

447

One of the main themes explored in *Lord of the Flies* is the idea that we all have the potential for good, and we all have the potential for evil within us. Do you agree with this notion?



*Lord of the Flies* by William Golding

# Good or Evil?

Read each of the quotations below, and then discuss them with a partner. Do you agree or disagree? You must give an explanation of your opinion.

Quotation	Agree or disagree?	Explain / Give an example.
<p><b>"Man's nature is not essentially evil. Brute nature has been known to yield to the influence of love. You must never despair of human nature."</b> - Mahatma Gandhi</p>		
<p><b>"Man is the cruelest animal."</b> - Friedrich Nietzsche</p>		
<p><b>"The world is a dangerous place to live, not because of the people who are evil, but because of the people who don't do anything about it."</b> - Albert Einstein</p>		
<p><b>"In spite of everything I still believe that people are really good at heart."</b> - Anne Frank</p>		
<p><b>"In each of us, two natures are at war - the good and the evil. All our lives the fight goes on between them, and one of them must conquer. But in our own hands lies the power to choose - what we want most to be we are."</b> - Robert Louis Stevenson</p>		
<p><b>"The conscience of children is formed by the influences that surround them; their notions of good and evil are the result of the moral atmosphere they breathe."</b> - Jean Paul</p>		
<p><b>"The line between good and evil is permeable and almost anyone can be induced to cross it when pressured by situational forces."</b> - Phillip Zimbardo</p>		