatest conceivable being, implies existence.
  + God, by definition, is that than which nothing greater can be conceived.

**6. Could God Create a Stone He Cannot Lift? (Omnipotence Paradox):**

* **Omnipotence Paradox:**
  + Raises a logical challenge to the concept of God's omnipotence.
  + Posits a paradoxical scenario where God creates a stone too heavy for Him to lift.

**7. Additional Arguments Diminishing God's Omnipotence:**

* **Logical Limitations:**
  + Discusses whether God's omnipotence extends to logically contradictory actions.
* **Limits on God's Will:**
  + Explores whether there are actions inherently against God's nature.

**Key Themes:**

* **Existence and Nature of God:** Analyzing arguments for and against the existence of God.
* **Attributes of God:** Understanding the qualities attributed to God by theists.
* **Philosophical Inquiry:** Engaging with ontological and teleological arguments.
* **Logical Challenges:** Considering paradoxes and logical limitations in discussions about God's omnipotence.

**Critical Questions:**

1. How do cosmological and teleological arguments contribute to the case for God's existence?
2. What attributes are commonly ascribed to God by theists, and how do these shape religious beliefs?
3. How do the ontological argument and the idea of conceivability factor into the discussion of God's existence?
4. What challenges do arguments against the existence of God, such as the problem of evil, pose to theistic beliefs?
5. How do logical paradoxes, like the omnipotence paradox, impact discussions about the nature of God?

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