

Steps for Ethical Reasoning Problems (Choose 2 for the Year)



FORMATTING FOR STEPS FOR ETHICAL REASONING PROBLEMS

Format: Ethics Reasoning Exploration Journals are to be TYPED not hand written. They should be DOUBLE SPACED. **They should be no SHORTER than 1.5 pages** – but may be longer than that. Steps for Ethical Reasoning Journals should have proper GRAMMAR and SPELLING.

The student will **copy the scenario** and paste it into their document after adding the header. The problem ONLY may be **SINGLE SPACED** and **BOLD**.

‘Steps for Ethical Reasoning Journal’ should be labeled on the next line.

Afterwards, the rest of the document should be double-spaced. Students should **number** each ethical reasoning step for the dilemma and discuss the scenario per each step.

Steps for Ethical Reasoning

1. Gather the facts
2. Define the ethical issues
3. Identify the affected parties (stakeholders)
4. Identify the consequences
5. Identify the obligations (principles, rights, justice)
6. Consider your character and integrity
7. Think creatively about potential actions
8. Check your gut
9. Decide on the proper ethical action and be prepared to deal with opposing arguments

Scenarios

1. Your co-worker asks you to cover for him so he can sneak out of work early to go to his son’s softball game. Do you agree? After breaking this down with the Steps for Ethical reasoning, also answer: If he went anyway, would you keep silent?
2. One of the newest salespeople in your store is a real goof-off, never showing up for work on time, distracting other people with his antics and so on. You complain about him to your boss, who tells you the kid is the son of the store manager. Your boss instructs you not only to leave the new guy alone but also to make his sales numbers look good by throwing him some of your customers. What do you do?
3. You are scheduled to be at your unpaid internship at 1:00 PM and scheduled to leave around 4:30PM. Afterwards, you need to be at your paying job by 5:00pm and will work until 9pm. You will not get home until around 10pm. You know you have a big assignment due tomorrow that you’ve known about for weeks. You are considering calling out of your internship.
4. You are a college student who is working in an elementary school for your last semester completing your practicum. Your college instructor has said that you are not to be left with the students without the supervising teacher being in the room. The supervising teacher has left you in charge while he attends a meeting.

5. You are a nursing intern at a medical facility. You are directed to clean up the meal from the patients room and straighten the room, throw away trash, and restock the bathroom. When you enter the patients room and announce your intentions, they mistake you for a nurse and have begged you for water. They are very upset and crying. You see water and a cup right there, but their wristband indicates a choking notice. What do you do?
6. You are an intern at an elementary school. You observe your mentoring teacher telling his students about the test they are about to take. He enforces the cheating policy and says that any student caught cheating; including looking towards others' papers, will receive a zero. You are sitting near a group of students and observe them covertly looking at each other's papers. The teacher does not see it, but another student nearby who is not involved sees you looking at the group of cheaters. What do you do?
7. As a high school student, you recently accepted a part-time job at a clothing retail store that is part of a large, national chain. After working at the store for a couple of months, you begin to develop a good working relationship with Jeff, the store manager, who is impressed with your work ethic and positive attitude. On one occasion, Jeff confides in you that his wife is very ill and that if it weren't for the good health benefits that come with his position as store manager, he doesn't know how he would pay for her medical bills.

As Jeff becomes more comfortable around you, he begins telling jokes and making comments that are racially insensitive. These jokes and comments have made you feel uncomfortable, but you haven't said anything to Jeff for fear that it will damage your relationship and possibly your chances for a promotion or pay raise.

One day, you are notified with a confidential letter that Maria, the company's regional manager, will be coming to the store the next day to meet individually with all employees. The purpose of her meetings, you are told, is to address complaints that have been made by another employee regarding inappropriate jokes that Jeff has made while at work. The letter goes on to state that the company does not tolerate any forms of racial discrimination and that the consequence for violating this policy is immediate termination. What should you do?

8. You work at a company who has a very strict attendance policy. More than two call outs will get you fired. If you are sick, you are required to have a doctor's note. You have called out twice before. Once, you needed to take your brother to a soccer game because your mom had to work. The second time, you got into a fight with your best friend and you were too upset or angry to go in. You are on your way to work today when you get a flat tire. What do you do?
9. You are working with David today and your store manager has put you in charge of supervising the staff while they step into the back to take care of paperwork. David, an employee who has worked there long before you came, is known around the store as someone who is a bit slow to complete tasks and sometimes doesn't do things completely or in the right way. You have observed David getting very emotional (tearing up, getting loud, sometimes behaving obnoxiously) whenever he is dished out even the most constructive criticism from managers. The confrontation has caused quite a stir with customers and other staff before. You notice that more often than not, the managers start to back down and begin telling David the things he has done well so that he will calm down. You have asked David to help clean up the drink station. When you go over to inspect the station, you notice that David has only restocked the straws and napkins. The fountain is sticky, the trays are full of sodas, there are no lids, and the tea is out. You know that you are up for a promotion soon and would like a raise. What do you do?
10. You are the night manager at your retail location. You have an employee who has chronic tardiness that other managers have let them away with because they have a troublesome home life. They arrive late today along with another employee who is never late. How do you handle the situation?