

Front	Back
What is the Teleological Argument?	An argument for the existence of God based on perceived evidence of design, order, and purpose in the universe.
Who is a key proponent of the Teleological Argument?	William Paley, an English philosopher and theologian.
What is William Paley's famous analogy for the Teleological Argument?	The Watchmaker Analogy, which compares the universe to a watch, suggesting it must have a designer.
What does the Watchmaker Analogy argue?	Just as a watch's complexity implies a designer, so too does the complexity of the universe imply a divine designer.

Front

Back

What is the difference between design qua purpose and design qua regularity?

Design qua purpose focuses on things serving a specific purpose, while design qua regularity focuses on patterns and order in the universe.

Which philosopher criticised the Teleological Argument using the example of a ship?

David Hume, who argued that a ship could be imperfectly designed yet still function.

What is Hume's Epicurean Hypothesis?

The universe could have achieved order by chance over an infinite period of time.

What is the Anthropic Principle?

The idea that the universe is fine-tuned to allow for the existence of intelligent life.

Front

Back

How does Darwin's theory of evolution challenge the Teleological Argument?

It suggests that the complexity of life is the result of natural selection, not design.

What is the role of probability in the Teleological Argument?

Supporters argue that the likelihood of the universe's order occurring by chance is extremely low.

What is an example of design qua purpose in nature?

The functioning of the human eye, allowing vision.

What is St. Thomas Aquinas' Fifth Way?

A version of the Teleological Argument, stating that natural objects work towards an end, which implies a designer.

Front

Back

How does the Big Bang Theory challenge the Teleological Argument?

It suggests the universe began from a random event, rather than being designed.

What is the aesthetic argument?

The argument that the beauty of the universe suggests the presence of a designer.

What is Richard Swinburne's contribution to the Teleological Argument?

He argued for the likelihood of design based on the simplicity and order of the laws of nature.

What is the "fine-tuning" argument?

The idea that the conditions of the universe are just right for life, suggesting intentional design.

Front

Back

What is a modern scientific challenge to the Teleological Argument?

The Multiverse Theory, which posits the existence of many universes, making ours less unique.

What is a strength of the Teleological Argument?

It appeals to human intuition that design implies a designer.

What is a weakness of the Teleological Argument?

It relies heavily on analogy, which some argue is flawed.