

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Think You Can Solve These 3rd Grade Big Brain Dilemmas?

Critical evaluation of moral rules and character traits beyond simple right and wrong through complex social scenarios and philosophical synthesis.

1. A student finds an abandoned video game in the park. If they follow 'Rule-Based Thinking' (Deontology), what is their primary reason for returning it?

Answer: C) They believe that 'stealing is wrong' is a rule everyone must follow

Deontology focuses on universal rules and duties regardless of the outcome or reward.

2. True or False: A 'Virtue' is a positive character trait, like bravery or fairness, that a person practices until it becomes a habit.

Answer: A) True

Virtue ethics focuses on developing good character traits (virtues) through practice and habit.

3. If a leader chooses to build a library instead of a private pool because the library helps 500 people while the pool helps 5, they are using _____ logic.

Answer: B) Utilitarian

Utilitarianism seeks to provide the greatest good for the greatest number of people.

4. Imagine you see a classmate being teased. A person practicing 'Virtue Ethics' would help because:

Answer: B) They want to show they are a compassionate person

Virtue ethics is about acting in a way that reflects and builds a person's good character.

5. True or False: An ethical dilemma is a simple choice where one answer is obviously perfect and the other is obviously terrible.

Answer: B) False

Dilemmas are difficult because they often involve choosing between two values that both seem important.

6. Following the 'Golden Rule'—treating others as you wish to be treated—is most similar to the ethical theory of _____.

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Answer: C) Deontology

Deontology involves following moral rules and duties that apply to everyone equally.

7. A scientist has one dose of medicine. She can give it to one very sick person or split it to save three slightly sick people. Choosing the three people is based on:

Answer: A) Maximum outcome (Utilitarianism)

Utilitarianism focuses on the outcome that results in the most health or happiness for the most people.

8. When you must choose between being honest (telling the truth) and being loyal (protecting a friend), you are facing a moral ____.

Answer: B) Dilemma

A dilemma occurs when two or more moral principles conflict with each other.

9. True or False: A person who focuses on 'Duty' believes that you should always do what is right, even if the result makes people unhappy.

Answer: A) True

Deontologists (duty-based thinkers) believe the action itself matters more than the final consequence.

10. Which of these questions is a 'Virtue Ethicist' most likely to ask themselves before making a hard choice?

Answer: C) What would a kind and courageous person do?

Virtue ethics focuses on modeling behavior after ideal character traits like kindness or courage.