

HOME WORK

Choose one topic that you will present in this second half term of this year , Then translate its contents in english , you have also to mention and explain the main keywords included in the original presentation (arabic presentation)

Djilali bounaam university.

Social department.

Philosophy branch.

Read the text and answer the following questions :

THOMAS AQUINAS (b. 1225 or 1226, d. 1274) is regarded as the greatest of scholastic philosophers. In all Catholic educational institutions that teach philosophy his system has to be taught as the only right one; this has been the rule since a rescript of 1879 by Leo XIII. Saint Thomas, therefore, is not only of historical interest, but is a living influence, like Plato, Aristotle, Kant, and Hegel --more, in fact, than the latter two. In most respects, he follows Aristotle so closely that the Stagyrite has, among Catholics, almost the authority of one of the Fathers; to criticize him in matters of pure philosophy has come to be thought almost impious. * This was not always the case. In the time of Aquinas, the battle for Aristotle, as against Plato, still had to be fought. The influence of Aquinas secured the victory until the Renaissance; then Plato, who became better known than in the Middle Ages, again acquired supremacy in the opinion of most philosophers. In the seventeenth century, it was possible to be orthodox and a Cartesian; Malebranche, though a priest, was never censured. But in our day such freedoms are a thing of the past; Catholic ecclesiastics must accept Saint Thomas if they concern themselves with philosophy.

Bertrand Russell – A HISTORY OF WESTERN PHILOSOPHY – page 452

Questions :

- 1- What is the main problem in the text ?
- 2- What is the position of the author here in the text ?
- 3- What do you think about his point of view ?
- 4- What is the conclusion deduced from the text ?

Example of philosophical text analyse

A short analyse of the text /

The text discuss the role of thomas aquinas in the meddle ages , and how he influenced the forcoming civilisations

The main problem of the text consists on the importance of thomas aquinas in the occidental philosophy , and what is the source of his philosophy, did the greek philosophers influenced him ?

The answer is clear in the text so ; russells said that thomas aquinas has influenced the occdental philosophy for long time , and he built his philosophy on the greek philosopher such aristotle and plato , then he has influenced many forcominh philosopher for instance , hegel , malebranche and descartes in the earlier of seventeenth century .