

Humanist ethics: Fill in the blanks activity

Many humanists believe we should try to be good because of the _____ our actions can have on other people, animals, and the rest of the natural world. Humanists recognise our many _____ needs and values. We all want to be happy. We want to be treated with warmth and respect and none of us wants to be treated unfairly or to be harmed. These shared needs can help us to think about how we should treat each other.

Humanists believe this is the one life we have and so we should promote _____ and reduce suffering. We should aim to make the world a _____ and better place to live for everyone in the here and now.

Rewards and punishments can sometimes influence what we do, but they are not the only reason to be good. Rules can be helpful to guide our behaviour, and laws can be good for society. But some rules need flexibility as following them blindly can sometimes lead to harm. Humanists believe we have a _____ to think for ourselves. Many believe we have natural tools that can help us to do this. We can feel _____ for other people and imagine how they might feel. We can use _____ to think carefully and consider the likely _____ of our actions on other people, animals, and the planet. Humanists believe we should treat other people the way we would like to be treated. This is sometimes called the _____ Rule. A phrase often used by humanists is 'Think for yourself, act for everyone'.

Many humanists accept that we are not always good. However, we are all capable of being good and many of us are good most of the time. Many humanists believe there are other _____ to being good. Making other people happy can also make us happy. And being good can sometimes persuade other people to be good too.

responsibility	fairer	happiness	reason	empathy
benefits	Golden	consequences	shared	impact

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Many humanists believe we should try to be good because of the **impact** our actions can have on other people, animals, and the rest of the natural world. Humanists recognise our many **shared** needs and values. We all want to be happy. We want to be treated with warmth and respect and none of us wants to be treated unfairly or to be harmed. These shared needs can help us to think about how we should treat each other.

Humanists believe this is the one life we have and so we should promote **happiness** and reduce suffering. We should aim to make the world a **fairer** and better place to live for everyone in the here and now.

Rewards and punishments can sometimes influence what we do, but they are not the only reason to be good. Rules can be helpful to guide our behaviour, and laws can be good for society. But some rules need flexibility as following them blindly can sometimes lead to harm. Humanists believe we have a **responsibility** to think for ourselves. Many believe we have natural tools that can help us to do this. We can feel **empathy** for other people and imagine how they might feel. We can use **reason** to think carefully and consider the likely **consequences** of our actions on other people, animals, and the planet. Humanists believe we should treat other people the way we would like to be treated. This is sometimes called the **Golden** Rule. A phrase often used by humanists is 'Think for yourself, act for everyone'.

Many humanists accept that we are not always good. However, we are all capable of being good and many of us are good most of the time. Many humanists believe there are other **benefits** to being good. Making other people happy can also make us happy. And being good can sometimes persuade other people to be good too.

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