

Week 1

What is absolute and relative morality?

Absolute morality

is the belief that if an action is right or wrong, it is ALWAYS right or wrong no matter what the circumstances and no matter who is involved.



Absolute morality is also known as natural law.

Relative morality

is the belief that an action can sometimes be wrong but in other circumstances it may be right. Relative moralists would take individual circumstances into account in every case, e.g. When, where and why it was happening and who it was happening to.



Relative morality is also known as situation ethics.

Week 2

Is there any law that should be broken?

Law

Rules that tell us what's right and wrong, and what happens if we break the rules. It helps keep things fair and organised in society.

We need the law to.....

- Maintain safe and protect people.
- Maintain a peaceful society.
- Respect authority.
- So that we know what is the right thing to do.
- Everyone is treated equally.

The issue is are there some laws which should be broken?



Rosa Parks broke the law when she refused to give her seat up to white passenger



Suffragettes broke the law to get women the vote.

Climate change activists broke the law to try to bring about change.



Is it right to break the law to bring about change?

Week 3

Christian views on morality

Some Christians such as Catholics believe that some things are always wrong or right (absolute).

Some Christians such as Church of England believe we should use a mix of absolute and relative ethics.



The Ten Commandments imply there are rules which must always be followed.

Jesus taught that love and mercy should influence a person's actions.



Jesus used a mix of absolute and relative ethics.

Some Christians such as Quakers look at individual situations (relative).

Jesus taught the Golden Rule- Treat others how you would want to be treated.

"Do to others what you would have them do to you."
(Matthew 7:12)

Year 8: Topic Relative Ethics.

Week 4

Muslim views on morality.

Muslims apply both an absolute and relative morality approach to situations.

Injustice- when things are unfair or wrong,

'Stand out firmly for justice'
(Quran 4:135)

Muslims consider it a duty to stand up against injustice.



Islam teaches that if a person is forced into a **difficult situation**, like **lying to protect someone from harm**, this may be justified in order to prevent greater harm.

Oppression- unjust or cruel treatment which limits someone's freedom

"Indeed, Allah commands justice, good conduct, and giving to relatives and forbids immorality, bad conduct, and oppression. He admonishes you that perhaps you will be reminded." (Qur'an 16:90)

Muslims are encouraged to speak out and act against oppression whenever they see it.

Week 5

Utilitarianism

The **best action is the one that maximizes overall happiness or well-being** for the greatest number of people. It focuses on the **consequences of actions**, rather than the actions themselves, to determine whether they are right or wrong.



Greatest happiness- produce the most happiness and least suffering.

Equality- no one person's life is more important than another.

Consequence- the most positive for the majority even if it involves the harm of few.



Key words:

Morality- knowing what is right and wrong. It helps us make good choices, like being kind, fair, honest, and respectful to others. It guides how we treat people and live our lives.

Absolute morality- There is a right course of action to take in a moral dilemma, which is true in all situations regardless of culture, religious tradition, time or age.

Relative morality- You believe that different courses of action might be needed in different situations.

Law- Rules that tell us what's right and wrong, and what happens if we break the rules. It helps keep things fair and organised in society.

Golden Rule- Treat others how you would want to be treated.

Injustice- When something is unfair, wrong or unequal
Oppression- unjust or cruel treatment which limits someone's freedom.

Utilitarianism- The best action is the one that maximizes overall happiness or well-being for the greatest number of people. It focuses on the consequences of actions, rather than the actions themselves, to determine whether they are right or wrong

Week 1

Questions	Answers
What is Absolute morality?	belief that if an action is right or wrong, it is ALWAYS right or wrong no matter what the circumstances and no matter who is involved.
What is Relative morality?	belief that an action can sometimes be wrong but in other circumstances it may be right. Relative moralists would take individual circumstances into account in every case, e.g. When, where and why it was happening and who it was happening to.

Week 2

Questions	Answers
What do we mean by law?	Rules that tell us what's right and wrong, and what happens if we break the rules. It helps keep things fair and organised in society
Why do we need laws?	<p>We need the law to.....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain safe and protect people. • Maintain a peaceful society. • Respect authority. • So that we know what is the right thing to do. • Everyone is treated equally.
Give some examples of when law was broken for good.	Rosa parks broke the law when she refused to give her seat up to white passenger Suffragettes broke the law to get women the vote.

Week 3

Questions	Answers
Which Christian denomination follow an absolute morality approach?	Catholic
Which Christian denomination follow a relative morality approach?	Quakers
Which Christian denomination follow a mix or relative and absolute morality approach?	Church of England.
Which Christian teaching supports an absolute morality approach?	The Ten Commandments imply there are rules which must always be followed.
Which Christian teaching supports a relative morality approach?	Jesus taught that love and mercy should influence a person's actions. Jesus taught the Golden Rule- Treat others how you would want to be treated.

Year 8:Topic Relative Ethics

Week 4

Questions	Answers
Do Muslims take a relative or absolute morality approach?	Muslims apply both an absolute and relative morality approach to situations.
What does injustice mean? What are the Islamic views on injustice?	Injustice- when things are unfair or wrong, Muslims consider it a duty to stand up against injustice.
What is oppression? What do Muslims believe about oppression?	Oppression- unjust or cruel treatment which limits someone's freedom Muslims are encouraged to speak out and act against oppression whenever they see it.

Week 5

Questions	Answers
What is utilitarianism?	The best action is the one that maximizes overall happiness or well-being for the greatest number of people. It focuses on the consequences of actions, rather than the actions themselves, to determine whether they are right or wrong
What are the three rules of utilitarianism?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greatest happiness- produce the most happiness and least suffering. • Equality- no one persons life is more important than another • Consequence- the most positive for the majority even if it involves the harm of few

Key words:

Morality-knowing what is right and wrong. It helps us make good choices, like being kind, fair, honest, and respectful to others. It guides how we treat people and live our lives.

Absolute morality-There is a right course of action to take in a moral dilemma, which is true in all situations regardless of culture, religious tradition, time or age

Relative morality-You believe that different courses of action might be needed in different situations

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