

THUNKS ON DEATH

Introduction

Thunks™ are 'beguilingly simple-looking questions' that make your brain go ouch. They grew out of educator and writer Ian Gilbert's work on Philosophy for Children and have proved incredibly popular with teachers around the world as a quick and easy tool for getting children and young people's brains to hurt. This particular set, a collaboration between Winston's Wish and Independent Thinking, is specifically designed to open up thinking and discussion around the topics of death, grief and bereavement.

Instructions

The only Golden Rule when it comes to Thunks is that there are no 'right' answers. Their purpose is to encourage thought, debate, argument and philosophical reflection as well as practising speaking and listening skills. From working on a single Thunk as an entire class to having one each, one between two or working in smaller 'communities of enquiry', from using them as lessons starters to building whole lessons around a single Thunk, teachers have used them in many, many ways with children of all ages and academic backgrounds. Good luck!

Winston's Wish is a Registered Charity (England and Wales) 1061359, (Scotland) SC041140 | 0308

**WINSTON'S
WISH** 
Giving hope to grieving children

**independent
thinking** 

Is being alive a choice?

**If every time you laughed, it
knocked a minute off your
life, would you stop laughing?**


**Is it better to die suddenly
than be given a month to
live?**

Is it ever cruel to save a life?


**Can you choose not to be
sad?**

**Do you love a family member
less after they've died?**

Should we be made to live longer if we can?

independent thinking 

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WISH WW


independent thinking 

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Can you love someone who's not around?

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Is anything worth dying for?


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If you dream of someone who has died, are you dreaming of their ghost?

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If you could live forever, would you want to?

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Is losing a loved one harder the older they are?

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Should you live each life as if it were your last?

Do all your family members have to be alive to be part of your family?

Does grief hurt?

Does a child know what death is?

Can death ever be happy?

Do you die when the last person who remembers you dies?

**Can you love someone you
can't see?**


independent
thinking 

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thinking 

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**Do you still own the things
you've lost forever?**

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thinking 

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thinking 

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**Is quantity more important
than quality when it comes to
your life?**

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thinking 

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**Are you a different person
once both your parents die?**


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thinking 

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**If you put the brain of someone
who has died into a robot, have you
brought that person back to life?**


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thinking 

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thinking 

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**Should your online profile be
deleted as soon as you die?**

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thinking 

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thinking 

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**Is it really better to have
loved and lost than not have
loved at all?**

Can you choose to be happy?

Are funerals always sad?

**Is it an act of love to let
someone you love die
before you?**

Is a funeral a party?

**If someone is being kept
alive, are they living?**