

Question	Characteristics
<p style="text-align: center;">Scientific</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asks testable questions about the natural world. • Can be explored through scientific inquiry and observation. • Relies on empirical and measurable evidence. <p>Example: How does a kidney function in the body?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Religious/Cultural</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asks us what would be in line with a particular religious belief or practice, or the common practices of a particular culture. <p>Example: What does my religion or culture say about whether it is acceptable to donate a kidney?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Legal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asks us what the law says about a particular issue. • Ethics may inform the law, but sometimes laws are unethical and sometimes the ethically right thing to do may be illegal. <p>Example: Is it legal to sell kidneys in the United States?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Ethical</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask us what the 'right' thing to do is – what we 'should' or 'ought' to do – in the face of a moral dilemma. • Often arises out of a conflict in values among individuals or groups. • Requires moral reflection (making evaluations and judgments about responsibilities, rights, duties, values, and principles). <p>Example: Should individuals who donate kidneys be allowed to choose who their organs should go to?</p>

**Practice Sheet #1:
Distinguishing an Ethical Question from Other Kinds of Questions**

Question	Ethical, Religious/ Cultural, Legal, Other	Reason
Under what conditions should people be kept artificially alive?	Ethical, Religious	Can be answered by moral reflection related to what it means to be a 'person' and who should have responsibility for someone else's life. Can also be influenced by religious beliefs.
What type of diet allows for the best athletic performance?		
Is killing someone always illegal?		
Is killing a murderer justified?		
What is the most appropriate way to worship?		
Should people be able to select the sex of their child in advance?		
How can a child's sex be determined in advance of their birth?		
How should we decide who receives organ transplants?		
At what age should people marry?		
Are same-sex marriages constitutional?		
What ice cream flavor should I buy?		