# Discussion questions and statements Humans vs AI

**General Discussion Questions:**

1. What defines humanity? Can AI ever possess the same qualities that make us human?
2. Do you think AI should have rights? Why or why not?
3. If AI develops emotions, should we treat it as an equal to humans?
4. How would society change if humanoid AI like Charlie’s robot (*Machines Like Me*) or Klara (*Klara and the Sun*) became common in households?
5. In *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?*, empathy is considered uniquely human. Do you agree? Can AI develop true empathy?
6. Would you be comfortable forming a close friendship or romantic relationship with an AI? Why or why not?
7. How do the books you’ve read portray the dangers of AI? Do you think these risks are realistic?
8. Can AI be creative? Can it produce genuine art, literature, or music?
9. If AI were to replace certain human jobs, should society take measures to limit its role?
10. In the future, should AI be allowed to make ethical or legal decisions, such as serving as judges or doctors?

**Book-Specific Discussion Questions:**

***Machines Like Me* (Ian McEwan)**

1. In the novel, Charlie struggles with the morality of his AI companion, Adam. Do you think Adam is more moral than humans?
2. Would you want an AI like Adam in your life? Why or why not?
3. The novel suggests that AI can be “too perfect” and therefore incompatible with human society. Do you agree with this idea?

***Klara and the Sun* (Kazuo Ishiguro)**

1. Klara is an Artificial Friend designed to support children. Do you think AI companionship could ever replace human friendship?
2. Klara’s view of the world is shaped by her limited perspective. Does this make her experiences less valuable than a human’s?
3. How does Ishiguro’s novel challenge the idea that AI can never have emotions?

***Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?* (Philip K. Dick)**

1. In the novel, androids struggle to prove they are human. What does this suggest about the definition of humanity?
2. The Voigt-Kampff test is designed to detect empathy in order to distinguish humans from AI. Do you think an AI could ever convincingly pass such a test?
3. Is Deckard more similar to the androids than he realizes? What does this say about human nature?

**Debate and Statement-Based Prompts:**

1. **“Artificial intelligence will never be truly human.”** – Argue for or against this statement.
2. **“It is dangerous to allow AI to become too intelligent.”** – Do you agree or disagree?
3. **“AI will improve human life more than it will harm it.”** – Debate the advantages and disadvantages.
4. **“Humans are afraid of AI because they see too much of themselves in it.”** – Discuss.
5. **“In a world with AI, humans must redefine what it means to be human.”** – Do you agree?
6. **“A world where AI replaces human jobs is inevitable, and we must prepare for it.”** – Defend or challenge this view.
7. **“AI should be given the same rights as humans if it develops emotions and consciousness.”** – Debate this ethical question.
8. **“Sci-fi novels exaggerate the dangers of AI; in reality, AI will always be controlled by humans.”** – Argue for or against.
9. **“The way AI is portrayed in literature and film affects how people perceive its real-world potential.”** – Discuss.
10. **“AI is just a tool, and its morality depends on the humans who create it.”** – Debate this idea in relation to the novels.