

Exploring Moral Questions: A Year 5 Philosophy Challenge

Learning objective: To understand, evaluate, and debate complex moral dilemmas using reasoning, empathy, and ethical frameworks.

Read each flashcard carefully. Consider the moral dilemma presented or the definition provided. Discuss your reasoning with a partner, justifying your viewpoint using evidence or ethical principles.

Morality

The principles concerning the distinction between right and wrong or good and bad behaviour.

Moral Dilemma

A situation in which a person is faced with two or more conflicting choices, where choosing one might mean compromising a moral value.

Consequence

The result or effect of an action, which must be considered when making a moral decision.

Empathy

The ability to understand and share the feelings of another person, which helps us make kinder choices.

Integrity

The quality of being honest and having strong moral principles, even when no one is watching.

Justice

The concept of fairness, ensuring that people receive what they deserve and that rules are applied equally.

Altruism

The practice of selfless concern for the well-being of others, often at a personal cost.

If you found a wallet on the ground with £50 inside and no identification, what would you do?

This is a moral dilemma testing integrity versus personal gain. Consider the owner's feelings and the impact of your choice.

Explain why it is sometimes difficult to be honest when you know the truth might upset a friend.

This explores the conflict between honesty (integrity) and kindness (benevolence).

Compare and contrast 'doing what is legal' with 'doing what is moral'. Can an action be legal but still be wrong?

Students should identify that laws are rules for society, but morality is a personal or collective sense of right and wrong that may go beyond the law.

Justify your answer: Is it ever acceptable to tell a lie?

Requires critical thinking about circumstances, such as white lies vs. harmful lies, and the impact on trust.

What might happen if everyone in the world decided to stop following moral rules?

An exercise in imagining the societal consequences of a lack of shared ethics.