

INTRODUCTION TO THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE HUMAN PERSON

Quarter 1 – Module 4: THE HUMAN PERSON IN THE ENVIRONMENT



Philosophy – Grade 11/12
Alternative Delivery Mode
Quarter 1 – Module 4: The Human Person in the Environment
First Edition, 2020

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11/12

**INTRODUCTION
TO THE
PHILOSOPHY OF
THE HUMAN
PERSON**

**Quarter 1 – Module 4:
THE HUMAN PERSON IN THE
ENVIRONMENT**

Introductory Message

For the facilitator:

Welcome to the Introduction To The Philosophy of The Human Person (Grade 11/12) Alternative Delivery Mode (ADM) Module on The Human Person in the Environment.

This module was collaboratively designed, developed and reviewed by educators both from public and private institutions to assist you, the teacher or facilitator in helping the learners meet the standards set by the K to 12 Curriculum while overcoming their personal, social, and economic constraints in schooling.

This learning resource hopes to engage the learners into guided and independent learning activities at their own pace and time. Furthermore, this also aims to help learners acquire the needed 21st century skills while taking into consideration their needs and circumstances.

In addition to the material in the main text, you will also see this box in the body of the module:



Notes to the Teacher

This contains helpful tips or strategies that will help you in guiding the learners.

As a facilitator you are expected to orient the learners on how to use this module. You also need to keep track of the learners' progress while allowing them to manage their own learning. Furthermore, you are expected to encourage and assist the learners as they do the tasks included in the module.

For the learner:

Welcome to the Introduction to the Philosophy of the Human Person Alternative Delivery Mode (ADM) Module on The Human Person in the Environment.

The hand is one of the most symbolized part of the human body. It is often used to depict skill, action and purpose. Through our hands we may learn, create and accomplish. Hence, the hand in this learning resource signifies that you as a learner is capable and empowered to successfully achieve the relevant competencies and skills at your own pace and time. Your academic success lies in your own hands!

This module was designed to provide you with fun and meaningful opportunities for guided and independent learning at your own pace and time. You will be enabled to process the contents of the learning resource while being an active learner.

This module has the following parts and corresponding icons:



What I Need to Know

This will give you an idea of the skills or competencies you are expected to learn in the module.



What I Know

This part includes an activity that aims to check what you already know about the lesson to take. If you get all the answers correct (100%), you may decide to skip this module.



What's In

This is a brief drill or review to help you link the current lesson with the previous one.



What's New

In this portion, the new lesson will be introduced to you in various ways such as a story, a song, a poem, a problem opener, an activity or a situation.



What is It

This section provides a brief discussion of the lesson. This aims to help you discover and understand new concepts and skills.



What's More

This comprises activities for independent practice to solidify your understanding and skills of the topic. You may check the answers to the exercises using the Answer Key at the end of the module.



What I Have Learned

This includes questions or blank sentence/paragraph to be filled into process what you have learned from the lesson.



What I Can Do

This section provides an activity which will help you transfer your new knowledge or skill into real life situations or concerns.



Assessment

This is a task which aims to evaluate your level of mastery in achieving the learning competency.



Additional Activities

In this portion, another activity will be given to you to enrich your knowledge or skill of the lesson learned. This also tends retention of learned concepts.



Answer Key

This contains answers to all activities in the module.

At the end of this module you will also find:

References

This is a list of all sources used in developing this module.

The following are some reminders in using this module:

1. Use the module with care. Do not put unnecessary mark/s on any part of the module. Use a separate sheet of paper in answering the exercises.
2. Don't forget to answer *What I Know* before moving on to the other activities included in the module.
3. Read the instruction carefully before doing each task.
4. Observe honesty and integrity in doing the tasks and checking your answers.
5. Finish the task at hand before proceeding to the next.
6. Return this module to your teacher/facilitator once you are through with it.

If you encounter any difficulty in answering the tasks in this module, do not hesitate to consult your teacher or facilitator. Always bear in mind that you are not alone.

We hope that through this material, you will experience meaningful learning and gain deep understanding of the relevant competencies. You can do it!



What I Need to Know

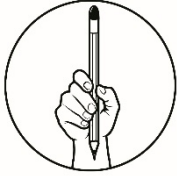
This module aimed to help learners like you get well-acquainted with key concepts of environmental philosophy and how man should ethically deal with his environment. The scope of this module permits it to be used in many different learning situations. The language used recognizes the diverse vocabulary level of students. The lessons are arranged to follow the standard sequence of the course. But the order in which you read them can be changed to correspond with the textbook you are now using.

The module has the following topics namely:

- Environmental Philosophy
- Environmental Aesthetics
- Sustainable Development
- Theories in Radical Ecological Philosophy
- Prudence and Frugality

After going through this module, you are expected to accomplish the following Most Essential Learning Competencies:

1. Notice things that are not in their proper place and organize them in an aesthetic way;
2. Show that care for the environment contributes to health, well-being and sustainable development;
3. Demonstrate the virtues of prudence and frugality towards environment.



What I Know

Matching Type. Match column A with column B. Write the letter of your answer.

Column A

- __1. It is the capacity to direct and discipline one's activities and the behavior using reason that is cautious and, as much as possible, keeps away from any risks.
- __2. It assumes that male-centered view of nature is the root cause of ecological problems.
- __3. "Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."
- __4. It refers to conserving our natural resources so that the future generations will still be able to use it
- __5. This view believes that humans are the most important species on the planet and they are free to transform nature and use its resources.
- __6. It means that any human activities or economic advances should not unduly disrupt the environment and human communities located in the area.
- __7. The discipline that studies the moral relationship of human beings with the environment and its non-human contents.
- __8. It believes that ecological problems can be traced to social problems.
- __9. It is the quality of being thrifty. It is the careful supervision of one's resources
- __10. A philosophical view that believes in maintaining order in the environment will bring out the natural beauty of surroundings and contribute to the well-being of the people and other organisms living in it

Column B

- a. Anthropocentrism
- b. Ecofeminism
- c. Economic Efficiency
- d. Environment
Aesthetics
- e. Environmental
Integrity
- f. Environmental
Philosophy
- g. Equity
- h. Frugality
- i. Prudence
- j. Social Ecology
- k. Sustainable
Development

Lesson

1

The Human Person in the Environment

Have you ever realize the changes in our environment? Do you observe the weather in your place? It seems that summer is hotter now compared to the past, the typhoons are stronger and more frequent, floods are everywhere and our surroundings have become dirtier and more chaotic. How can we address these problems? In this lesson, you will discover different views on how human deals with the environment, proposes ways to address environmental issues, upholds its preservation and sustainability, and appreciates the beauty of nature.



What's In

Write T if the statement is TRUE, F if the statement is FALSE.

- ___ 1. A human person has dignity which is the recognition that each person has a worth and value that go beyond quantifiable terms.
- ___ 2. Not only are the body and spirit are united, but they are also disintegrated.
- ___ 3. Our human nature makes transcendence impossible.
- ___ 4. Man is a social being and has a natural capacity to establish relationship with others.
- ___ 5. Each person is indispensable and irreplaceable.



Notes to the Teacher

What's In is based on the previous lesson which is *The Human Person as an Embodied Spirit*.



What's New

Read and analyze the lyrics of the song, “*Oyayi sa Mundo*” by Buklod. Answer the following questions.

Oyayi sa Mundo

ng: Buklod

Aking mundo
Ihimlay ang pagal mong katawan
Sa duyan ng kalawakan
Hayaang
Maghilom ang mga sugat sa iyong dibdib
Na likha ng mga tao
At itigil ng isang saglit
Ang iyong paggalaw
Pagkat sa muli mong pag-inog
Ay may bago nang buhay

You can also hear the song through this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qUqPzSCalM8>

1. What do you feel when you read/ hear the lyrics of the song?

2. What do you think is the artist intention/ inspiration in writing the song?

3. Do you agree that the world needs healing? Why? Why not?



What is It

The Human Person in the Environment

Have you ever wondered what happens to the things you throw away? Did you ever think of the effects of these things on our surroundings? If not, it is time for you to reflect. As the popular saying goes, “what goes around comes around,” it tells us that for every action there will be effects to it. Blocked drainage, wastewater flooding, diseases, and different kinds of pollution are some of the consequences we are experiencing because many people show no concern for our environment. Aside from the loads of waste that we are creating, inefficient and negligent use of natural resources like electricity and water are also major problems we are facing right now.

Human beings as a steward has to show care for the environment and not destroy it. The earth's future is our responsibility, so let's find out how to take care of it!

I. ENVIRONMENTAL PHILOSOPHY

Environment philosophy is the discipline that studies the moral relationship of human beings with the environment and its non-human contents. Philosophers believe that the human person has the ability to change the environment to suit his purposes. This means that as human person, we interact not only with our fellow human beings, but also with other living and non-living elements in our environment. Humankind is a part of the world, and we significantly affect our environment in the same way that changes in our environment affect us (Ramos, 2015)

Let's take a look on these three views of philosophical environment.

1. **Anthropocentrism** – focuses on the significant role of humankind in the world and considers nature as the means by which humans are able to meet their needs and survive. This view believes that humans are the most important species on the planet and they are free to transform nature and use its resources.
2. **Biocentrism** – believes that humans are not the only significant species on the planet, and that all other organisms have inherent value and should be protected. This view advocates ethical treatment of animals.
3. **Ecocentrism** – places great value on ecosystems and biological communities. This view believes that humankind is a part of a greater biological system or community and that we have a significant role as stewards or guardians of nature. This view promotes the idea that order and balance in nature brings about stability and beauty. The influence of humanity on the environment can be best understood if we consider the individual person as a dynamic source of change within his particular environment.


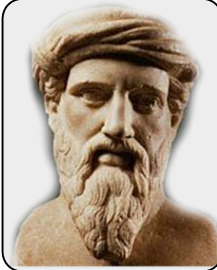


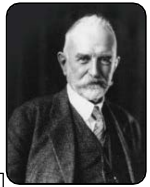
People may treat environment as source of raw materials to be used in any way he pleases and as something that envelops and surround him thus, have a unique

relationship with it. This means that people can help solve environmental issues and problems. We can apply our philosophical investigation aesthetically to appreciate our nature. But how can we aesthetically organize the place that are not in order?

Let's understand the ancient and modern thinkers' concepts on how to appreciate nature.

II. ENVIRONMENTAL AESTHETICS

A philosophical view that believes in maintaining order in the environment will bring out the natural beauty of surroundings and contribute to the well-being of the people and other organisms living in it (Endriga, 2017).

ANCIENT THINKERS (Mabaquiao, 2016)			
Anaximander According to his "Creation-Destruction", the sketch of the genesis of the world (cosmology), the evolution of the world begins with the generation of opposites in a certain region Nature. Nature is indeterminate-boundless in the sense that no boundaries between the warm and or the moist and dry regions are originally present within.	 <p>Photo from: https://philosophy.redzambala.com/milesian-school/anaximander-by-ancient-philosophers.htm</p>	Pythagoras He described the universe as living embodiment of nature's order, harmony, and beauty. He sees our relationship with the universe involving biophilia (love of other living things) and cosmophilia (love of other living beings).	 <p>Photo from: https://mathigon.org/course/philosophy/pythagoras</p>
MODERN THINKERS (Wang, 2017)			
Immanuel Kant "The orderliness of nature and the harmony of nature with our faculties guide us toward a deeper religious perspective"	 <p>Photo from: https://gohighbrow.com/philosophy-of-immanuel-kant/</p>	Herbert Marcuse "Human have power over nature."	George Herbert Mead "Man have duties and responsibilities in nature"
	 <p>Photo from: https://www.britannica.com/biography/Herbert-Marcuse</p>	 <p>Photo from: https://www.thefamouspeople.com/profiles/george-herbert-mead-10022.php</p>	

III. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

According to the World Commission on Environment and Development, **sustainable development** defines as: "Development that meets the needs of the

present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” To put it simply, the idea of sustainable development is any environmental, economic and social advances can be realized within the carrying capacity of earth’s natural resources. (Sioco & Vinzons, 2016) It is reconciling human activities and economic advances while protecting our environment. Sustainable development upholds on the following principles:

PRINCIPLES OF SUSTAINABILITY

- ❖ **Environmental Integrity-** means that any human activities or economic advances should not unduly disrupt the environment and human communities located in the area. The environment should not be drastically impacted by human activities (Abella, 2016).
- ❖ **Economic efficiency-** this is to ensure that there is minimum to zero waste in using our natural resources (Abella, 2016).
- ❖ **Equity-** it refers to conserving our natural resources so that the future generations will still be able to use it (Abella, 2016).

The influence of humanity on the environment can be best understood if we consider the individual as a dynamic source of change within his/her particular environment. There are theories that can explain how the humanity address environmental problem. These theories offers ways to value care, conservation, and preservation of nature and humanity.

IV. THEORIES IN RADICAL ECOLOGICAL PHILOSOPHY

- ❖ **Deep ecology-** Arne Naess, proponent of Deep ecology, assumes that all living things possess equal value and intrinsic worth regardless of their usefulness or utility to other beings. This is experiencing ourselves as part of the living earth and finding our role in protecting the planet. It highlights the shifting away of approaches to environment from anthropocentrism to ecocentrism (Sioco and Vinzons, 2016).
- ❖ **Social Ecology-** Murray Bookchin, proponent of Social ecology, believes that ecological problems can be traced to social problems. Societies that are structured around hierarchies as well as economic classes use their authority to dominate natural resources and exploit the environment for profit and self-interest. (Sioco and Vinzons, 2016).

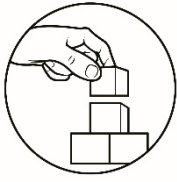
- ❖ **Ecofeminism-** It assumes that male-centered view of nature is the root cause of ecological problems. To address environmental problems humanity has to remove the superior vs. inferior in human relations. Ecofeminism also believes that a society that tolerates the oppression of women is directly linked with its tendency to tolerate the abuse of the environment and the degradation of nature. It also features the existing patriarchal and capitalist systems in our society as social and economic exploitative to the detrimental of women and nature. This theory benefits the social and political agenda of both female and nature. (Sioco and Vinzons, 2016).

V. PRUDENCE AND FRUGALITY

How can one lessen the waste he/she is making? How can one be more efficient and more responsible in using natural resources? These questions can be answered by observing prudence and frugality towards the environment. Prudence and frugality are two of the many virtues that can help us in addressing various environmental problems and solving the challenges these problems have created.

Prudence is the capacity to direct and discipline one's activities and behavior using reason. It is the behavior that is cautious and, as much as possible, keeps away from any risks. Prudence is considered as the first and most vital among the four cardinal virtues, which include justice, fortitude, and temperance. According to Adam Smith's *The Theory of Moral Sentiments* (1759), a truly righteous person embodies the value of prudence since it controls one's overindulgences and as such is vital for a certain society. As St. Thomas Aquinas argued, prudence is not purely an individual virtue, but concerns the social dimension too. It means that prudence favors not only the private good of a certain person, but also the common good. Now, the question is: Is prudence applicable to the challenges that the various environmental problems have brought? Well, aside from being an individual virtue, prudence is also considered as an ecological virtue since it implies the acknowledgement of human finiteness, both moral and physical. Human finiteness is indivisible from the physical environment, which means that we, vulnerable beings, depend on a no less fragile and vulnerable natural world, the ultimate source of human well-being and economic prosperity. Prudence can help us become wiser, more responsible in terms of using our natural resources and, most importantly, become more appreciative of nature's essential value.

On the other hand, frugality is the quality of being thrifty. It is the careful supervision of one's resources. Frugality, aside from prudence, is another fundamental value that can help us develop a sense of right and wrong and attain whatever we want in life. Moreover, it is a virtue that can guide us in making choices in life and receiving the most value out of those decisions. Commonly, when we talk about frugality, we are talking about the cautious management of material resources, especially money. A frugal person always invests time to think carefully just to save a lot of money and, therefore, uses far less money compare to an affluent person. However, frugality can be used in a wider way to practically everything in our lives. It can be considered as one of the most important parts when it comes to carrying on our responsibilities to our community and the world. Now, the question is: How can frugality help in solving environmental problems? Well, one of the main benefits of being a frugal person is that it is environmentally friendly. When someone is being frugal in using natural resources like electricity and water, this person is putting lesser damage on our natural environment. Furthermore, a frugal person usually lives out the idea of "reduce, reuse, recycle" just to minimize expenses. Yet, this same idea also minimizes overall environmental impact. Frugality, just like prudence, plays a big role in protecting our environment. It finds a great deal of value in lessening one's use of natural resources and, at the same time, getting as much value as possible out of the resources that we are using.

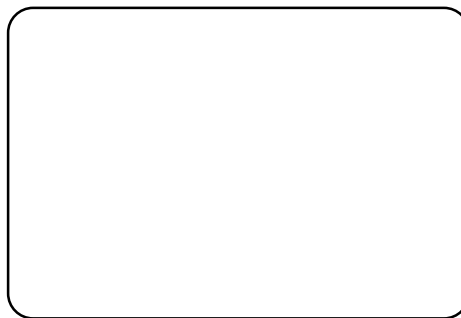


What's More

Activity 1: HEAL THE ENVIRONMENT

Direction: Organize the following images in a more aesthetic way and environment-friendly. Draw your idea and write your explanation on the space provided.







Activity 2: CONSERVE AND PRESERVE THE ENVIRONMENT

Direction: Think of two (2) ways on how you can apply prudence and frugality on consuming each the following item. Fill the table with your ideas.

	Energy	Plastic	Water	Paper
1				
2				



What I Have Learned

Activity 3: DEFEND THE ENVIRONMENT

Directions: Read and analyze the situation given. Write a 2-paragraph position paper regarding the issue. In writing the position paper, include *principles of sustainability and/or theories of radical ecological philosophy* to support your stand. Write your position paper on a separate sheet of paper.

Your city is experiencing water interruption from time to time, and to ease this crisis, the government plans to enter into a contract with a foreign company for the construction of Php 18.7-billion project called New Hope Dam. This dam will be located in one of the ancestral domain of Dumagats near your city, also, that land has rich biodiversity and because of this project, much of the ecosystem will potentially end up being endangered. What will be your stand about this ecological crisis? Will you pursue the construction of the dam to ease the water shortage in your city or will you respect the rights of the indigenous people over their ancestral land and consider the ecosystem that will be endangered? How will you reconcile development and taking care of the environment and people living in it?

Follow this format in writing your position paper:

TITLE: _____

- I. Introduction (Identify the issue that will be discussed and state your position on that issue.)
- II. Body (Write your central argument. It can be further broken up into three unique sections:
 - a) Background information;
 - b) Evidence supporting your position; and
 - c) A discussion of both sides of the issue, which addresses and refutes arguments that contradict your position
- III. Conclusion (Restate the key points and, where applicable, suggesting resolutions to the issue.)

You will be graded using this point system:

Criteria	Highest Possible Points
Content (Relevance to the situation)	40 points
Organization (clear and logical pattern)	10 points
Coherence and Cohesion (connection of ideas)	10 points
Language Use (choice of words)	10 points
Mechanics (capitalization, punctuation, spelling, grammar, etc.)	10 points
TOTAL	80 points



What I Can Do

ACTIVITY 4: DO SOMETHING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Directions: Your role is an artist commissioned to make a product/ artwork that is functional using recyclable materials such as paper, cardboard, metal, plastic, textiles, etc. Take a photo of your artwork and paste it here in the module.

You will be graded using this point system:

Criteria	Highest Possible Points
Usefulness	40 points
Use of Recyclable Materials	30 points
Creativity/Originality	20 points
Overall Project Impact	10 points
Total	100 points

Paste the photo of your work here:



Assessment

I. Directions: Read each statement carefully and write “KALIKASAN” if your answer is True and “KASIRAAN” if it is False.

- _____ 1. Anthropocentrism focuses on the part of humankind as a stewards or guardians of nature in our greater biological system or community.
- _____ 2. Both ancient and modern thinkers believe that man will bring out the natural beauty of environment if they are capable to govern the nature.
- _____ 3. Biocentrism advocates ethical treatment of animals.
- _____ 4. Deep ecology is a philosophical idea that combines feminism and ecology concerns, emphasizing that both suffer from their treatment by a male dominated society.
- _____ 5. Environmental Aesthetics is a philosophical view all life forms have an equal right to exist, and human needs and desires have no priority over those of other organisms.

II. Directions: Identify the correct answer as described in every item. Write your answer on the space provided.

- _____ 1. Bringing your own cup whenever you refill your coffee in 7-eleven shows what principle of sustainability?
- _____ 2. A businessman grabbed and bought a vast land from the farmers and decided to convert it into a subdivision. During the construction, farmers left without jobs and hundreds of trees were uprooted and streams were covered in cement. What principle of sustainability was violated?
- _____ 3. Franciso Moreno, Mayor of Manila, declared Arroceros as a “permanent forest park” as part of his vision of building a Green City in Manila’s Lawton area. What principle of sustainability did he use?
- _____ 4. A factory in a province irresponsibly withdraw their wastes in the river and hire mostly women because of cheap labor. What theory in radical ecological philosophy explains this ecological problem?
- _____ 5. Finishing your meal without leftovers shows what principle of sustainability?



Additional Activities

ACTIVITY 5: CAMPAIGN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

For Online Learners:

Directions: Inside the box below, write a tweet or post for an environmental online campaign encouraging everyone to take care of the environment. You may create your own hashtag (#). Be sure to incorporate the principles of environmental philosophy.

Title of Online Campaign: _____

Tagline/Call: _____

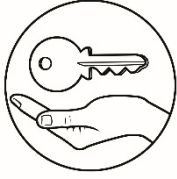
Note/ Script for Online

Campaign: _____

For Offline Learners:

Directions: Write a two-stanza poem/song that encourage everyone to take care of the environment and campaign for its sustainability.

Title: _____



Answer Key

Assessment	
1.	KASIRAAAN
2.	KALIKASAN
3.	KALIKASAN
4.	KASIRAAAN
5.	KASIRAAAN
6.	Economic Efficiency
7.	Environmental Integrity
8.	Environmental Integrity
9.	Eco feminism
10.	Economic Efficiency

What I Know	
1.	I
2.	B
3.	K
4.	G
5.	A
6.	E
7.	F
8.	J
9.	H
10.	D

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