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| **Class/Subject: Philosophy**  | **Lesson 28: “Positive vs. Negative Liberty”**  |
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| **Objective(s):** **SWBAT to discern between positive and negative liberties and claim which is more ethical in the treatment of others. SWBAT be able to provide examples for each of the two.**  |  **Unit- “ETHICS”** |
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| **Philosophical Quote of the Day:** *“For whatsoever is so tied, or environed, as it cannot move within a certain space, which space is determined by the opposition of some external body, we say it hath not liberty to go further? And so of all living creatures, whilst they are imprisoned, or restrained, with walls, or chains; and of the water whilst it is kept in by banks, or vessels that otherwise would spread itself into a larger space, we use to say, that they are not at liberty, to move in such manner, as without those external impediments they would.” –Thomas Hobbes, Leviathan*  | **Philosophical Video of the Day:** **“I’m Free”- The Soup Dragons (**[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZVGf3ePIO04**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZVGf3ePIO04)**)**  |
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| **Key Points of the Day:** * **Negative liberty is the absence of obstacles, barriers or constraints. One has negative liberty to the extent that actions are available to one in this negative sense.**
* **Positive liberty is the possibility of acting — or the fact of acting — in such a way as to take control of one's life and realize one's fundamental purposes. While negative liberty is usually attributed to individual agents, positive liberty is sometimes attributed to collectivities, or to individuals considered primarily as members of given collectivities.**

 | **• The idea of distinguishing between a negative and a positive sense of the term ‘liberty’ goes back at least to Kant, and was examined and defended in depth by Isaiah Berlin in the 1950s and ’60s. Discussions about positive and negative liberty normally take place within the context of political and social philosophy. They are distinct from, though sometimes related to, philosophical discussions about free will. Work on the nature of positive liberty often overlaps, however, with work on the nature of autonomy.****Locke and Hobbes have been considered philosophical bookends on the subject and are often presented as counterpoints in both history and government courses.** |
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| Journal Entry: “What are the differences between the philosophies of Locke and Hobbes? Also, what are differences between positive and negative liberty? Provide tangible real-world applications of today’s teachings.” *.* | **Featured Philosophers and supplemental reading:**  **Locke v. Hobbes Chart of Differences-** [**http://jim.com/hobbes.htm**](http://jim.com/hobbes.htm)*Thomas Hobbes was an English philosopher, best known today for his work on political philosophy. His 1651 book Leviathan established social contract theory, the foundation of most Western political philosophy. He is often contrasted with philosopher John Locke as two sides of how liberty is perceived.* *Compared with:* *John Locke FRS was an English philosopher and physician, widely regarded as one of the most influential of Enlightenment thinkers and commonly known as the "Father of Liberalism".* |