Revision Outline For The Design Argument

AO1	a) Examine the Design argument for the existence of
	God.
	Also known as teleological argument. <i>Teleos</i> = Greek for end or nurrease
	 purpose A posteriori argument based on empirical evidence.
	 Outline argument
	P: The universe has order, purpose and regularity
	P : The complexity of the universe shows evidence of design
	P: Such design implies a designer
	 C: The designer of the universe is God 2 parts of the argument; <i>design qua regularity</i> and <i>design qua purpose</i>
	 2 parts of the argument; design qua regularity and design qua purpose Design qua regularity
	 Based on regularity of the universe. E.g. seasons
	 Related to St Thomas Aquinas' 5th proof for the existence of God
	"From the governance of things". He concludes this proof by saying
	"Therefore some intelligent being exists by whom all natural things are
	directed to their end and this being we call God." Summa Theologica .
	 Supported by William Paley, Natural Theology 1802. He uses the examples of astronomy and the solar system and Newton's laws of
	motion and gravity
	 Also supported by Arthur Brown, Footprints of God 1943. He uses
	the example of the ozone layer
	Design qua purpose
	 Based on evidence that parts of the universe appear to fit together for
	some purpose. The universe can be compared to a machine E.g. a TV is fitted together to receive pictures and sound. Similarly there are
	complex structures fitted together for special purposes evident in nature.
	• William Paley, Natural Theology 1802. Paley famously uses the
	analogy of the watch. If one were to find a watch as opposed to a stone
	whilst crossing a heath we would conclude that all parts fitted together
	for a purpose. We would presume a watchmaker had designed the watch for the particular purpose of telling the time. Similarly, we must
	presume that God designed the universe for a particular purpose. The
	analogy of the eye is also used.
	Anthropic principle
	 Recent development linked to science. The cosmos is designed for the development of intelligent life.
	• F R Tennant Philosophical Theology 1930. The universe is not
	chaotic and was designed in such a way that the evolutionary process would create an environment in which intelligent life could exist.
	 Richard Swinburne also accepted this principle. He recognised that
	the universe could just as easily have been chaotic but it's not, which
	suggests design rather than chance.
	Aesthetic Principle was developed by Tennant. He argued that
	humans had the ability to appreciate beauty, to enjoy art, music and
	literature. Such an appreciation is not necessary for survival and it is therefore evidence of a divine creator.

AO1/2	b) What are the strengths of the design argument?
	Comment on some of it's weaknesses.
AO1/2 AO2	 Strengths A poseriori: it is based on evidence which is universally available Hymns and poetry have praised the craftsmanship evident in the world. Gerard Manley "The world is charged with the grandeur of God". Compatable with science through the anthropic principle. Richard Swinburne, The Existence of God 1979 Weaknesses David Hume, Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion 1779 Analogy: The analogy using an artefact is a guess, Why not an animal or a vegetable Why the God of classical Theism? Perhaps an inferior deity, Why not many Gods? Evil and Suffering: Is the world perfect? Blemishes of evil and disorder, Is the world worthy of a wise deity? Other No God, No Design just chaos: Science leaves no space for a God, Epicurean Hypothesis, Evolution, Anthropic principle uses evolution but it doesn't understand it properly. Immanuel Kant says order is a human construct and reality is chaos. Conclusion Subjective: The success of the argument is dependant on the subject and how they interpret the evidence. John Wisdom's Parable of the Gardener (p13-14 PRFA). Therefore we cannot objectively prove the existence of God. Probability: Can the design argument make God more probable? design werses chaos. Even Hume admits that the evidence makes design more probable. Your opinion: What do you think? Does it work for you/your religion?

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