

Knowledge Organiser: Humanism

The Happy Human Logo



Humanism is an approach to life which encourages ethical and fulfilling living on the basis of reason and humanity, and rejects superstition and religion. The most immediate impact of living as a Humanist is that we believe this life is all there is - so what we do and the choices we make really count.

— Stephen Fry —

AZ QUOTES

What is it all for?

Humanists believe this is the only life we have as there is no scientific PROOF for life after death.

They believe there is **not one meaning to life**. Humans decide their own meaning and purpose. Humans should try to live a full and **HAPPY** life and help others do the same.

How do you know what is true?

At the heart of humanism is the belief that **REASON, and FACTS** are very important. They therefore believe that **SCIENCE** should be used to know what is true and what is false.

They do not believe in God as Humanists are **atheist**, believing there is no proof that God exists. All truth is discovered by looking at the scientific evidence.

How do you tell right from wrong?

Humanists do not believe in God so do not believe that our knowledge of right and wrong comes from religious rules such as those found in the Bible.

They believe in the **GOLDEN RULE** which is to treat others as you yourself want to be treated. They think that you should always consider how your actions will affect other people and you should think about how you would feel in someone else's shoes or situation (EMPATHY).

Humanists believe that we should use **REASON** and **EMPATHY** when deciding on the what is right and wrong.

Key Words

Humanist: a follower of the humanism.

Reason: the power of the mind to think, understand and form opinions.

Atheist: Someone who doesn't believe in a God.

Empathy: to understand and share the feelings of others.