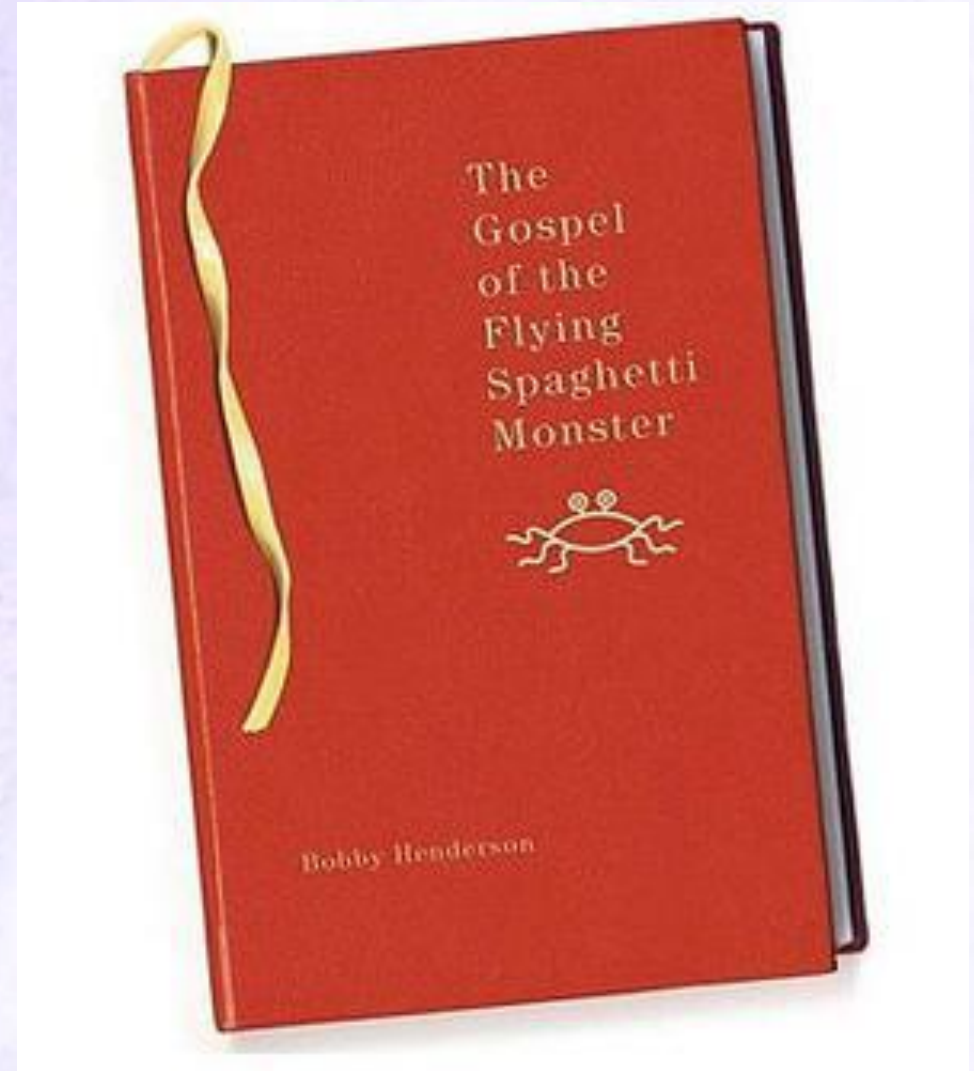


Pastafarianism and Religion

This lesson will get you to think about the nature of religion, and whether it is still an important source of information in modern societies.

In particular, this lesson considers the rise of the 'Pastafarian' movement



Pastafarianism and Religion

Pastafarianism a combination of the words 'pasta' and 'Rastafarianism'. It is a social movement that promotes a light-hearted view of religion and opposes the teaching of creationism and 'intelligent design' in schools.

However, devout Pastafarians would take objection to it being called a 'light-hearted' movement.

Members worship the Flying Spaghetti Monster and are, therefore, members of the Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster

The Pastafarian movement arose as a response to the complaint made by Christian groups that 'creationism' was not being taught alongside science and evolutionism in schools in America.

The Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster was officially accepted as a religion in the Netherlands in 2016, and that same year the first legally recognized Pastafarian marriage was celebrated in **New Zealand**.

Followers of this new 21st Century religion proudly show their respects to the Flying Spaghetti Monster by wearing a pasta strainer on their head at sacred times.





This Austrian Pastafarian was able to wear a pasta strainer on his head for his driving licence photograph



And the same too for this American Pastafarian

Proof that the Flying Spaghetti Monster really does exist!



Read the two articles attached to this lesson and then answer these questions . . .

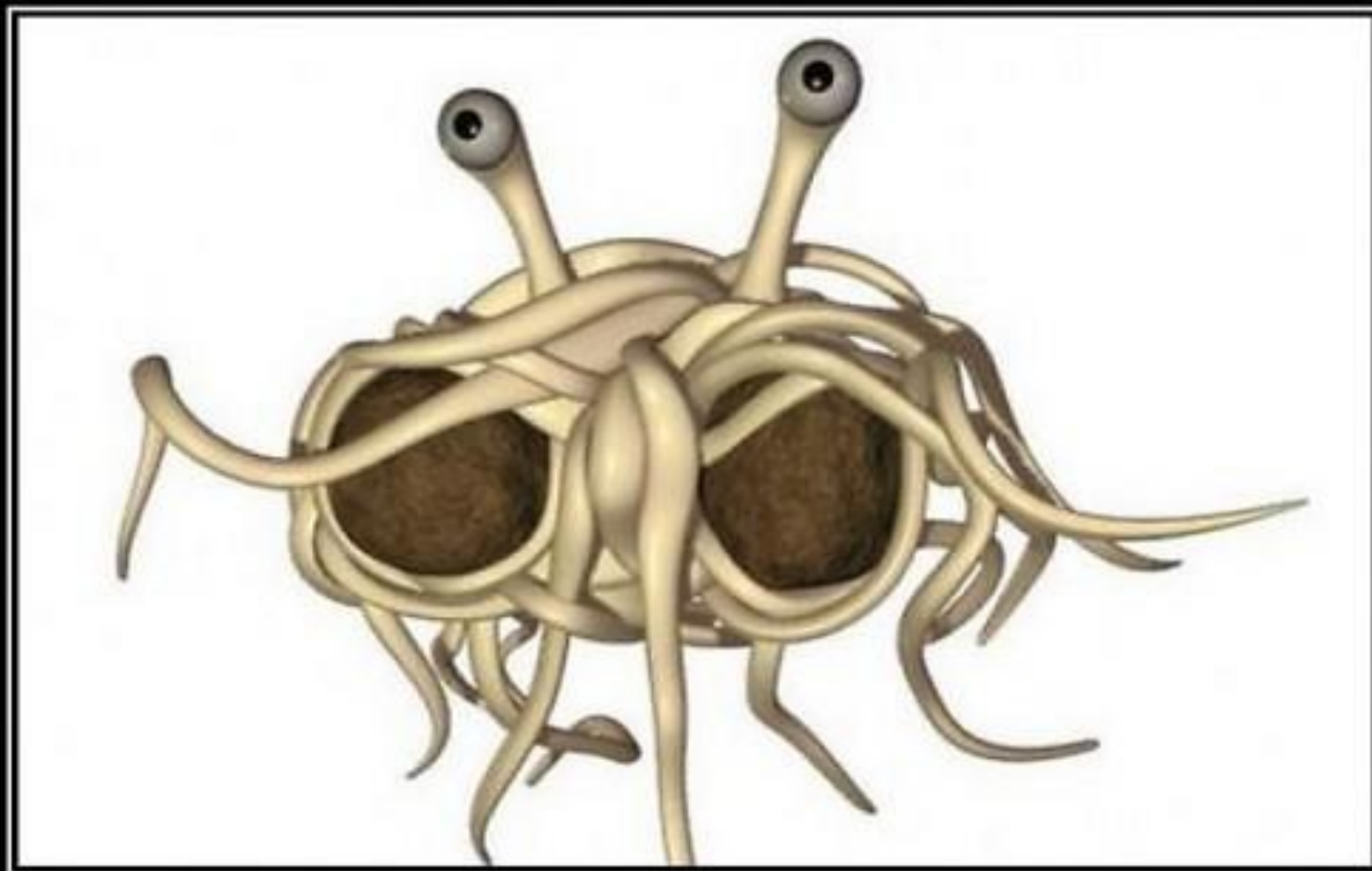
[01] What is Pastafarianism?

[02] Why did this 'religion' originate (or, why was it 'created')?

[03] Why do you think mainstream religions (such as Christianity) are declining in popularity in the UK? And . . . why do you think that belief in other religions (for example, Scientology) and movements such as the Flat Earth Society are on the increase?

Write a paragraph on this – I'd like to know what you think

[04] Have you ever met the Flying Spaghetti Monster, or have been touched by his noodle appendages? *(in either a physical or spiritual sense)*



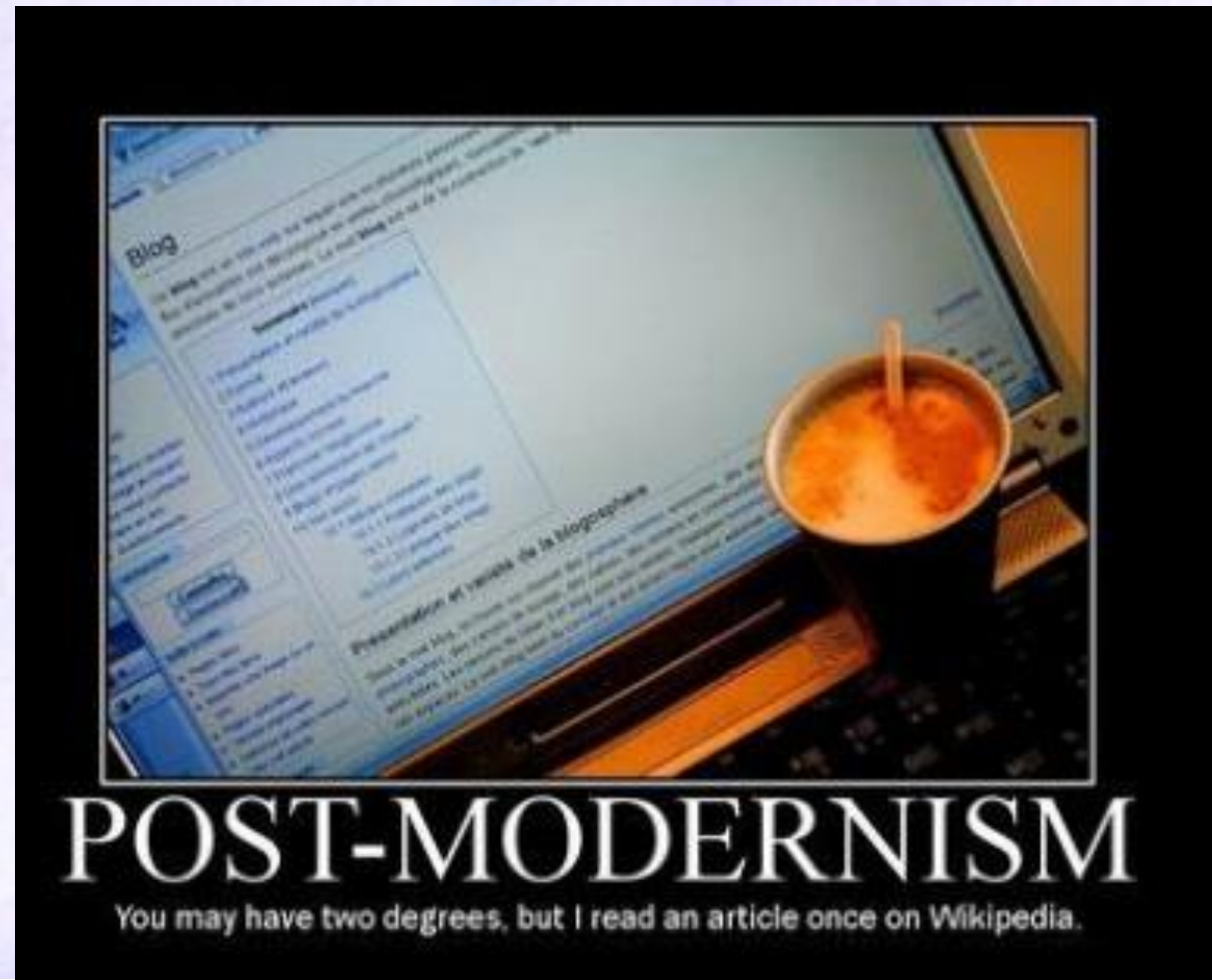
RELIGION

Prove yours is right and I'll stop believing in mine

Something to research

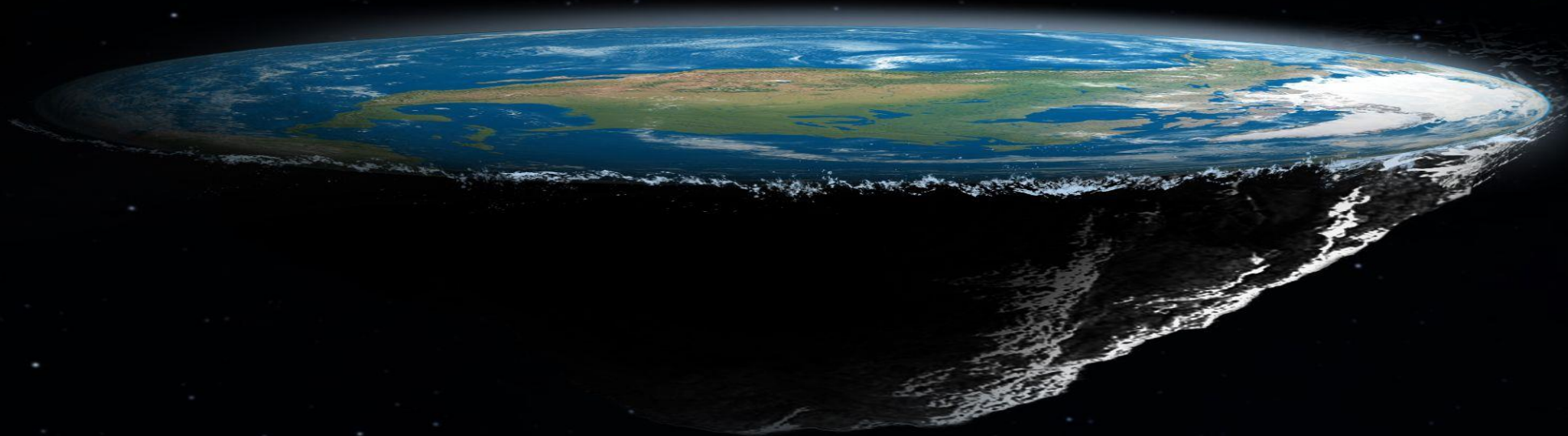
Find out about postmodernism (it's a key theory in sociology)

Write down three things which postmodernists believe . . .



Something to watch . . .

A short introduction to the 'Flat Earth Society'



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1gHbwT_R9t0

And finally . . . **The Westboro Baptist Church!**
(based in Kansas, USA)



Find out about the **Westboro Baptist Church**
Write down three things they believe



Why might people be attracted to an organisation such as this, apart from the fact that they may actually believe what the church stands for?