Socrates’ Task:
Examining your beliefs...

In this task, Socrates will guide you through the process of examining your life. The first thing to do is identify two beliefs that you hold which can be tested. They can be beliefs about anything!

I believe that…
Aliens definitely exist somewhere else in the universe.

I believe that…

I believe that…

Now, in order to figure out whether your beliefs are well supported, let’s have a look at the reasons for you holding these beliefs. Off you go…

My reasons for believing this are as follows…
I like the idea that we are not alone in the universe and surely there has to be some kind of intelligent life out there somewhere!

My reasons for believing this are as follows…

My reasons for believing this are as follows…

Can the reasons that you have given be argued against (a counter-argument)? If so, how?

An argument against my belief could be…
Just because I like the idea doesn’t mean it is true. Also, there is not enough evidence to support the belief that aliens definitely exist. They might exist but we don’t know for sure!

An argument against my belief could be…

An argument against my belief could be…

Finally, is the counter-argument strong enough for you to change your belief?

Yes. On reflection, I don’t have enough justification to back up the belief I have given.