

Objective

By the end of this lesson, the student will have a deeper understanding of basic philosophical concepts and will be able to articulate their thoughts on fundamental questions about existence, knowledge, and morality. The student will also engage in thoughtful discussions and reflections on these topics, enhancing their critical thinking skills.

Materials and Prep

- Paper and pen for note-taking and reflections
- Comfortable seating for discussion
- A quiet space to minimize distractions
- A list of philosophical questions to stimulate discussion

Before the lesson, prepare a list of philosophical questions that resonate with the student's experiences and interests. Consider their life journey and how these questions can relate to it.

Activities

• Philosophical Quotes Reflection:

Choose a few famous philosophical quotes and discuss their meanings. Ask the student what these quotes evoke in them personally and how they relate to their own life experiences.

• Thought Experiment:

Introduce a simple thought experiment, such as the "Trolley Problem." Discuss the ethical implications and ask the student how they would respond to the scenario. This encourages critical thinking about morality.

• Personal Philosophy Statement:

Encourage the student to write a brief personal philosophy statement. What do they believe about life, happiness, and morality? This activity allows for self-reflection and personal expression.

• Discussion Circle:

Engage in an open discussion about a chosen philosophical topic, such as "What is the meaning of life?" or "Do we have free will?" Encourage the student to share their thoughts and listen to different perspectives.

Talking Points

- "Philosophy is about asking big questions. What do you think is the most important question we can ask ourselves?"
- "Consider the quote: 'The unexamined life is not worth living.' How does this resonate with your life experiences?"
- "In the Trolley Problem, we have to make tough choices. What do you think is more important: saving more lives or following your moral beliefs?"
- "Your personal philosophy is unique to you. What life lessons have shaped your views on happiness?"
- "Discussing ideas with others can broaden our understanding. What have you learned from conversations with friends or family?"