Different Ways of Knowing
Since we each perceive the world differently, each of us knows it differently. We each create our own world and then we each live in the one that we created.

Our perception is formed by both our imagination and experience. Since each person’s experience is different from everyone else ~ so is our own way of knowing.

Since we each perceive the world differently, each of us knows it differently. We each create our own world and then we each live in the one that we created.

Each of these worlds is complete and complex enough to have it’s own rules, relationships and it’s own portion of the truth wrapped up within it.

Key Points

* Perception colours everything we see and understand. Perception is an individual characteristic.
* What one person might see as a cause for fear, another might take as an opportunity for excitement.
* Our perception is formed by both our imagination and experience. Since each person’s experience is different from everyone else ~ so is our own way of knowing.
No Two People Share the Same World
Key Points

* Because of the differences in perception and the worlds we live in, coming to agreement on any truth can be difficult.

* Even though we may be looking at the same thing, we are not seeing it with the same eyes or understanding it with same mind.

* Eye witness testimony tends to be the most unreliable that the legal profession has to deal with.

* In WWII, the military wanted to train observers whose reports could be relied upon. They did this by screening recruits. Each was place at a particular point and asked to tell the test administer the colour of a house on a particular hill. 99 out of a 100 said “The house is white.” ~ 1 out a 100 said “This side of the house is white.” These were trained to be observers.
The Truth Can Be Elusive
To glimpse the bigger truth more completely, each person needs to share her/his point of view in a way that others can begin to grasp it as well. This is never easy because you particular view may be so different that others cannot even understand the concepts you use to explain it.

Since each person has a single point of view, their direct knowledge will capture only a small portion of the truth. Shared truth can never be fully apprehended from a single point of view.

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We need all the points of view to fully understand truth, and we need to understand the different ways of knowing to begin to understand it through another’s eyes.

Key Points

* The 1 out of a 100 knew that information depended on a point of view. They were unwilling to commit to what they could not see with their own eyes.

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Every Person has a Unique Point of View
Key Points

* Some things we can know directly through our senses.
  * Some we know by sight.
  * Some we know by touch.
  * Some we know by hearing.
  * Some we know by taste.
  * Some we know by smell.

* Our senses are easily fooled, however.
Some We Know from Our Senses
Key Points

* Other things require a relevant experience to know and understand them.

* You can learn the rules of a game but until you actually play the game you can fully appreciate it for what it is.

* Experience teaches more than facts, it teaches concepts and principles as well.

* Finally, experience conveys both the parts and the whole as well.

* Yet even here no two individuals will ever share the same experience even when they share the same activity.

* Observation and thought are instrument in the acquisition of concepts.
Some We Know from Experience
Key Points

* Some knowledge requires formal learning to be acquired.

* A discipline such as mathematics contains so many rules and principles to be grasped directly. It must be taught and once taught can be verified directly.

* Things that are past are another dimension that cannot observed directly. As a result history must be taught if the lessons of the past are not to be forgotten.

* Memory plays a major role in the storage of knowledge gained from learning.
Some We Know from Learning
Key Points

* Some knowledge we are given directly. We just know it.

* It might be conveyed in dreams or come to us in meditation.

* It is knowledge that comes to us without experience, senses, or learning and is no less valid than these sources.

* The arts are a good example of this form of knowing.

* While the source of knowing may not directly observable, the result of knowing can be verified in same way as the other forms.

* In a real sense it is comprehension without thought or previous learning.
Some We Know from Inspiration
Key Points

* Some knowledge comes from a formal reasoning process.

* Logic and its principles can help us to arrive at conclusions without the relevant experience or learning.

* Piloting an aircraft from one point to another is an example of how logic can help you arrive at your destination.

* This is the product of thought. Thought can be understood as the recognition of something by its nature or essence.
Some We Know from Reasoning
How to walk is a good example of knowledge stored in the body. We know how to do it but attempting to walk consciously often interferes with the process of doing it.

The body knows in a way that is difficult to explain in other terms.

Not only are there many ways of knowing the knowing gained is often stored in different ways as well.

How knowledge is stored has a major impact on how it is most easily expressed and/or accessed.
Some Knowledge is Stored in the Body
Key Points

* Facts, dates and quotations are example of things stored in our memory and recalled when they are needed.

* Some knowledge of a more esoteric nature is stored in memory as well. Emotions and experiences share our memory with more mundane knowledge.

* Memory is both wholistic and associative in nature. Nothing is stored in isolation. Every fact, thought, word and deed has a context. Pick up any item and you might well find the totality of person attached.
Some Knowledge is Stored in the Memory
Key Points

* The mind is the repository of awareness. In a sense, awareness is a common faculty in all the forms of knowing.

* We become mindful (aware of something) and then we search for what it is, through memory, sensory or other forms of storage.

* Awareness often proceeds storage and access. Mindfulness plays a critical role in conveying the information from the senses to those aspects of knowing that recognize and assign meaning.
Some Knowledge is Stored in the Mind
Key Points

* Some knowledge is stored in the centre of our emotions. In many cultures this is considered the heart.

* Some knowledge is just the emotional impact. Other knowledge is the stored with an emotional component.

* In a larger sense, everything has an emotional impact. We are essentially emotional beings who have assign an emotional loading to every thought, word and deed.
Some Knowledge is Stored in the Heart
Key Points

* Spirit is the repository of meaning and significance.

* It might be expressed, “this is big” ~ “this matters”.

* This is like the emotional loading usually assign but much broad, deeper and complete.

* To know it in spirit is to know it from the core of your being.
Some Knowledge is Stored in the Spirit
Key Points

* Do you know how to walk ~ just watch me.

* It is not just the knowledge that is stored in the body that can find it’s expression through movement.

* Any knowledge can potentially find expression kinetically.
Some Knowledge is Best Expressed through Movement
Key Points

* Language can express many but not all concepts. Finding the right words might be difficult however.

* Speaking can convey facts, ideas, concepts, principles and emotion.
Some Knowledge is Best Expressed through Speaking
Key Points

* Symbols can express a multitude of meanings in a simple straightforward manner.

* Some abstract concepts can only symbolically i.e., mathematics.

* The visual arts are a way to convey meaning symbolically.
Some Knowledge is Best Expressed through Symbols
Key Points

* Imagination - the ability to conceive of something that might never have been expressed before - is often portrayed through the Arts.

* Art has the burden of conveying the spirit in a way that others can be touched by it.
Some Knowledge is Best Expressed through The Arts
Key Points

* At any moment, every human being is conveying who and what they are in methods both gross and subtle.

* An individual’s spirit is conveyed in every thought, word, and gesture.

* Since it is the spirit that is being conveyed, in a sense each person is a work of art expressed by being one’s self.
Some Knowledge is Best Expressed through just Being
Key Points

* Each person has a unique part to play in the creative plan of the universe.

* Each has a unique point of view and a part of the truth that no one else has grasped.

* In each, the spirit longs to express both its essential nature and the truth it has grasped through the human experience.

* It is their song to sing and each must use its unique gifts to express her/himself.

* The doing of which enriches us all.
Each Person has a Unique Song to Sing