

The Alchemist's Choice: The Ethical Pledge

(Year 7 - Ages 12-13)

Lesson 6 of 9

Name: _____ Class: _____

Mission Briefing: An Alchemist never does things by accident. Every ingredient is measured; every action is intentional. Today, we investigate Choice. Is it better to be "signed up" automatically, or to choose to "sign up" yourself? You will decode the systems used to run society and decide which one fits the "Hero's Pledge."

Part 1: The Community Choice Challenge (Simulation)

Scenario: The school is starting a new "Saturday Clean-Up Crew" to pick up rubbish.

- **System A (The "Volunteer" Model):**
 - **Rule:** No one is on the crew unless they sign their name on the sheet.
 - **Result:** Only 5 people sign up, but they work really hard.
- **System B (The "Default" Model):**
 - **Rule:** Every student is automatically on the crew. You have to go to the office and fill out a form to quit.
 - **Result:** 100 people are on the list because they were too lazy to quit. But on Saturday, only 10 show up, and they are grumpy.

Analysis:

Which system got more names on the list?

Which system got more committed workers?

Which system feels "fairer" to you? Why?



Part 2: The System Decoder

In the world of Organ Donation, countries use these same two systems.

System	Definition	The "Vibe"
OPT-IN (Australia)	You are NOT a donor unless you act to say "YES."	"I choose to help." (Heroic)
OPT-OUT (Others)	You ARE a donor unless you act to say "NO."	"I guess I'm doing it." (Passive)

Critical Thinking: Why might a family feel happier knowing their loved one Opted-In (chose it) rather than just being Opted-Out (forgot to refuse)?



Part 3: The Alchemist's Pledge (Values)

In Australia, we use Opt-in. This means donation is a Gift, not a rule. To be an Alchemist, you must define what you stand for. Even if you are too young to register (you must be 16), you can make a "Personal Pledge" about your values.

My Ethical Code: Circle 3 values that are important to you as a future citizen:

Generosity | Freedom | Kindness | Responsibility | Community | Legacy

My Pledge Statement: "As a member of the community, I believe that..." (e.g., helping others is important / people should have the right to choose).



Part 4: The Debate (Preparation)

Topic: "Australia should switch to an Opt-Out system (everyone is a donor by default) to save more lives."

Choose a Side: AGREE (Opt-Out) | DISAGREE (Opt-In)

Write ONE strong argument for your side:

- **Tip (Agree):** Think about how many lives could be saved if everyone was included.
- **Tip (Disagree):** Think about freedom of choice and making sure the gift is voluntary.

