



Teacher's guide

The Meaning of Life: Must Life Have a Purpose? – Advanced (C1-C2)

Canva Presentation Link: [🌐 The Meaning of Life](#)

Editable Presentation Link: [🌐 The Meaning of Life](#)

Editable Worksheet Link: [🌐 Student Worksheet: The Meaning of Life](#)

Warm up

Students choose the option that feels more meaningful for them and explain why.

Reading activity

Part 1. Ask students to read the text *The Search for Meaning*.

Part 2. Students discuss the questions based on the text.

Suggested answers:

1. "Happiness depends on how we feel; meaning depends on how we make sense of life."
2. "Purpose gives direction, but presence gives depth. When both combine... we experience a richer kind of fulfilment."
3. "It can grow, shift, and take new forms throughout our lives."
4. Open answer

Vocabulary & speaking

Part 1. Students match the terms to their meanings.

Answer key:

1. Societal expectation
2. Grand narrative
3. Human resilience
4. Philosophical outlook
5. Search for meaning
6. Existential question
7. Intrinsic value
8. Personal fulfilment

Part 2. Students complete the sentences with the correct terms. Then, they decide if each statement is true, false or sometimes true for them. Encourage students to give examples where possible.

Answer key:

1. existential question
2. personal fulfilment
3. societal expectation
4. intrinsic value
5. philosophical outlook
6. human resilience
7. grand narrative
8. search for meaning

Part 3. Students look at the quote from a close friend and then discuss the questions.

Part 4. Students choose one idea that resonates with them most and expand it in detail.

Part 5. Students rank aspects by meaningfulness and discuss the questions.

Reflection

Students discuss the questions.

Wrap-up task (optional homework)

Students write 180–220 words or record a 2-minute audio answering:

“What gives my life meaning right now?”

Encourage students to:

- Use at least 4 target vocabulary items.
- Mention one change they would like to make to live with greater purpose or presence.