Essay #1: Read the sheet on the Golden Rule, do you feel this archetype can be the basis of peace between the religions? Do you feel there is a chance of peaceful coexistence, or will there always be contention between them? Make a claim and back it up with what you learned in class, current events and historical precedent.

Essay #2: Read the following quotes and choose one. Support, extend, or challenge the claim based on your opinion backed by evidence. In short, how do you see religion as a force in world history and geopolitics?

A) "Religion is the opium of the people"- Karl Marx

B) "All religions are true, but none are literal"- Joseph Campbell

C) "So I say to you, ask and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you"- Jesus of Nazareth

D) "This is my simple religion. There is no need for temples; no need for complicated philosophy. Our own brain, our own heart is our temple; the philosophy is kindness"- Dalai Lama

E) "You cannot believe in God until you believe in yourself"- Swami Vivekananda

F) "Religion is what keeps the poor from murdering the rich"- Napoleon Bonaparte

G) "Even as the fingers of the two hands are equal, so are human beings equal to one another. No one has any right, nor any preference to claim over another. You are brothers"- Muhammad

H) "That which is despicable to you, do not do to your fellow man, this is the whole of religion, and the rest is commentary, so and learn it"- Rabbi Hillel