

Religious Education Knowledge Organiser – Humanism: Why do Humanists say happiness is the goal of life?

Key Vocabulary

Word	Definition
Humanist	A follower of the principles of Humanism
Reason	The power of the mind to think, understand and form judgement
Atheist	Someone who doesn't believe in a God or Gods
Agnostic	Someone who believes you can never know for sure whether a God exists
Secularist	Someone who believes that religions should not be a part of any public offices

Key Learning

Humanism is a non-religious **worldview**. Humanists believe:

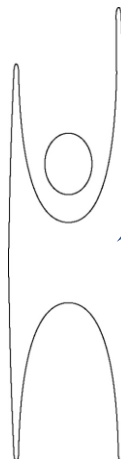
- Every human has only one life to live.
- That what is right and wrong should be based on reason and respect for others.
- Happiness is a key purpose of this one life and that the time to be happy is now.
- That happiness is found in treating others as you would like to be treated.
- Do not believe in God or an afterlife.
- Look to science instead of religion as the best way to discover and understand the world.
- In the importance of providing meaningful non-religious ceremonies like weddings and funerals.

What should I be able to do?

- Explain why some people choose to belong to a Humanist group, including a reference to people who may have inspired them to do so.
- Show how some Humanists express their secular beliefs in different ways, e.g. in slogans, bus advertising, and suggest why
- Explain some key beliefs and ideas promoted by local Humanists, or by the British Humanist Association, about God and about how to live.
- Understand why Humanists choose non-religious ceremonies and some of the features of these.

What we have already learnt

- I know there are many religions of the world
- I know that a religion is following a set of beliefs and rules.



Happy Human logo



Stephen Fry – a Humanist