# **Disposition: Being Modest and Listening to others**

## **Lesson:** One

### Question/LO: Why should we listen to others? What is worth listening to?

| **Dimension of learning** | **Activities** | **Resources** |
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| Learning from experience | Play a listening memory game such as, “I went shopping and bought a …” . Following the starting item beginning with letter A, each subsequent person has to recite the list and then add an item beginning with the next letter of the alphabet. Eg apple, bhaji, coconut etc  The discuss the skills pupils had to use whilst playing the game: listening; remembering; recalling in sequence; being quiet. Would the game have worked if people didn’t listen to each other? In school groups, pupils discuss the benefits of listening to other people, not only in the context of the game, but in other life situations eg. learning from others, being amused, being consoled, being encouraged, being encouraged, being motivated, being warned of dangers. Ask pupils to create a diagram showing the positive outcomes of listening.  Develop this to considering which words pupils like to hear others saying, or have overheard others saying. The teacher can model answers from their own experience eg listening to anecdotes from family members or friends; words of encouragement: “You can do it! I believe in you!; words from powerful speakers; podcasts; child in the family saying “I love you”. Ask pupils to speak in pairs about words that they like/would like to hear said to them. Create a wall of speech bubbles of these moving/inspiring/humorous words. | n/a |
| Learning about religious traditions and non-religious world-views  Humanism additions | In the New Testament part of the Bible are many accounts of Jesus talking to groups of people and, sometimes even, crowds. I wonder why crowds of people would go and listen to what Jesus had to say? Ask if pupils have any ideas. They may suggest answers like ‘he told stories’. Ask pupils if they can remember any stories that Jesus told. Add that, in addition to telling stories to people, the Gospel writers record that Jesus also told people about God and about love.  Here is one of the stories Jesus told, when some of the people who were listening to him, were grumbling about him: “The story of the lost sheep” Luke 15 1-7  As pupils listen to the story, ask them to consider why people may have wanted to listen to stories like this. Why might someone who was not living a good life have liked this story? What did it say to them about their value and worth?  Print off a picture depicting the story. Allocate one of four tasks to groups, which requires them to listen to each other and write their thoughts around the picture:  1. Some people who thought they were good people were grumbling about Jesus. How might they have thought about this story?  2. How would the people who thought they were not good have thought about the story?  3. What might Christians today think about this story?  4. What might people who are not religious think about this story?  Groups report back.  Question: Why do Humanists think it is important to listen to others?  Read the story of the Emperor’s new clothes.  Explain that Humanists admire the young boy in the story as he thought for himself, asked questions, looked at the evidence presented and was brave to speak out. They believe it is important to look and listen and to think for ourselves. We need to weigh evaluate the evidence and make up our minds as to whether we agree or not with a situation or action.  Explain that sometimes when we listen to others we may decide to change our mind because of what has been said to us, other times this makes us even more determined to believe and think as we have done so before.  Think about how you would design an experiment to test or evaluate whether the following was right or not:  • Plants need water to grow  • Sugary drinks are bad for your teeth  • Mice are scared of cats | A good version of this story “The Lost Sheep” for pupils is in “The Lion Storyteller Bible” by Bob Hartman.  Alternately, use a set of images and story planner from Free Bible Images. There is a photo version of the story that has realistic pictures.  Or use Bible Gateway https://www.biblegateway.com/  Select Luke 15 1-7 International Children’s Bible.  NB Many versions use the word ‘sinners’. Bob Hartman’s version explains this as ‘people who weren’t so good – cheats and liars, robbers and thieves’.  https://understandinghumanism.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/The-Emperors-New-Clothes.pdf |
| Learning from faith and non-religious world-views | n/a | n/a |
| Learning to discern | n/a | n/a |