

Max's Moral Maze: A Year 5 Ethics Challenge

Learning objective: To explore moral questions, understand the concept of conscience, and evaluate different perspectives on ethical dilemmas.

Max the monkey is obsessed with solving puzzles, but some puzzles don't have a single 'correct' answer! Read each question carefully and decide what the most ethical choice might be. Remember, moral questions are about how we treat others and why we make certain decisions.

Answer Key: 1. A; 2. True; 3. Integrity; 4. B; 5. False; 6. C; 7. True; 8. A; 9. Conscience; 10. D. Note: For open-ended questions in the extension, encourage pupils to justify their reasoning using the word bank terms.

Word bank: Conscience · Ethics · Integrity · Dilemma · Perspective · Responsibility · Consequences · Values

1. 1. What is the definition of a 'moral dilemma'? A) A difficult puzzle with only one solution. B) A situation where you must choose between two or more conflicting values. * C) A maths problem involving money. D) A question about the weather. (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: Your 'conscience' is the inner voice that helps you distinguish between right and wrong. (1 mark)

3. 3. If you find a wallet with £20 inside on the playground, what trait are you showing if you return it to the office immediately? (1 word) (1 mark)

4. 4. Which of these is an example of considering the 'consequences' of an action? A) Doing something just because your friend did. B) Thinking about how your actions might hurt someone else's feelings before you act. * C) Ignoring the rules. D) Closing your eyes and hoping for the best. (1 mark)

5. 5. True or False: Every moral question has a law or rule written in a book that tells you exactly what to do. (1 mark)

6. 6. If a friend asks you to copy their homework, which value would you be upholding by saying no? A) Popularity B) Convenience C) Integrity * D) Speed (1 mark)

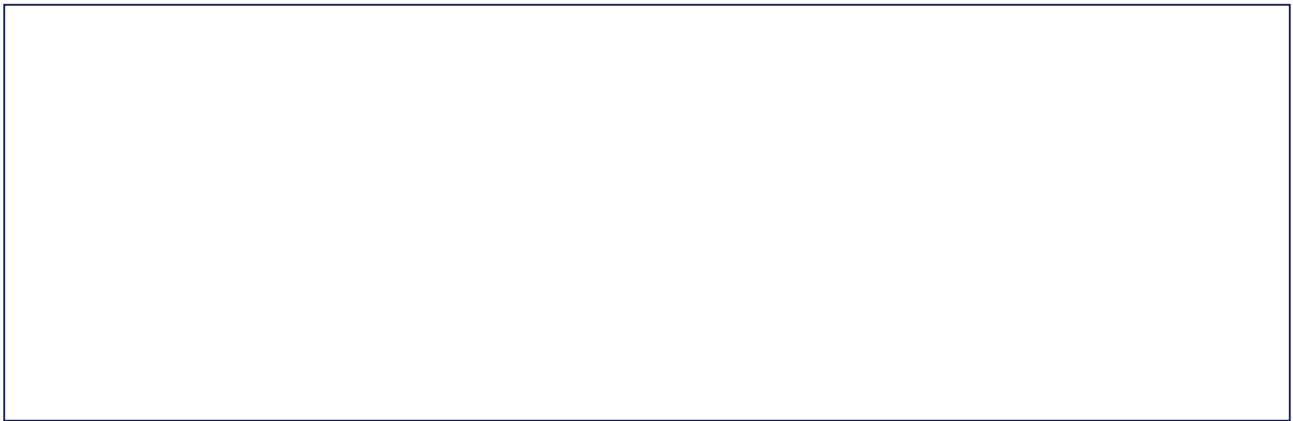
7. 7. True or False: Having a different perspective means you see a situation from another person's point of view. (1 mark)

8. 8. If you have £10 and choose to donate £2 to charity instead of buying a treat, you are prioritising: A) Altruism * B) Greed C) Laziness D) Competition (1 mark)

9. 9. What do we call the set of beliefs or 'rules for living' that a person or community follows? (1 word) (1 mark)

10. 10. Why is it important to consider the 'long-term' effects of a decision? A) It makes the decision faster. B) So you can save money. C) To ensure you get the most reward. D) To ensure the decision is fair for everyone involved in the future. * (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a 'Moral Compass' for Max the monkey. In each of the four directions (North, South, East, West), draw a symbol or picture representing a core value, such as Honesty, Kindness, Courage, or Fairness.



Extension challenge: 1. Explain why 'fairness' does not always mean 'treating everyone exactly the same'. Provide an example. 2. Compare and contrast the concept of 'rules' (laws) and 'morals' (personal ethics). 3. Justify your answer: Is it ever right to tell a lie? Explain your reasoning. 4. What might happen if a society had no shared moral values? 5. Design a scenario where two good values, such as 'honesty' and 'kindness', conflict with each other. How would you resolve it? 6. Reflect on a time you faced a difficult choice. How did you decide what was the right thing to do?