

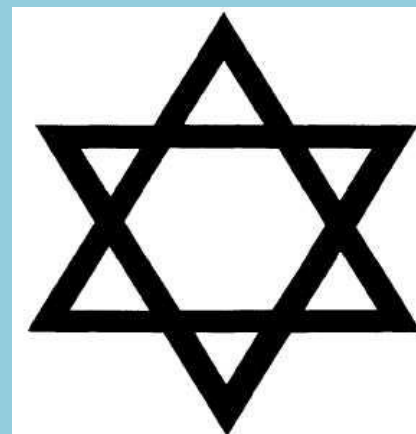
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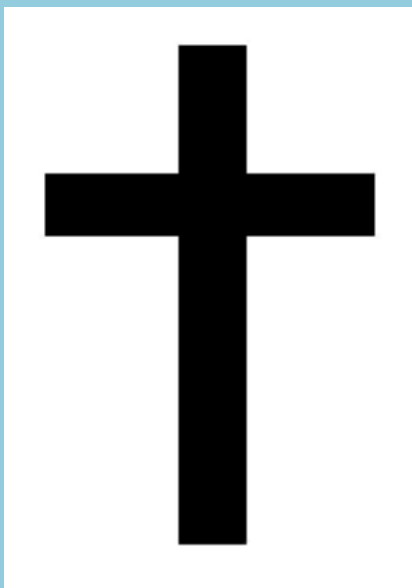
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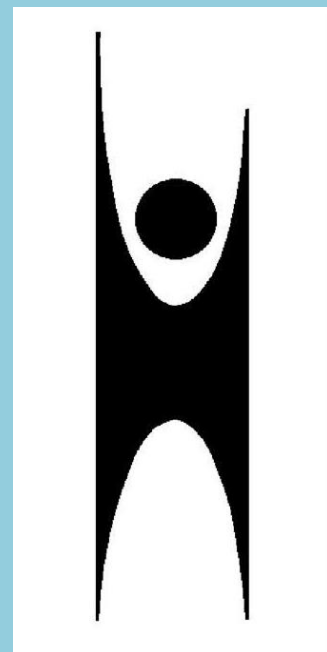
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Humanism

What is Humanism?

What do Humanists believe?

What do we think about Humanist
ethics?

Humanism

- No superstition or belief in God
- You are in charge of the world around you and your own life
- People decide what is right and moral not God



What does a humanist believe?

- Humanists reject the idea or belief in a supernatural being such as God. This means that humanists class themselves as agnostic or atheist.
- Humanists have no belief in an afterlife, and so they focus on seeking happiness in this life. They rely on science for the answers to questions such as creation, and base their moral and ethical decision-making on reason, empathy and compassion for others.

Humanists are concerned with **human welfare** and **happiness** and believe that this is **the one and only life and world** they have.

- As a result, they believe that people should make the most of their lives while on Earth. However, they also believe that they have a duty to support others to live fulfilling lives too – this includes people who are alive today as well as future generations.

Influential Humanist Ideas

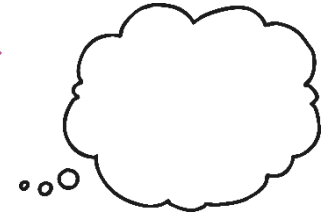
In the last lesson, we identified the key ideas of influential humanist thinkers.

influential



What were the key ideas of the influential thinkers?

Were there any common ideas?



George Eliot

Equal rights for men and women

No belief in religion or afterlife

Possible to be good without believing in a god

Help each other

Understand one another's point of view

Learn from mistakes

Charles Darwin

Scientist

Believes that living things developed over time

Agnostic (doesn't know if a god exists)

Humans decide what is good or bad

Marie Curie

Scientific education

Learn about and understand the world we live in using science

Test ideas to see if they are true

No belief in religion

Duty to help others

Do things for the good of all human beings, not just ourselves

Mary Wollstonecraft

Thought it wrong that women didn't have the same rights as men

Wanted women to be empowered

Live our lives without relying on a god

Humanist Ideas



Influential Thinkers

During the late 19th century and early 20th century, the term 'humanism' began to be used, and its system of key beliefs were developed. Earlier thinkers would not have referred to themselves as humanists but their ideas have contributed to modern humanist thinking.

Ancient World

Epicurus

Mencius

Confucius

Socrates

The Enlightenment Period

Thomas Paine

Aphra Behn

David Hume

Mary Wollstonecraft

The 19th Century

Marie Curie

Charles Darwin

George Eliot

John Stuart Mill

Humanist Ideas



Humanist Thinkers

These are people who would have called, or do call, themselves humanists.



The 20th Century

Bertrand Russell

Albert Einstein

Jawaharlal Nehru

Margaret Knight

Present Day

Richard Dawkins

Jim Al-Khalili

Alice Roberts

Sam Harris

Your task

Create a poster which explains the reason and meaning of life in Humanism.

- You could include a picture of the famous thinker behind the idea...
- Write bubbles of key information dotted around your page