Supported preparation: Options and prescribed text preparation

International Baccalaureate · IB Diploma · Philosophy · HL

Scope and prerequisites

IB philosophy first assessment 2025. Core Being human; one optional theme at SL, two at HL; one school-selected prescribed text. HL extension is Philosophy and contemporary issues. No unverified prescribed text is chosen by default.

Mapped preparation outcomes: ib_philosophy_hl.2.1, ib_philosophy_hl.2.2. Read the matching native lesson first. Actual approved choices, evidence and final learner work remain separate.

Source vocabulary

obligation ; **consequentialism** .

Explanation and worked method

Reconstruct an argument in its strongest defensible form before objecting. Separate a textual claim from your inference, cite a precise passage in the actual selected work and examine a relevant objection. The school's option and prescribed text cannot be chosen by a generic worksheet.

Original source / task evidence

Original argument: "A promise gives others reason to rely on us; avoidable breach defeats that reliance; therefore we normally ought to keep promises." Find a qualification and an objection.

Separate what is stated from the interpretation.
Options and prescribed text preparation

Original argument: "A promise gives others reason to rely on us; avoidable breach defeats that reliance; therefore we normally ought to keep promises." Find a qualification and an objection.

Normally allows exceptions. A harmful promise or conflicting obligation challenges an unconditional duty, but not necessarily the qualified claim. Explain whether the justification is reliance, consequences or another principle.

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Independent transfer

A promise conflicts with preventing serious harm. Revise the original argument without abandoning reasons.

Attempt independently before reading the model.

Checked original model

A qualified duty can hold when keeping the promise does not conflict with a weightier justified obligation. Explain why reliance still matters and how harm is assessed, then address whether the exception is too broad. A qualification needs a principle, not permission to break any inconvenient promise.

These are authored formative expectations, not official IB descriptors. Accept other justified arguments with evidence and material limits.

Source and task holds

This supplement teaches the method for this part of the course. The full assessment criteria and any texts your school chooses come from your teacher.

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