



Sample 1

## Religion CBA 2

**Question- Is there life  
after death? and is it  
peaceful?**

**What is this question asking?**

Scientifically life after death is an existence where the essential part of an individual's identity or their stream of consciousness continues to live after the death of their physical body.

It is life that begins after death.

This question asks is there more than death itself. People have many different religious beliefs on afterlife. Examples of this can be seen in Christianity and Buddhism. This relates to the next part of the question which asks is it peaceful.

In Christianity, after death you either go to heaven or hell. Heaven is a peaceful place while hell is the opposite. People's belief is that if you live by the bible, you will enter heaven and be at peace.

In Buddhism, peace of mind happens when you achieve nirvana by the practise of meditation.

Peace is being spiritually calm. It is freedom from disturbance and a calm state of mind.

page 1



Sample 1

page 2

### Why does this question interest me?

This question interests me as it does nearly every person on earth. It is a question people often look to for multiple reasons. The main reasons are the loss of a loved one, it is a question that can give comfort if you believe the answer to be yes. I ask this question because I want to believe my loved ones are there and looking over me.

Some people ask this question because they are anxious about what will happen after death. It is a normal thing to worry about since we don't have the answer and we will never have an answer to because of this people turn to religion.

### Piece of art-

### ParaNorman (Movie)

This question can be answered many different ways - By books, statues or buildings. I am answering this question with a childhood film ParaNorman. It's a movie, I can relate to and find comfort in.

### Who, when and how?

ParaNorman was officially released on August 17, 2012. It is an animated film full of comedy. It is in 2D and 3D.

Directed by - Sam Fell and Chris Butler

Produced by - Laika Studio

Written by - Chris Butler

ParaNorman is the first stop-motion movie to utilize a 3D colour printer to create replacement faces for its puppets. The movie took long to produce since it took three to four months to create puppets. One of the scenes in the movie took one year to complete.



Sample 1

**What is the film about?**



It is set in a small fictional town of Blythe Hallow, Massachusetts. The film features a young boy named Norman who can communicate with ghosts, including his late grandmother. Norman is given the task of ending a 300 year old witches curse.

**Why do you like the film?**

I like this film because it shows our loved ones are with us after death. In this film Norman struggles at school because of his differences and abilities, Norman is bullied. Which is common struggle with kids. In the film his grandmother is watching over him. This film could bring comfort to somebody who is struggling and to know their loved ones are there.

**How does this art  
express the question  
of meaning?**

This film expresses "is there life after death?". We see this multiple times. The scene I feel is important is the last scene in the film. Norman watches a horror film with his family including the ghost of his grandmother.

Is there life after death? →



### Sample 1

Throughout this film nobody believes that Norman can see the dead. Norman constantly talks about his grandmother to his parents and communicating for her, Norman's parents get angry since they think he is lying.

Back to the last scene in the film, after Norman defeating the Witches curse and his parents seeing proof that Norman is telling the truth, Norman's father asks if his mother (Norman's grandmother) is sitting next to him which Norman replies by nodding. Norman's father says 'hi mom' to the empty seat next to him.

This shows how we should show faith. Just because we can't see or communicate with the afterlife should not mean that there isn't such thing. If we don't know the answer we should <sup>not</sup> assume the answer to the question is negative because if the answer could be negative there is a possibility that it can be positive.

and is it peaceful?

The Witches curse was made by the 'witch' Agatha (Aggie) Prenderghast. Aggie is a little girl the same age as Norman who also had his abilities. Aggie was wrongly convicted by the town council. 300 years ago when they mistook her powers for witchcraft. After this happened Aggie made a curse to torment the council and the town. She was full of rage and wanted revenge. With Norman's help, Aggie is able to find peace despite what she had done. She crosses over to the afterlife to be reunited with her mother.

This shows everybody makes mistakes and bad choices. It also expresses that everyone can beat peace, even the council who wrongly convicted Aggie found peace when they changed.

Overall this film expresses this question in a great way with good characters and a good storyline. This film is full of moral lessons too. I think it was a good expression of this art.



## Reflection

I enjoyed doing this CBA as I could explore a question and a film that I have an interest in, especially the film since it is a childhood film, I used to watch with my grandmother.

I feel I showed how this film expresses the question to a good standard. The themes in the film matched the question clearly.

I did find it difficult to pick a piece of art to best match my question. I started lots of different arts, nearly half way through the CBA and scrapped it before finally choosing this one.

Even though this was frustrating, my understanding and my skill to identify religious themes in arts have improved.

Next time I will try to be less indecisive and be more mindful of the time period it has to be completed in as I feel under pressure.

During this CBA, I learned how important different pieces of arts can mean to people. I learned that it can be a thing to watch, hear (songs), see (building) for people when searching for human meaning.

Overall, as I said before I think that this film is a good expression of this art.

Sources of information:

<https://www.haika.com>.

[rotten tomatoes.com/m/paranorman](https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/paranorman).

<https://www.imdb.com>.



## Sample 1

### TEACHER ANNOTATIONS USING THE FEATURES OF QUALITY

The annotations capture observations by the teacher, using the features of quality, with a view to establishing the level of achievement this work reflects. The annotations and judgments were confirmed by a Quality Assurance group, consisting of practising teachers and representatives of the NCCA, the Inspectorate, the State Exams Commission and the Junior Cycle for Teachers support service.

### TEACHER ANNOTATIONS

**Feature of Quality 1** This CBA shows good skills of investigation and a capacity to use evidence from different sources when answering their chosen big questions. It is commendable that the report shows an understanding of how the search for meaning has been addressed in different ways and begins by summarising Christianity and Buddhism's understanding of the afterlife before focusing on a film to address this question in more detail.

**Feature of Quality 2** This CBA very clearly shows how the topic explored relates to one or more of life's big questions. The student chooses two well-focused questions, which link together – Is there life after death and is it peaceful? The report sets out in some detail how the film relates to these questions, using evidence from specific scenes in the film. It is commendable that the student avoided simply giving a summary of the film but succeeded in weaving the big question in and out of the film. This shows very clearly a capacity to connect the big questions to the film. Further use of quotes from the movie would have improved this aspect of the report. This would have assisted the student in further relating the big questions to their work.

**Feature of Quality 3** The student's personal engagement is very evident at the beginning where the student explains why this question is of interest to them and again in the final reflections which are authentic and honest. The student has thought about the big questions as evidenced when s/he states 'just because we cannot communicate with the afterlife should not mean that there isn't such thing.' The report could have been improved if the student shared some conclusions and said what s/he now believes in relation to their chosen question.

OVERALL JUDGEMENT:



Above Expectations