STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN
How do you get to paradise?

	Job description
Pilgrim	Do you like the idea of travelling with friends to foreign lands? Have you got a spare bit of money to fund the trip? If so, the job of pilgrim is just for you! You will go to holy places like Lourdes in France, and see relics of holy people – even their mummified hands, and pieces of the cross Jesus was crucified on! By praying at these places and going on these journeys you will please God and get into heaven!
Crusader	Do you like adventure? Is physical activity – even violence – your sort of thing? If so, Crusader could be just the thing for you! You will go to the Holy Land with an army of comrades to fight the Muslims who have taken over Jerusalem. It's dangerous work, and you will need a fair bit of cash to fund the enterprise, but God will be pleased with you!
Flagellant	Not too keen on travelling? Not too scared of a bit of pain? Maybe Flagellant is just the job for you! All you have to do is walk around town whipping yourself for your sins. God will be so pleased that you are punishing yourself on earth that he will let you into heaven as soon as you die.
Franciscan Friar	Do you like the idea of devoting your entire life to God, but still want to be able to travel around and help ordinary people at the same time? Yes?! Then the Franciscans are for you! Your job is to move around from place to place spreading the word of Jesus and helping out in the community however you can. You will have to take a vow of poverty, though, so if you like material things then you may wish to think twice!
Cistercian lay brother	Not too bright, but not afraid of a bit of hard physical work? Then why not become a Cistercian lay brother?! All you have to do is go along to the Cistercian Monastery and work as a gardener, a builder or a plumber. This is a great job if you fancy a quiet life - you will not be allowed to leave the monastery once you have joined up.
Augustinian monk	Do you like the idea of living in a secluded monastery away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life? Are you not too keen though on being completely out of touch with the real world? Augustinian monk is just the job for you, then! You will spend most of the day at quiet prayer, but you will also be able to provide shelter for travellers and medical care in the local community!
Cistercian monk	Are you bright and ambitious? Do you like the idea of a quiet life? Cistercian monk is the right path for you! You will live your life in quiet devotion to God in a monastery deep in the countryside. You will have to leave all your family and friends behind, but the peace and tranquillity – in fact, you will not be allowed to speak at all because you will take a vow of silence!
Charity worker	Do you have bit of time and / or money to spare? Do you like the idea of helping others through the Church, without having to give up your ordinary way of life? Yes? Then why not do some "Good Works"? If you help the poor by washing their feet or giving them bread, God will be pleased! If you buy an "indulgence" from a "Pardoner", God will forgive you your sins! If you leave money to the Church when you die, you will get into heaven more quickly!

Task 1

Which one of these would be your preferred "Stairway to Heaven"? Why?

Which one of these "jobs" do you like the least? Why?

Task 2

Produce a questionnaire / decision-making tree designed to help people decide which "stairway" will be best for them. For example, one question might be "Do you like travel?". You may work in pairs for this activity if you wish. Draw up your findings as an A3 diagram, a mindmap, or even an interactive website if you wish!

Task 3

You could try the interactive simulation "Highway to Hell / Stairway to Heaven at www.activehistory.co.uk – this will tell you what "job" is best suited to you based on a questionnaire you will be given!!!