

Euthanasia

The word euthanasia comes from the Greek and means *easy death*. Euthanasia is considered as the deliberate killing of a person for the benefit of that person. In most cases euthanasia is carried out because the person who dies asks for it, but there are cases called euthanasia where a person can't make such a request. A person who undergoes euthanasia is usually terminally ill, but there are other situations in which some people want euthanasia.

At the heart of the ethical and religious arguments over euthanasia are the different ideas that people have of the meaning and value of human existence, and of whether human beings have the right to decide issues of life and death for themselves. Some people think that euthanasia shouldn't be allowed even if it was morally right, because it would be abused and used as a cover for murder.

So why do people want euthanasia? Most people think unbearable pain is the main reason people seek euthanasia, but some surveys in the USA and the Netherlands showed that less than a third of requests for euthanasia were because of severe pain. And people have to know that it's not euthanasia to give a drug in order to reduce pain, even though the drug causes the patient to die sooner. It is not euthanasia, either, if a patient dies as a result of refusing extraordinary or burdensome medical treatment.

This is because the doctor's intention was to relieve the pain, not to kill the patient. Euthanasia can be carried out either by doing something, such as giving a lethal injection, or by not to do something necessary to keep the person alive (for example failing to keep their feeding tube going).

Terminally ill people can have their quality of life severely damaged by physical conditions such as incontinence, nausea and vomiting, breathlessness, paralysis, difficulty in swallowing.

Psychological factors that cause people to think of euthanasia include depression, fear of loss of control or of dignity, feeling a burden, or dislike of being dependent.

1. Comprehension exercises (2 points)

1.a. According to the text (0.5 points)

- a. Euthanasia is the deliberate killing of a person who is ill.
- b. Some people think of euthanasia as a cover for murder.**
- c. Euthanasia is a modern Greek word.

1.b. According to the text (0.5 points)

- a. People think euthanasia must exist because it is morally correct.
- b. Euthanasia is also when somebody doesn't want to receive special treatment and dies.
- c. People don't often agree about the meaning and value of human existence.**

1.c. In most cases there is the person's consent but not always.

(Answer 'True' or 'False' AND write the sentence supporting this idea) (0.5 points)

- TRUE - In most cases euthanasia is carried out because the person who dies asks for it, but there are cases called euthanasia where a person can't make such a request.

1.d. There are not only physical problems leading people to euthanasia.

(Answer 'True' or 'False' AND write the sentence supporting this idea) (0.5 points)

- TRUE - Psychological factors that cause people to think of euthanasia include depression, fear of loss of control or of dignity, feeling a burden, or dislike of being dependent.

2. Do the following grammar exercises according to the instructions given (2 points)

2.a. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first one. (0.5 points)

- It will be better for them to arrive soon than late.
- They'd **better arrive soon than late.**

2.b. Turn the two sentences into a clause containing 'so' (0.5 points)

- I was very thirsty and I had a cold Coke.
- **I was so thirsty that I had a cold Coke.**

2.c. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first one (0.5 points)

- Don't come home late.
- She asked **me not to come home late.**

2.d. Write the appropriate verb form of the verb in brackets (0.5 points)

- I look forward to **hearing** from you soon.

3. Identify ONLY FOUR words from their definitions (1 point)

- a heavy load that you carry. (**burden**).
- subjects or problems which people are thinking and talking about. (**issues**)
- (often of something bad) intentional or planned. (**deliberate**)
- moving something from your mouth into your stomach. (**swallowing**)
- developed, continued (2 words). (**carried out**)
- too unpleasant for you to continue to experience. (**unbearable**)

4. Write a summary of the text of about 30 – 45 words using your own words (2 points)

5. Write a composition of about 100 – 150 words on ONLY ONE of the following topics (3 points)

5.a. What is your opinion about euthanasia?

5.b. Study is necessary in our life.