

## Society: Fill in the blanks activity

Humanists believe that human beings alone are \_\_\_\_\_ for making the world a better place. Help won't come from outside humanity. Believing this is the one life we have, they believe we need to work to support happiness and \_\_\_\_\_ in the here and now.

We live in a \_\_\_\_\_ society with people from different backgrounds, cultures, and traditions with a range of worldviews. However, we are all human beings with many \_\_\_\_\_ needs, interests, and feelings. Many humanists believe that recognising that we are all human beings first and focussing on what we share, rather than on our differences, can help us to see that we should treat people \_\_\_\_\_.

Some humanists believe that a thought experiment devised by the philosopher John Rawls can help us think about what would be a fair society. Rawls asked us to imagine we were designing a society but we did not know what position we would hold in it once it had been created. He described this as being behind a veil of \_\_\_\_\_.

Many humanists believe we should have individual \_\_\_\_\_ and that all people should be treated equally regardless of their gender, skin colour, sexuality, religion or belief, or disabilities. Many humanists support \_\_\_\_\_. These are international laws that can support people to live freely and equally.

\_\_\_\_\_ is a political position that says we should separate the powers of church and state, allow freedom of religion and belief, and treat people from different religious and non-religious worldviews equally. Three common arguments are made for secularism: the argument for freedom, the argument for fairness, and the argument for \_\_\_\_\_. You don't have to be a humanist to be a secularist. Many religious people are secularists too.

Humanist organisations often focus on specific goals relating to freedom of religion and belief and where they believe the non-religious are treated unfairly. However, individual humanists can be found actively \_\_\_\_\_ for many other causes. Many humanists believe we have made significant \_\_\_\_\_ towards a fairer and better world but there is still much work to be done.

secularism	responsible	progress	equally	plural	shared
ignorance	freedoms	human rights	justice	peace	campaigning

## Society: Fill in the blanks activity (answers)

Humanists believe that human beings alone are **responsible** for making the world a better place. Help won't come from outside humanity. Believing this is the one life we have, they believe we need to work to support happiness and **justice** in the here and now.

We live in a **plural** society with people from different backgrounds, cultures, and traditions with a range of worldviews. However, we are all human beings with many **shared** needs, interests, and feelings. Many humanists believe that recognising that we are all human beings first and focussing on what we share, rather than on our differences, can help us to see that we should treat people **equally**.

Some humanists believe that a thought experiment devised by the philosopher John Rawls can help us think about what would be a fair society. Rawls asked us to imagine we were designing a society but we did not know what position we would hold in it once it had been created. He described this as being behind a veil of **ignorance**.

Many humanists believe we should have individual **freedoms** and that all people should be treated equally regardless of their gender, skin colour, sexuality, religion or belief, or disabilities. Many humanists support **human rights**. These are international laws that can support people to live freely and equally.

**Secularism** is a political position that says we should separate the powers of church and state, allow freedom of religion and belief, and treat people from different religious and non-religious worldviews equally. Three common arguments are made for secularism: the argument for freedom, the argument for fairness, and the argument for **peace**. You don't have to be a humanist to be a secularist. Many religious people are secularists too.

Humanist organisations often focus on specific goals relating to freedom of religion and belief and where they believe the non-religious are treated unfairly. However, individual humanists can be found actively **campaigning** for many other causes. Many humanists believe we have made significant **progress** towards a fairer and better world but there is still much work to be done.

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