Worldview questionnaire summaries

i. Take your scores from the questionnaire (Resource 2.3 Questionnaire 1: What is your worldview?).
ii. See which of the six worldview summaries below best match your own views.
iii. If you mostly choose ‘a’ for the questions, you may be closest to the ‘rational agnostic’. Choosing mostly ‘c’ might indicate a theistic believer, close to Jewish, Christian, Muslim or Sikh thinking. If you mostly chose ‘f’, your worldview has much in common with an eastern, dharmic worldview.

- a. The **rational agnostic** is willing to say, ‘I don’t know’ but lives as if there is no God or ultimate power in the universe, using human reason as a guide to living the good life.
- b. The **nihilist** believes in nothing and sees no purpose to life: it’s a meaningless accident. Nihilists are suspicious of those who claim to know too much – perhaps they are just trying to control the rest of us.
- c. The **theistic believer** sees God, a higher being and power than us, as the source of our lives. This belief gives us the way to make sense of life. Divine creative goodness is what makes life so wonderful and significant.
- d. The **humanist optimist** takes life as it comes, rejecting ideas like God or heaven, and living in the hope that evolution and science will make for human happiness. We can define goodness and pursue it for ourselves.
- e. The **spiritual but not religious** may not look for big answers to life’s questions. Instead they may rely on personal experience and feelings to guide life – if it needs guiding. Floating with the flow is the way to live.
- f. **Eastern worldviews** – close to some Hindu ideas – see life as a cycle. Our place in the universe is as part of life’s great, mysterious, purposeful circle or spiral. Devotion, harmlessness and awareness can guide our lives wisely.

iv. Explain how far the summary you have chosen and your own views do and do not match up.

v. What icons/symbols would you design to represent each of these worldviews, and why?