

STUDENT'S PAGE

The M.O.R.A.L. Questionnaire

The Government welcomes you to the Ministry of Righteous Action in Life (M.O.R.A.L.). As you know, this department has been set up to look into the moral affairs of the nation. A select committee of the Righteous and the Repugnant has been chosen for their expertise in right and wrong acts.

As members of this committee, your brief is to establish the Moral Agenda for the Millennium by dividing up all actions into the Good, the Bad and the Neutral. Tick one box after each example: A if it is a good act, B if it is a bad act, or C if it is morally neutral.

- 1 A tree falls in a forest and crushes a cute deer. A B C
- 2 A killer whale toys with a seal it has half-killed – batting it into the air with its tail and catching it with its teeth. It takes twenty minutes for the seal to die. The whale leaves it to rot on the ocean floor. A B C
- 3 You deliberately step on someone's toe in a lift but pretend it was an accident. A B C
- 4 You accidentally poison your neighbour's dog. A B C
- 5 You beat your friend in an ant-killing competition (with a winning combination of bleach and boiling water). A B C
- 6 When you were at school, you persistently bullied a classmate. A B C
- 7 A billionaire builds herself a space rocket and leaves Earth for ever. For the rest of her life none of her actions ever affect another living thing. Could any of her future actions be good or bad (A) or will they all be morally neutral (B)? A B
- 8 You complete 15 passes in a 1–1 draw at a local hockey match. A B C
- 9 An orphanage is set up to help the victims of a war in an African state. A B C
- 10 A builder shouts 'Nice legs!' to a person walking past. A B C
- 11 You stop to help a blind man cross the road but fail to notice the oncoming, unstoppable juggernaut that injures you both. A B C
- 12 An evil scientist releases a new biochemical into the water supply of a large city intending to kill millions of people. However, this chemical, when diluted, turns out to be a harmless cure for cancer and countless lives are saved. A B C