

The Art of Ethics Bowl

Lesson 2: Ethical Frameworks Survey

Overview: (50 minute lesson)

In this activity, students will take a survey that will help them understand which ethical frameworks they prioritize when making decisions. Then, students will compare their results and discuss them as a team.

Student Learning Goals:

We will...

- Define and explain moral frameworks and important vocabulary
- Summarize and differentiate between moral principles
- Evaluate the strengths and limitations of moral frameworks in a case study

How will this help in Ethics Bowl?

This will help your team...

- Identify central moral dimensions and ethical tensions
- Collaborate to create clear arguments
- Support positions with moral reasoning
- Develop awareness of different viewpoints

Materials

- [Ethical Frameworks Survey](#)
 - <https://forms.gle/U5KAZrGmU3DV2PBy9>
- [Ethical Frameworks Handout - Resource for Students](#)

Preparation before lesson:

- Make a plan to email or share the survey link
- Print the "Ethical Frameworks Handout" for all students

Lesson Facilitation:

1. Open up the "[Ethical Frameworks Survey](#)" link and share it with students. For quick sharing: Try emailing the link directly to the students.
2. Have students complete the survey on their respective devices. As the coach, you can take it as well. This should take around 10 minutes, and results will be emailed to each individual.
 - a. (**Note:** The survey can be taken on phones, but results are more easily viewed on a computer.)
3. Once students get their results, pass out the "[Ethical Frameworks Handout](#)" and engage them in a group discussion centered on their scores. Some questions to consider:
 - a. What Ethical Framework was your relative "high" when it came to making these decisions? Do you agree that this framework is the most aligned with your beliefs?
 - b. What Ethical Framework was your relative "low"? Did this surprise you? Why or why not?
 - c. As a team, are there any patterns among us within the results? Did multiple people score highest in certain frameworks? Are there categories where people scored lower?
 - d. Do we have "balanced" results across the frameworks? Or are our team responses mostly weighted in a few categories?
4. Look back through the questions as a class. The questions are randomized; however, each question is clearly aligned to test agreement with a specific ethical framework. As a team, work together to identify which questions match each framework.
 - a. Answer Key:

- i. Consequences (1-4)
- ii. Inner Thoughts (5-8)
- iii. Foundational Ideals (9-12)
- iv. Care & Relationships (13-16)
- v. Social Agreements (17-20)
- vi. Virtues (21-24)

5. At the end of this activity, ask students the following question:

- a. Is it more effective to use these “ethical frameworks” in isolation? Or, is it more effective to consider all of them when approaching an ethical dilemma?
- b. Guide students towards an approach that considers all frameworks as valuable tools for inquiry. Often, the frameworks we least consider are the ones that can reveal deeper moral dimensions to an issue.