

## Seminar Questions

### Art

- What is art?
- What is beauty?
- 'The camera never lies' – true or false?
- What would a world without art be like?

### Business Studies

- Should all businesses be ethical?
- Are businesses over-regulated?
- Is profit the most important thing in a business?
- Would it be immoral to buy and sell kidneys?
- Is management an art or a science?
- What does it mean to be an 'ethical' business?
- Is there such a thing as a 'fair' price?

### English

- What would a world without literature be like?
- Could all language be metaphorical?
- Where do words come from?
- Is there such a thing as the 'true' meaning of a poem?
- Do fictional characters exist?
- What makes people write?
- Do non-human animals have a language?
- Does language shape our thought?

### Geography

- Who is responsible for dealing with climate change?
- Why does inequality matter?
- What should guide our decisions about which parts of the coastline need flood defences?
- What is a map?
- What defines a country?
- How many answers are there to the question: 'where do you live?'
- Is space real or imaginary?
- What is a river?

### History

- 'All history is the history of thought' (Collingwood). Is it?
- Is the past real?
- Is there such a thing as a true historical record?
- Does the way we think of historical events change the way they are?
- Why do human beings tell stories about their past?
- Do non-human animals have an awareness of history?
- What do we mean by the cause of an event?

## **Technology**

- Should we do more about online privacy?
- Can computers think?
- Are there any jobs a robot couldn't do?
- Could we be living in a virtual reality?
- Is the mind a computer?
- Could computers have feelings?

## **Languages**

- Why do we need tenses?
- Does language shape culture or culture shape language?
- Where do words come from?
- What makes people write?
- Does language shape our thought?
- Is any translation perfect?

## **Mathematics**

- What is a ratio?
- If the universe was to disappear, would  $2 + 2 = 4$  still be true?
- Is maths a language?
- Was maths discovered or invented?
- Do numbers exist?
- Could anything be infinite?
- Why is mathematics so useful?
- Can you imagine a world where maths didn't work?

## **Music**

- What does it mean to say a piece of music is 'happy' or 'sad'?
- Why do we listen to music?
- How does music acquire meaning?
- Can everyday sounds be a form of music?
- Is birdsong a form of music?
- Can silence be musical?
- Is musical quality purely a matter of personal taste?

## **Science**

- What is science?
- Could there be a scientific explanation of love?
- Are species real?
- What is energy?
- Can everything in chemistry be explained in terms of electron density?
- Does quantum mechanics imply the world is fundamentally random?
- What is the difference between science and maths?
- Is history part of science?
- How many sciences are there?
- Could there be a science of ghosts?
- Could science come to an end?
- Does science rule out faith or depend on it?