

Moral Dilemmas

Main Curriculum References

Actual references covered will depend on the learner group and how the resource is used.

Reading the questions / dilemmas

Rs/E3.2 Use explicit and implicit knowledge of different types of word, of word order and of possible plausible meanings, to help decode unfamiliar words and predict meaning.

Listening and responding to the questions / dilemmas

SLlr/E3.5 listen to and respond appropriately to other points of view

SLlr/E3.6 respond to a range of questions about familiar topics

SLlr/L1.6 respond to questions on a range of topics

SLlr/L2.3 respond to detailed or extended questions on a range of topics

SLlr/L2.4 respond to criticism and criticise constructively

Discussing the dilemmas

SLd/E3.1 follow and understand the main points of discussions on different topics

SLd/E3.2 make contributions to discussions that are relevant to the subject

SLd/L1.1 follow and contribute to discussions on a range of straightforward topics

SLd/L2.1 make relevant contributions and help to move discussions forward

SLd/L2.4 support opinions and arguments with evidence

Writing down the answers (if checked later by tutor for grammar and spelling)

Ws/E3.1 L1.1 write in complete sentences

Ws/E3.2 L1.2 L2.2 use correct basic grammar, e.g. appropriate verb tense, subject-verb agreement

Ws/E3.3 L1.3 L2.4 use punctuation correctly, e.g. capital letters, full stops, question marks

Ws/L2.3 use pronouns so that their meaning is clear

Ww/E3.1 L1.1 L2.2 spell words correctly

Contributor Notes

The lesson is an Entry 3 - Level 2 Literacy one, though it could also be useful in a higher ESOL context. It involves answering moral questions of the type found in the game 'Scruples', so you may want to filter the dilemmas first for suitability. I teach 16-18 year-olds, and so have chosen dilemmas suitable to them.

- 1) Write a moral dilemma on the board, e.g. 'Your best friend asks to borrow twenty pounds to buy a present for his girlfriend, but you know he gambles regularly. Would you give him the money?' Elicit some responses.
 - 2) Explain that learners are going to play a game based on answering questions of a similar nature. Hand out a pack of dilemma cards (page 3) per four students, and a piece of paper for each student.
 - 3) One student then takes a card and reads out the dilemma, but does NOT say what he would do. Instead, he or she writes down his answer in a sentence or two, giving a full reason. The other students, using their knowledge of this student (and intuition), must write down on their pieces of paper what they think he/she would do and why.
 - 4) Once everyone has written an answer, the student whose turn it is reveals what he would do. The others show their answers (and read them out) and the one who had the closest guess wins the round, scoring a point. You may need to step in and act as judge if students cannot decide who is closest.
 - 5) Repeat for a few rounds, or until cards run out.
- Winner is the student with most points. Feedback on who was easiest / hardest to work out answers for. If you didn't have the chance to correct answers during the activity, then collect papers in and do a brief round-up of any spelling / grammar mistakes.

One of the best features of this game is that, unlike many activities for mixed ability classes, a student with a relatively low level of literacy has a good chance of winning if their intuition / emotional intelligence is good.

Saul Pope

Education and Youth Services, High Wycombe

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THANK YOU

<p>You give your boyfriend / girlfriend an expensive gift, but one month later you break up. Do you ask for it back?</p>	<p>Your friends come round to watch TV. After they've gone, you find £3 sitting on the sofa. Do you return it to whoever left it behind?</p>
<p>Your sister is engaged to a man you don't like. Worse than that, you think he is trouble. Do you try and persuade her not to marry him?</p>	<p>You check your bank account and instead of the expected £10, the cash machine tells you £100 is there. Do you withdraw the extra money?</p>
<p>You buy some jeans that cost £28, but when you go to pay the amount comes up on the till as £20. Do you tell the sales assistant?</p>	<p>Someone you don't like much invites you to an expensive restaurant that you really want to go to. Do you accept the invitation?</p>
<p>Your best friend asks to borrow £100 from you for a year. Do you charge him/her interest?</p>	<p>One of your best friends tells you something personal that you must keep secret. However, it's really interesting gossip. Do you tell anyone?</p>
<p>You know you've drunk more than the legal limit, but you think you're OK to drive. Do you take the risk?</p>	<p>The local newsagent gives you 50p more change than he should have. Do you tell him?</p>
<p>Your ex-boyfriend / girlfriend sends you an expensive present. You have a new boyfriend / girlfriend. Do you accept the present?</p>	<p>Your boyfriend / girlfriend is developing a good friendship with an attractive person of the opposite sex, but says they are 'just friends'. Do you ask him/her to stop meeting this person?</p>
<p>You discover a code that allows you to make free phone calls to anywhere in the world. Do you use it?</p>	<p>You accidentally come across your boyfriend / girlfriend's personal diary. Do you open it?</p>
<p>You are in a car park, and accidentally reverse your car into another one. Do you leave a note taking responsibility?</p>	<p>Your friend has a new hairstyle which looks ridiculous. Do you risk offending your friend by telling him/her this?</p>