Being human means being made in the likeness of God. We are made by Him, for Him and we were made *like* Him. And some people say that we evolved from apes, but apes weren’t made in the image of God. Some people say that robots and machines are or one day will be exactly like humans. But they weren’t even made till about 100 years ago! God didn’t make them, they can’t even think for themselves! Even if one day we do create artificial intelligence, they would still, and never would be, humans, made like God, by God.

Eve

What makes us human and not machine?

Machines do what they are told, machines don’t make much sense most of the time to newbies. Humans don’t always do what they are told to do sometimes or most of the time. We can make sense most of the time to newbies. We have feelings, computers don’t.

What makes us human and not animal?

Humans have souls but animals don’t. They cannot come to heaven with us although it makes us said. sad?They cannot speak like us, but they have their own separate language. Some animals are selfish and evil like us and like my cat. Animals are trained, we are taught. Not all animals are tame.

Darcy

What actually makes us human? Surely we are just living things that can talk, think, make, design, create and are emotional, so we are no different from other machines or animals living in this world? But that can’t be true. God created us different, he defined us to be who we are; his children designed to reflect and look like him (Genesis 1: 27). He made us, therefore we are his creation and he made us to be different from every other thing in the world. He’s the one who gave us the choice to sin (Genesis 2: 16 & 17), therefore he gave us the ability to think and to act. But he didn’t give the animals that choice.

But if humans are made by a creator and we are God’s creation, then surely machines are just another creation that could be called humans? Well no, God is the ultimate creator. Humans cannot make other humans, without an ultimate creator. We can’t create every detail including the capacity to think. Babies are born having been designed by God, just with the use of humans. We cannot make a person without using something already made, which explains the awesomeness of how God made us. Undeniably, there was an ultimate creator involved in making people and animals out of nothing.

But not only did he make us out of nothing, he made us to do things. We can walk, we can think, we can cry and have joy, but machines cannot do that. Robots can be programmed to do things such as that but they cannot feel that they are doing that. We know exactly what we are doing and can feel it, so we are different from everything.

Aynsley

What distinguishes us (humans) from machines? I think it’s our natural compassion, laws, emotions and that we have free will. Machines are made from humans and whether or not they can convey emotions, it was programed. We humans aren’t bound by one’s and zero’s, we have creativity and are able to create wonderful things. When I look at machines, I marvel at how they were created by humans. Though machines can calculate numbers at a click of a button, who made those calculations first? Humans (well actually God because he is the creator of all things, but he did give us information first and not to machines). Machines might be ‘smarter’ than us but there was a person behind the scenes who created that first. Machines don’t have natural laws, they are controlled by humans and can’t naturally follow their consciousness (Holy Spirit) because they don’t have one. That concludes my opinion on what distinguishes us from machines.

Grace

We are defined as human beings through a number of different ways. One thing that defines us as human beings is that we have a soul that feels different emotions. Sadness, joy, heartbreak, happiness, grief, depression, anxiety, excitement and many more. Think about it, would an ant feel those emotions? Another thing that separates us from being animals is the ability to talk to every person. You might ask, but how do we talk to someone that doesn’t speak the same language that we speak? We can talk to them with our body language or a translator but do animals have a translator to talk to different species other than their own? Lastly, in a Christian perspective God created us in His image but created animals to be things that we could care for, protect and rule over. These are some ideas that shows us how we are defined as human beings.

Allira

Man and machine are very different, but also very similar. God made man in his image, we’ve got arms, legs, a head, hands and many other unique and useful muscles and bones. Most importantly we have a brain and a soul. The brain being a actual organ that exists, and the soul being something that you can’t see or feel, but we still have it. The difference between the brain and the soul is in the brain, you have memories of what you have been taught, and you access those memories (i.e I was taught 1+1, my brain remembers and accesses that memory, 1+1=2). The soul is where you make your decisions on things like faith, what you like etc.

Man made machines. At first, they were made for practical purposes, like the simple machines used by the ancient egyptians to build the pyramids, all the way to world war 2 when the first computer equipment (the Enigma). In the past 50 years, electronic machines have progressed in efficiency, speed, usefulness, convenience and much more. In the past 5-10 years, robots have been invented and improved, things like Siri and robots in Scitech and Questacon etc. Currently, robots have been programmed with questions and responses, like Siri, or with actions, like some robots. Computers can only do what they are programmed to or commanded to do, good or bad. But us humans, we can choose what we want to do, we can go to the shop today or tomorrow, we can eat healthy or unhealthy. Computers and machines can only do what they were made for, obeying their programs.

Chris

Humanity is a broad term given to the human race, but what makes up humanity as a personage? When one thinks about our species, it is usually in a negative light. ‘What has happened to humanity‽’ or ‘He has no humanity!’. But when used in such a form it also is an abstract noun. It is a synonym to compassion and fraternity and is used as a standard of treating other humans. Another thing that defines humanity is it’s continually progress and advancement in technology. A continual search for something easier, quicker and requiring less effort or thought.

Humans are very unique in many ways, not only visibly. One of the main things, physiologically speaking, that makes us humans is a part of our brain that allows us to understand that we are alive and makes us be able to recognize our reality. Humans are also unique in that God has given us free will and unlike angels or animals, I think(?), we have the choice of who to follow and believe in.

Sofia

What makes us human?