

## Тексты для чтения на английском в 11 классе, подготовка к ЕГЭ, уровень В2

### Human rights - a method of manipulation or a modern problem



The idea of human rights is a relatively new one. It only really became popular after World War II, when the United Nations was formed. The UN's Declaration of Human Rights is a list of things that people should be able to do and have, such as the right to life, education, and freedom of speech.

But today, the concept of human rights seems to be everywhere. In fact, some people would say that it's overused. For example, in 2015, a prisoner in France complained that his cell was too small, and he won his case because the court said it broke his human rights. Also, in 2017, a man in Austria sued his parents for not giving him enough money, and the court agreed with him!

So are human rights a good thing or a bad thing? Well, there are certainly some problems with them. For example, if everyone has the right to free speech, does that mean that they can say whatever they want, even if it's racist or offensive? And what if someone's right to a fair trial means that a guilty person goes free?

Also, some people argue that countries use human rights to interfere in other countries' business. For example, in 2011, NATO bombed Libya because its leader, Colonel Gaddafi, was attacking his own people. But others said that this was just an excuse for the West to get control of Libya's oil.

But despite these problems, I think that human rights are a good thing. They might not always be easy to define or enforce, but they give people hope. For example, in 2014, a woman in Saudi Arabia was arrested for driving a car. This might seem strange to us, but at the time, it was against the law there. However, she fought her case and eventually, the law was changed. So human rights can make a difference, even when things seem impossible.

#### **Права человека – метод манипуляции или современная проблема**

Идея прав человека относительно нова. Она стала по-настоящему популярной только после Второй мировой войны, когда была создана Организация Объединенных Наций. Декларация прав человека ООН представляет собой список вещей, которые люди должны иметь возможность делать и иметь, например, право на жизнь, образование и свободу слова.

Но сегодня концепция прав человека, кажется, повсюду. На самом деле, некоторые люди сказали бы, что она используется слишком часто. Например, в 2015 году заключенный во Франции пожаловался, что его камера слишком мала, и он выиграл дело, потому что суд заявил, что это нарушает его права человека. Кроме того, в 2017 году мужчина в Австрии подал в суд на своих родителей за то, что они не давали ему достаточно денег, и суд с ним согласился!

Так права человека — это хорошо или плохо? Ну, с ними, безусловно, есть некоторые проблемы. Например, если у каждого есть право на свободу слова, означает ли это, что они могут говорить все, что хотят, даже если это расистское или оскорбительное? И что, если право кого-то на справедливый суд означает, что виновный будет освобожден?

Также некоторые утверждают, что страны используют права человека, чтобы вмешиваться в дела других стран. Например, в 2011 году НАТО бомбило Ливию, потому что ее лидер, полковник Каддафи, напал на свой собственный народ. Но другие говорили, что это был просто предлог для Запада, чтобы получить контроль над ливийской нефтью.

Но, несмотря на эти проблемы, я думаю, что права человека — это хорошо. Их не всегда легко определить или обеспечить, но они дают людям надежду. Например, в 2014 году в Саудовской Аравии женщину арестовали за вождение автомобиля. Это может показаться нам странным, но в то время это было противозаконно. Однако она боролась со своим делом, и в конечном итоге закон был изменен. Поэтому права человека могут иметь значение, даже когда все кажется невозможным.

Ссылка на аудио озвучку текстов на сайте:



### Верны ли утверждения?

1. The Declaration of Human Rights outlines fundamental rights like the right to life and freedom of speech.
2. Human rights are rarely discussed in modern society.
3. The prisoner in France lost his case about the size of his cell.
4. The man in Austria lost his case against his parents.
5. The author believes that human rights have a positive impact.
6. Human rights are always easy to define and enforce.
7. A woman in Saudi Arabia faced legal consequences for driving a car in 2014.
8. This was a common practice in Saudi Arabia at the time.
9. She challenged the law and eventually, it was amended.
10. Human rights have no impact on society.

### Верные ответы

1. True
2. False (Exaggerates the idea presented in the text, misrepresenting the factual data.)
3. False (This statement contradicts the factual information provided in the text - the text says that the prisoner won his case.)
4. False (This statement implies that the man lost his case, but the text says that the court agreed with him.)
5. True
6. False (This statement contradicts the idea presented in the text - the text says that human rights might not always be easy to define or enforce.)
7. True
8. False (Exaggerates the idea presented in the text, misrepresenting the factual data.)
9. True

10. False (This statement contradicts the idea presented in the text - the text says that human rights can make a difference.)

### Ответьте на вопросы

1. When did the idea of human rights become popular?
2. What is the UN's Declaration of Human Rights?
3. Can you provide examples of cases where human rights were used in unusual ways?
4. What are some problems associated with human rights, according to the text?
5. How do some people believe countries use human rights to interfere in other countries' affairs?
6. Despite the problems mentioned, what does the author think about human rights?
7. Can you give an example from the text where human rights made a positive impact on society?

### Выберите верный вариант ответа

1. According to the passage, which of the following best describes the current status of the concept of human rights?
  - A. It is a relatively new and increasingly popular idea.
  - B. It is a well-established and universally accepted principle.
  - C. It is a controversial and overused concept.
  - D. It is a concept that is only enforced in certain parts of the world.
2. What is the main purpose of the UN's Declaration of Human Rights?
  - A. To outline the fundamental rights and freedoms that all people should enjoy.
  - B. To punish countries that violate the human rights of their citizens.
  - C. To promote the idea of individual liberty and self-determination.
  - D. To establish a set of universal laws that all countries must follow.
3. Which of the following examples is used in the passage to illustrate the potential misuse of human rights claims?
  - A. A prisoner arguing that their cell is too small.
  - B. A man suing his parents for not giving him enough money.
  - C. NATO's military intervention in Libya.
  - D. All of the above.
4. What is one of the main criticisms of the concept of human rights presented in the passage?
  - A. It can be used by countries to interfere in the domestic affairs of other nations.
  - B. It can lead to the punishment of innocent people who have not committed a crime.
  - C. It can allow people to say or do whatever they want, even if it is offensive or harmful.
  - D. All of the above.
5. What was the outcome of the case involving the woman in Saudi Arabia who was arrested for driving a car?
  - A. The law was changed, and she was able to drive freely.
  - B. The law remained in place, and she was punished for her actions.
  - C. The case was dismissed, and the law was not altered.
  - D. The woman's actions led to a wider social movement for women's rights in Saudi Arabia.
6. What is the main argument made in the passage in support of the concept of human rights?
  - A. It ensures that everyone has access to basic necessities like education and healthcare.

- B. It provides a framework for protecting the fundamental freedoms of all people.
- C. It gives people hope and can lead to positive change, even in difficult circumstances.
- D. It prevents countries from interfering in each other's internal affairs.

7. What is the overall tone of the passage regarding the concept of human rights?

- A. Overwhelmingly positive, with a focus on the benefits of human rights.
- B. Predominantly negative, highlighting the problems and criticisms of human rights.
- C. Balanced, presenting both the advantages and disadvantages of human rights.
- D. Uncertain, with the author unable to reach a clear conclusion on the merits of human rights.

*Верные ответы:*

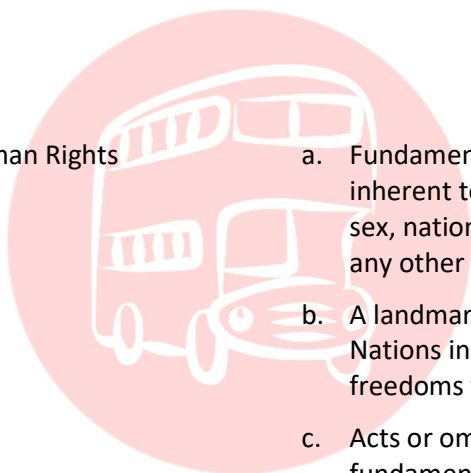
1. C, 2. A, 3. D, 4. D, 5. A, 6. C, 7. C

### Выберите наиболее подходящий заголовок к тексту

- 1. Are Human Rights Just a Modern Trend?
- 2. The Controversy Surrounding Human Rights
- 3. How Human Rights Lead to International Conflict

### Соотнесите слова и определения

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|--|--|
| 1. Universal Declaration of Human Rights | a. Fundamental rights and freedoms that are inherent to all human beings, regardless of race, sex, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, or any other status.  |
| 2. Subjectivity                          | b. A landmark document adopted by the United Nations in 1948 that outlines the basic rights and freedoms that all human beings are entitled to.:   |
| 3. Progress & Change                     | c. Acts or omissions that infringe upon or deny the fundamental rights and freedoms of individuals.  |
| 4. Overuse                               | d. The work of individuals and organizations dedicated to promoting and protecting human rights.   |
| 5. Manipulation                          | e. The perception that human rights are invoked too frequently and for trivial matters, diluting their importance. The difficulty in defining and enforcing human rights universally, leading to disagreements and interpretation issues. The claim that human rights can be used as a tool for political agendas or interference in other countries' affairs. |
| 6. Social Rights                         | f. The rights of citizens to participate in society and government, including the right to vote, freedom of assembly, and freedom of religion.   |
| 7. Cultural Rights                       | g. The rights related to political participation, such as the right to vote, freedom of speech, and freedom of the press   |
| 8. Human Rights Advocacy                 |  |
| 9. Human Rights                          |  |
| 10. Hope & Justice                       |  |
| 11. Conflict with Other Values           |  |
| 12. Accountability & Responsibility      |  |
| 13. Economic Rights                      |  |
| 14. Civil Rights                         |  |
| 15. Human Rights Violations              |  |
| 16. International Cooperation            |  |
| 17. Political Rights                     |  |



- h. The potential for human rights to clash with other important values, such as national security or cultural traditions. The provision of hope and a framework for justice for individuals facing oppression or discrimination. The ability of human rights to drive positive social change and progress, as seen in the example of the Saudi Arabian woman who fought for the right to drive.
- i. The establishment of standards and mechanisms for holding governments and individuals accountable for human rights violations.
- j. The promotion of international cooperation and dialogue on human rights issues.
- k. The rights related to economic security and opportunity, such as the right to work, the right to fair wages, and the right to social security.
- l. The rights related to social well-being and inclusion, such as the right to education, healthcare, and housing.
- m. The rights related to preserving and promoting cultural diversity and heritage.

*Верные ответы:*

1. b, 2. e, 3. h, 4. e, 5. e, 6. l, 7. m, 8. d, 9. a, 10. h, 11. h, 12. i, 13. k, 14. f, 15. c, 16. j, 17. g

