

Would you sacrifice one person to save five?

[listening comprehension questions]

Author: Eleanor Nelson

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Level: **** [B1/B2]

Link: https://www.ted.com/talks/eleanor_nelsen_would_you_sacrifice_one_person_to_save_five

Check these words before listening:

Key vocabulary

1. Trolley
2. Track (railway tracks)
3. A switch to divert sth
4. Hypothetical dilemma
5. A moral code / morality
6. Virtual reality simulation
7. Philosophy / philosophical
8. Utilitarianism
9. Deliberately
10. Collateral damage
11. To sacrifice
12. Pros and cons
13. Scenarios
14. Conscious decision-making
15. Emotional aversion
16. To feel conflicted
17. Criticism / to criticise
18. Driver-less cars
19. Military drones
20. Autonomous systems

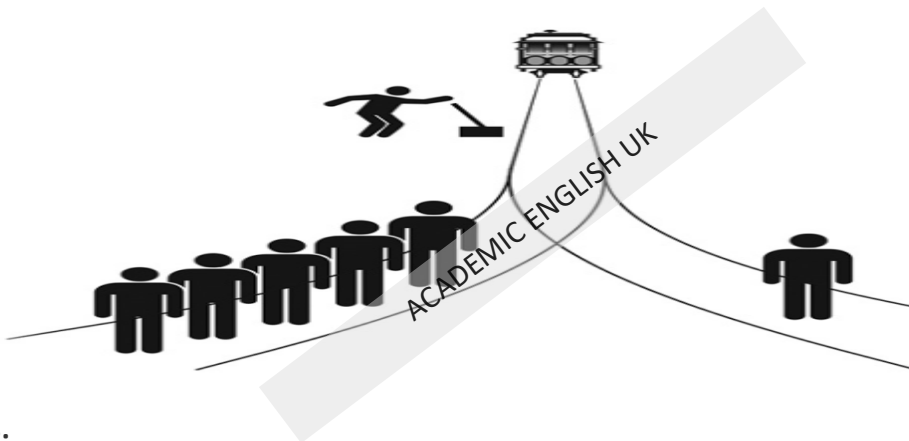
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Would you sacrifice one person to save five?

Dilemma 1:

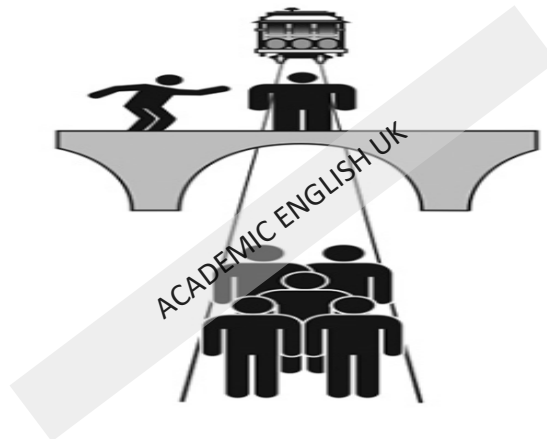
Imagine you're watching a runaway train (trolley) racing down the tracks straight towards five workers who can't escape. You happen to be standing next to a switch that will divert the trolley onto a second track. Here's the problem. That track has a worker on it too, but just one.

What do you do? Do you sacrifice one person to save five?



Dilemma 2:

You're standing on a bridge over the track as the runaway trolley approaches. Now there's no second track, but there is a very large man on the bridge next to you. If you push him over, his body will stop the trolley, saving the five workers, but he'll die. What do you do?



© The Trolley Problem is an ethical dilemma devised by Philippa Foot (1967).

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Answer these questions:

1. Who devised the trolley problem and when?
2. How [redacted] okay to flip the switch, [redacted] to save five?
3. How are these judgements consistent the philosophical principle of utilitarianism?
4. What [redacted] who said it was ok [redacted] the tracks? Why?
5. In logical weighting of the situation? Which of these are true?
 - a) Men are more [redacted] the bridge. **T / F**
 - b) People are more willing to sacrifice a man than a woman on the bridge. **T / F**
6. What [redacted] and bridge scenarios activate?
7. Why are the responses stronger with the bridge scenario?
8. What [redacted] 'trolleyology'? (2 things)
9. What are [redacted] this ethical analysis is important?
10. Why [redacted] with philosophers?

Critical thinking?? What do you think about this lecture? How did you do in the scenarios? Is it a good experiment to understand morality? What would be [redacted]? What are the problems associated with [redacted]? Is it something machines will be able to learn in the future? Anything else?

Would you sacrifice one person to save five? ANSWERS

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Answer these questions:

1. Who devised the trolley problem and when?
[Philosopher Phillipa Foot / 1967](#)
2. How many respondents said that it's okay to flip the switch, letting one worker die to save five?
[90%](#)

ALL ANSWERS ARE INCLUDED IN THE PAID VERSION...