

Grade 8 Life Orientation Worksheet

Limitation of Human Rights

Paragraph written on limitations of human rights

First read the following text.

Adapted from:

<http://www.hhrjournal.org/index.php/hhr/article/viewArticle/85/169>

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Limitations on human rights: Are they justifiable to reduce the burden of TB?

Background

Tuberculosis (TB) is among the most widespread communicable diseases and the world's second most important cause of death from an infectious agent. Between 1995 and 2006, a total of 31.8 million new cases of TB were reported to the World Health Organization (WHO), of which nearly half (49%) were smear-positive cases, and therefore potentially capable of transmitting the disease. Based on surveillance data, WHO estimated that in 2006 alone, there were 9.2 million new cases of TB, of which 4.1 million were smear-positive cases.

The burden of TB and MDR-TB and, in particular, the emergence of XDR-TB, which brings with it the spectrum of incurable disease, have re-opened the debate on the importance of treatment supervision for basic TB control and management of drug-resistant TB. One sensitive issue raised by this debate is the role of involuntary treatment and other compulsory measures. Such measures include compulsory medical examination, compulsory quarantine, and compulsory isolation or detention of infected persons. The lack of voluntary participation may be a substantial obstacle to the success of public health actions. When it comes to the various forms of TB, the public health goal of securing and enhancing the health and well-being of citizens is frustrated if TB patients do not consent to isolation when they are infectious and/or do not accept treatment. Both of these measures may be needed to prevent the spread of the disease to others.

Human rights law imposes on governments the duty to promote and protect human rights, such as the right to privacy, the right to be free from inhuman or degrading treatment, and the right to freedom of movement. Human rights can impose positive and negative obligations. In this instance, Governmental public health actions must protect and advance the health of the population as a whole, while at the same time protecting basic human rights and social values. Therefore, the protection afforded to an individual's human rights is subject to limitations, and international human rights law authorises restricting rights in order to protect public health, when necessary.

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Now write a paragraph giving your opinion on the above text. Is this a violation of human rights or do you agree that in this case the limitation clause can be applied? Give reasons for your opinion.

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Your teacher will assess your work using the following rubric.

<p>Outstanding 15 -20</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The paragraph is well written and contains a logical ordering of ideas. • The paragraph deals very well with the text. • Opinion very well expressed. • Excellent use of examples to substantiate opinion. • The paragraph is logical and coherent. • The paragraph ends with a short conclusion. • There are only one or two spelling and grammatical errors.
<p>Achieved 10 –14</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sentences organised into a good paragraph. • The paragraph deals well with the text. • Good use of examples to substantiate. • The paragraph makes sense. • There is an adequate conclusion. • There are no more than four spelling and grammatical errors.
<p>Partially achieved 7 –9</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paragraph skills are fair. • The paragraph deals with the text to an extent. • Fair use of examples to substantiate. • There are several spelling and grammatical errors.
<p>Not achieved 1 - 7</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many errors of expression. • Meaning not clear. • The paragraph does not deal adequately with the text. • No or incorrect examples. • There are many spelling and grammatical errors.

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Suggested Solutions

Question number	Possible marks	Solution
1	20	See rubric in Appendix of Assessment Tools.

Appendix of assessment tools

Holistic rubric to assess paragraph

Outstanding 15 -20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The paragraph is well written and contains a logical ordering of ideas. • The paragraph deals very well with the text. • Opinion very well expressed. • Excellent use of examples to substantiate opinion. • The paragraph is logical and coherent. • The paragraph ends with a short conclusion. • There are only one or two spelling and grammatical errors.
Achieved 10 –14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sentences organised into a good paragraph. • The paragraph deals well with the text. • Good use of examples to substantiate. • The paragraph makes sense. • There is an adequate conclusion. • There are no more than four spelling and grammatical errors.
Partially achieved 7 –9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paragraph skills are fair. • The paragraph deals with the text to an extent. • Fair use of examples to substantiate. • There are several spelling and grammatical errors.
Not achieved 1 - 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many errors of expression. • Meaning not clear. • The paragraph does not deal adequately with the text. • No or incorrect examples. • There are many spelling and grammatical errors.