**Lesson 3**

Philosophy of Religion – Views of Reality.

**Monism or Dualism?**

Draw an outline of yourself.

Around the outside, write down a physical description of yourself. For example, what colour eyes do you have?

On the inside, write a description of yourself that is *not* about the physical you. You could include your interests, your opinions, your beliefs or your ambitions. Be thorough and ask someone who knows you well to check what you have written and add what they think about you too!

Look at the picture. Can you separate what’s on the inside from what’s on the outside?

If we think that there is only ONE substance to life (usually purely physical but not always) we are a MONIST.

If we think that we are made up of TWO substances, (physical and spiritual) we are a DUALIST.

Plato was a DUALIST.

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| --- | --- |
| BODY | SOUL |
| Sense experience, where opinions develop | Reason and true knowledge |
| Not the real person. | The directing force guiding mind and body |
| Always changing so can’t be relied upon | Immortal – exists before and after the body, won’t ever change. |
| It’s the shadow of the real person who can be developed through the mind. | When the body dies the soul goes to the ‘real’ world of the ‘forms’ outside time and space and sense experience. |
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Would you consider yourself a monist or a dualist? Give reasons for your answer and show you have thought of different points of view. Write at least 3/4 A 4 page for your answer.

Please write your comments and answers to the tasks on a word document and e mail it to me,