

KEY

Guided Reading Activity 5-3

Dying and Death

For use with textbook pages 144-147

Directions: Filling in the Blanks Use your textbook to fill in the blanks using the words in the box.

accept	hope	prolong
anger	hospices	second opinion
bargaining	listen	terminally ill
denial	losses	thanatology
depression	pain	

Adjusting to Death

Elisabeth Kübler-Ross is a pioneer in working with the 1 terminally ill.

Among her contributions has been establishing 2 thanatology, the study of dying and death.

She identified five stages of psychological adjustment to impending death. The first stage is

3 denial. During this stage, the person often seeks a 4 second opinion.

Jerry Graves

At the second stage, 5 anger is often expressed with questions such as "Why me?" The next stage is usually brief and involves 6 bargaining with fate.

When it becomes evident that his or her condition is not improving, the dying person often enters a state of 7 depression. During this stage, the person becomes aware of his or her

8 losses. Those around the dying person should be willing to 9 listen.

Finally, patients 10 accept the inevitability of death. Not all patients progress through these stages in order. Kübler-Ross also noted that most terminal patients maintain a degree of

11 hope.

A movement to restore dignity to the process of dying centers around the concept of

12 hospices. They seek to make the patient as comfortable as possible. They do not seek to

13 prolong life. They do use tranquilizers and other drugs to relieve

14 pain.

Dr. Jack Keurkian  
 - assisted suicide machines (euthanasia)  
 - jailed in 1999 for 10-25 yrs.  
 p. 148

Right or Wrong?

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## Elisabeth Kubler-Ross' Stages Of Death

### 1. Denial

- the individual does not believe that he or she is going to die
- consider the doctors to be incompetent, diagnosis incorrect
- may refuse medical assistance

#### Common Viewpoints:

- " No, it can't be happening to me. "
- " I'll get another opinion. "

### 2. Anger

- individual feels anger towards fate, supernatural forces, and people close to them
- may alienate or separate themselves from others

#### Common Viewpoints:

- " Why did this happen to me? "
- " Why are everyone else healthy and not I? "

### 3. Bargaining

- the individual makes an attempt to bargain with fate
- hope that good deeds will extend life or eliminate difficulties of the illness

#### Common Viewpoints:

- " If I do a good deed each day, God will give me more time to live. "
- " If I go through all of chemotherapy, the illness will be less severe. "

### 4. Depression

- the individual becomes aware of the eventual losses
- usually a short period of depression
- losses recognized may include : job, life savings, friends, possessions, and life

#### Common Viewpoints:

- " It doesn't matter what I do, because everything will be over soon. "
- " Everything I have worked for will now be taken away. "

### 5. Acceptance

- the individual overcomes the struggles of death and feels an inner calm, peace
- may detach themselves from others to make death easier for everyone

#### Common Viewpoints:

- " I am ready to die. "
- " Everything will be better really soon. "