

Understanding the world: Fill in the blanks activity

Our beliefs can be true or false. There are many different reasons we might believe something but all of these can be mistaken. Many humanists therefore believe everything should be open to _____. This is called taking a _____ approach. Humanists believe we have a _____ to ask questions, think carefully about what other people tell us, and use _____ to think critically about our own beliefs. That way, we give our beliefs the best chance of being true.

Humanists believe that _____ provides the best way of looking for evidence and testing our beliefs about the world. If a claim has been well tested by science, then humanists will typically see a good reason to believe. If there isn't any scientific _____, then humanists believe we should be cautious. Scientists sometimes make mistakes. Science does not give us certainty. However, science keeps testing its results to check if they are true and it can correct its mistakes. For many humanists, _____ can be one of the great pleasures in life and science can be a source of _____ and joy.

Science has helped us to make _____ in our understanding. Many humanists believe that history has demonstrated that, if there are questions about the world that science has not yet answered, then we should not fall back on religious or supernatural explanations. We should be _____ and comfortable with _____. Philosophy, literature, and the humanities can also help us to answer questions that science can't.

Humanists believe the world is a _____ place. They don't believe in anything supernatural. They don't think there is any good or persuasive evidence. Nor do they think that the supernatural is necessary to explain how the world works. Humanists don't believe in a god, or they believe it is impossible to know whether a god exists or not. They don't think there is any good reason or evidence to believe. Someone who doesn't believe in a god is called an _____ and someone who believes we cannot know whether a god exists or not is called an _____.

atheist	question	natural	science	sceptical	curiosity	patient
evidence	responsibility	reason	agnostic	wonder	uncertainty	progress

Understanding the world: Fill in the blanks activity (answers)

Our beliefs can be true or false. There are many different reasons we might believe something but all of these can be mistaken. Many humanists therefore believe everything should be open to **question**. This is called taking a **sceptical** approach. Humanists believe we have a **responsibility** to ask questions, think carefully about what other people tell us, and use **reason** to think critically about our own beliefs. That way, we give our beliefs the best chance of being true.

Humanists believe that **science** provides the best way of looking for evidence and testing our beliefs about the world. If a claim has been well tested by science, then humanists will typically see good reason to believe. If there isn't any scientific evidence, then humanists believe we should be cautious. Scientists sometimes make mistakes. Science does not give us **certainty**. However, science keeps testing its results to check if they are true and it can correct its mistakes. For many humanists, **curiosity** can be one of the great pleasures in life and science can be a source of **wonder** and joy.

Science has helped us to make **progress** in our understanding. Many humanists believe that history has demonstrated that, if there are questions about the world that science has not yet answered, then we should not fall back on religious or supernatural explanations. We should be **patient** and comfortable with **uncertainty**. Philosophy, literature, and the humanities can also help us to answer questions that science can't.

Humanists believe the world is a **natural** place. They don't believe in anything supernatural. They don't think there is any good or persuasive evidence. Nor do they think that the supernatural is necessary to explain how the world works. Humanists don't believe in a god, or they believe it is impossible to know whether a god exists or not. They don't think there is any good reason or evidence to believe. Someone who doesn't believe in a god is called an **atheist** and someone who believes we cannot know whether a god exists or not is called an **agnostic**.

atheist	question	natural	science	sceptical	curiosity	patience
evidence	responsibility	reason	agnostic	wonder	uncertainty	progress