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| **Class/Subject: Philosophy** | **Lesson 22- “Acts and Omissions, the Double Effect, and the Trolley Problem”** |
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| **Objective(s):**  **SWBAT evaluate three philosophical concepts that relate to ethics on how they apply to current ethical conundrums and debates.** | **Unit: Ethics** |
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| **Philosophical Quote of the Day:**  *““These virtues are formed in man by his doing the actions ... The good of man is a working of the soul in the way of excellence in a complete life.” –Aristotle* | **Philosophical Video of the Day:**  **“Would you kill Baby Hitler?”** [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PDVvYzEdp\_s**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PDVvYzEdp_s) |
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| **Key Points of the Day:**   * **Acts/Omissions Doctrine: The doctrine that it makes an ethical difference whether an agent actively intervenes to bring about a result or omits to act in circumstances in which it is foreseen that as a result of the omission the same result occurs.** * **The Doctrine of Double Effect: This doctrine says that if doing something morally good has a morally bad side-effect it's ethically OK to do it providing the bad side-effect wasn't intended. This is true even if you foresaw that the bad effect would probably happen.** | * **The Trolley Problem: This is a**[**thought experiment**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thought_experiment)**in**[**ethics**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ethics)**. The general form of the problem is this: There is a runaway** [**trolley**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tram)**barreling down the**[**railway tracks**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Track_(rail_transport))**. Ahead, on the tracks, there are five people tied up and unable to move. The trolley is headed straight for them. You are standing some distance off in the train yard, next to a lever. If you pull this lever, the trolley will switch to a different set of tracks. However, you notice that there is one person on the side track. You have two options: (1) Do nothing, and the trolley kills the five people on the main track. (2) Pull the lever, diverting the trolley onto the side track where it will kill one person. Which is the correct choice? There are several variations to this problem.** |
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| **Journal Entry:**  **“Provide me a synopsis of the three ethics concepts today and provide examples of how these apply to everyday life”.** | **Supplemental Reading and philosopher:**  ***Supplemental Reading: “Natural Goodness” by: Philippa Foot***    *Philippa Ruth Foot was a British philosopher, most notable for her works in ethics. She was one of the founders of contemporary virtue ethics that was originally based on the ethics of Aristotle.* |