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Is faith, Faith?





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Aims:

- Examine the role of 'faith' in other Areas of Knowledge and not focus on Faith.
- Consider that faith does not act in isolation from other Ways of Knowing
- Use links to real life situations much like our students have to do in the essay and presentation.
- Scratch the surface
 - 3, 2, 1.....



Links to AOKs

Natural Science

Mathematics

History

Other AOKs

A bit ambitious....



Ways of knowing...

- Very difficult to address them in isolation.
- This is no different for faith
- Clear distinction between:
 - memory?
 - emotion?
 - intuition?
 - language?
 - reason?
 - imagination?
 - perception?



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Ways of Knowing...

Avoid trying to make clear distinctions.

WOKS



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Pascal's Wager....

Is it logical to believe in God?



A TOK Definition of Faith...

“The term ‘faith’ is most frequently used to refer specifically to religious faith, but can also be used in a secular sense as a synonym for **trust**.”

Pg 25 TOK Guide



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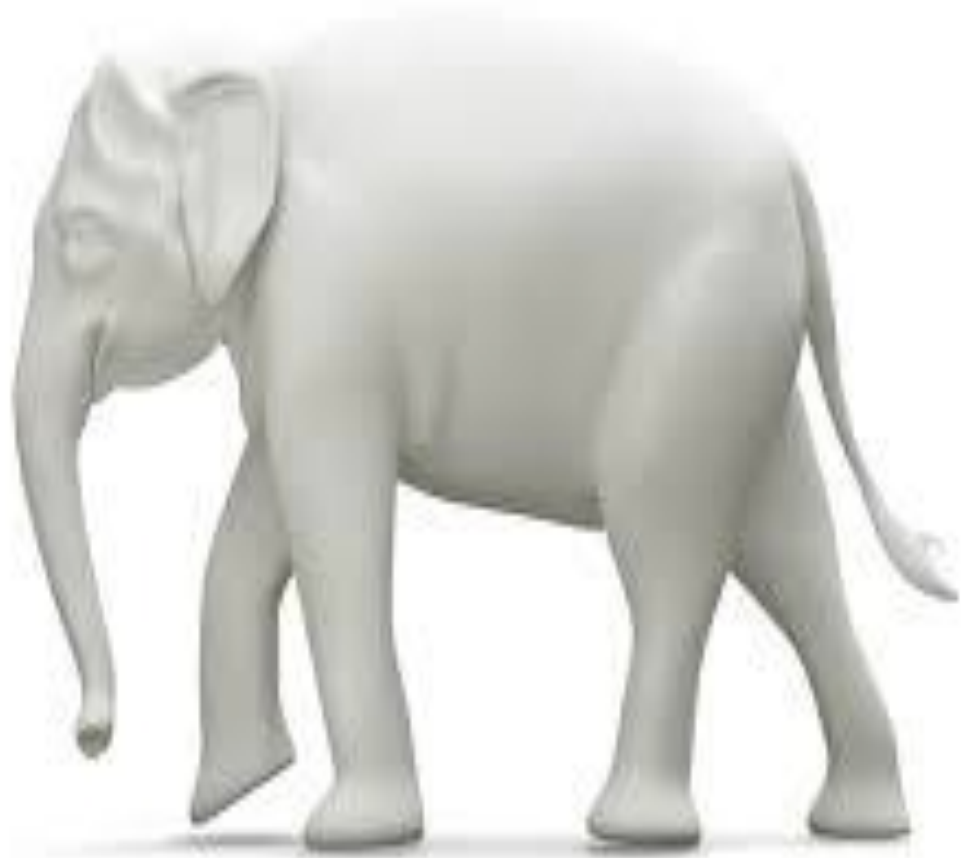
Controversial?????

From May 2015

- Faith as a WOK
- Religious Knowledge Systems



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Opportunity

Given this controversy, teachers should provide the opportunity for a critical discussion of faith as a way of knowing. Its inclusion as a way of knowing **should not be seen as an excuse for unthinking acceptance** of knowledge claims in religion or other areas of knowledge.



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Knowledge Question..

What role does **trust** play in our **acceptance** of knowledge claims in various Areas of Knowledge?

I would argue that the answers lie in the knowledge frameworks.



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Knowledge framework

Scope/applications

Concepts/language

Methodology

Historical development

Links to personal
knowledge



Links to the Presentation and Essay

- Attempt to link to real life situations.
- Attempt to extract relevant knowledge questions.
- Attempt to make clear links to the knowledge frameworks.
- Attempt to make it accessible to your students.



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Faith in the Natural Sciences





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Faith in the Natural Science

- Trust in:
 - the Scientific Method
 - Authority and Peer Review
 - History of Science



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Knowledge Frameworks

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Methodology | Scope/ Applications | Historical Development |
| Scientific Method | Laws on How the world works | Peer Review |
| Role of 'faith'? | Role of 'faith'? | Role of 'faith'? |
| Links to RLS | Links to RLS | Links to RLS |



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Methodology in NS

Why do we have faith in the Scientific Method?

- It works.
- Replicable.
- Falsification.



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Real life situation.

“The case did not investigate whether Dr Wakefield's findings were right or wrong, instead it focused on the methods of research.”

Link between MMR vaccine and autism.



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Scope/Applications in NS

“the science are shared knowelge, often shared by a large grouping geographically spread and largely independet of culture”

Pg 36 TOK Guide.



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Real Life Situation

www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/physics/

Google

Most Visited Getting Started

© The Nobel Foundation, Photo: Lovisa Engblom.



Ill: N. Elmehed. © Nobel Media 2014

2014 Nobel Prize in Physics

The [Nobel Prize in Physics 2014](#) was awarded jointly to [Isamu Akasaki](#), [Hiroshi Amano](#) and [Shuji Nakamura](#) "for the invention of efficient blue light-emitting diodes which has enabled bright and energy-saving white light sources".



The Nobel Prize in Physics

Awarded to 199 Nobel Laureates since 1901

"The said interest shall be divided into five equal parts, which shall be apportioned as follows: /- - / one part to the person who shall have made the most important discovery or invention within the field of physics ..."

(Excerpt from the will of Alfred Nobel)

Physics was the prize area which Alfred Nobel mentioned first in his will. At the end of the nineteenth century, many people considered physics as the foremost of the sciences, and perhaps Nobel saw it this way as well. His own research was also closely tied to physics.

The Nobel Prize in Physics is awarded by the [Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences](#), Stockholm, Sweden.

Most Popular Physics Laureates

-  1. [Albert Einstein](#)
-  2. [Shuji Nakamura](#)
-  3. [Isamu Akasaki](#)
-  4. [Hiroshi Amano](#)
-  5. [Niels Bohr](#)
-  6. [James Chadwick](#)
-  7. [Marie Curie](#)
-  8. [Robert A. Millikan](#)
-  9. [Erwin Schrödinger](#)
-  10. [J.J. Thomson](#)



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Historical Developement of NS

“If I have seen further it is by *standing on the shoulders of giants*. If I have seen further it is only by *standing on the shoulders of giants*.”



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A way out? Implications....





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Faith in Mathematics...

A principle or set of principles laid down by an authority as incontrovertibly true

A statement or proposition which is regarded as being established, accepted, or self-evidently true:



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Faith in Mathematics



"I think you should be more explicit here in step two."

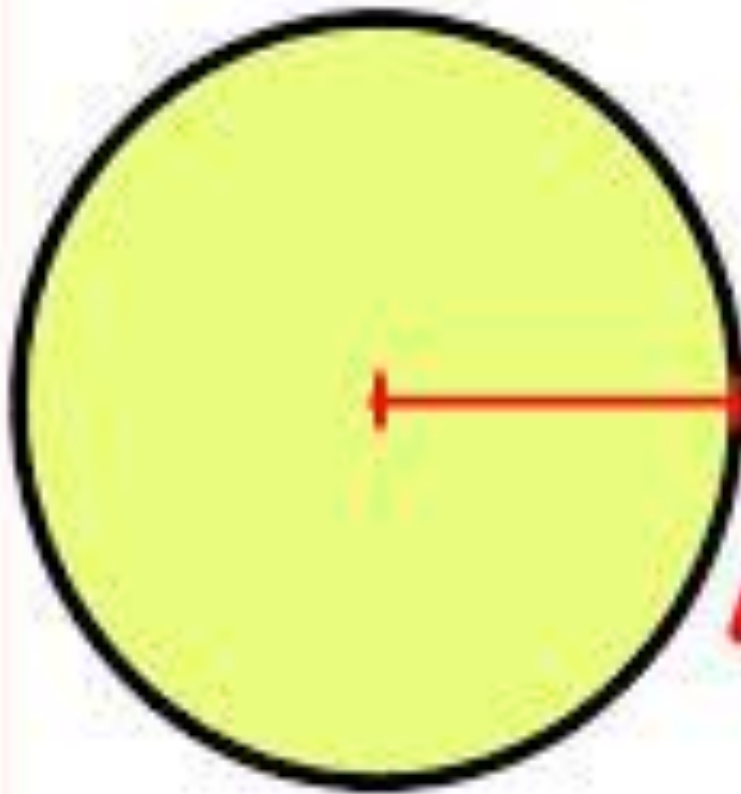




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Activity

3.141592653589793238
46264338327950288419
71693993751058209749
44592307816406286...



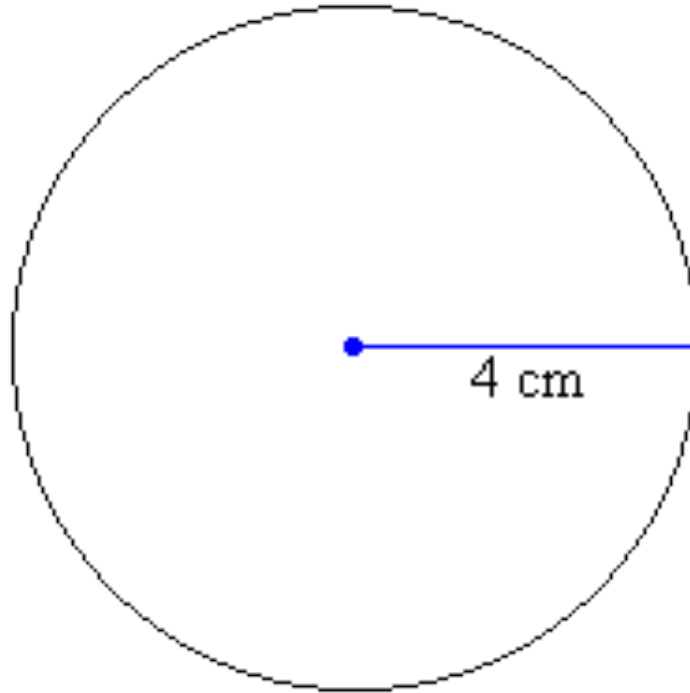
radius

area

$$A = \pi \times r^2$$



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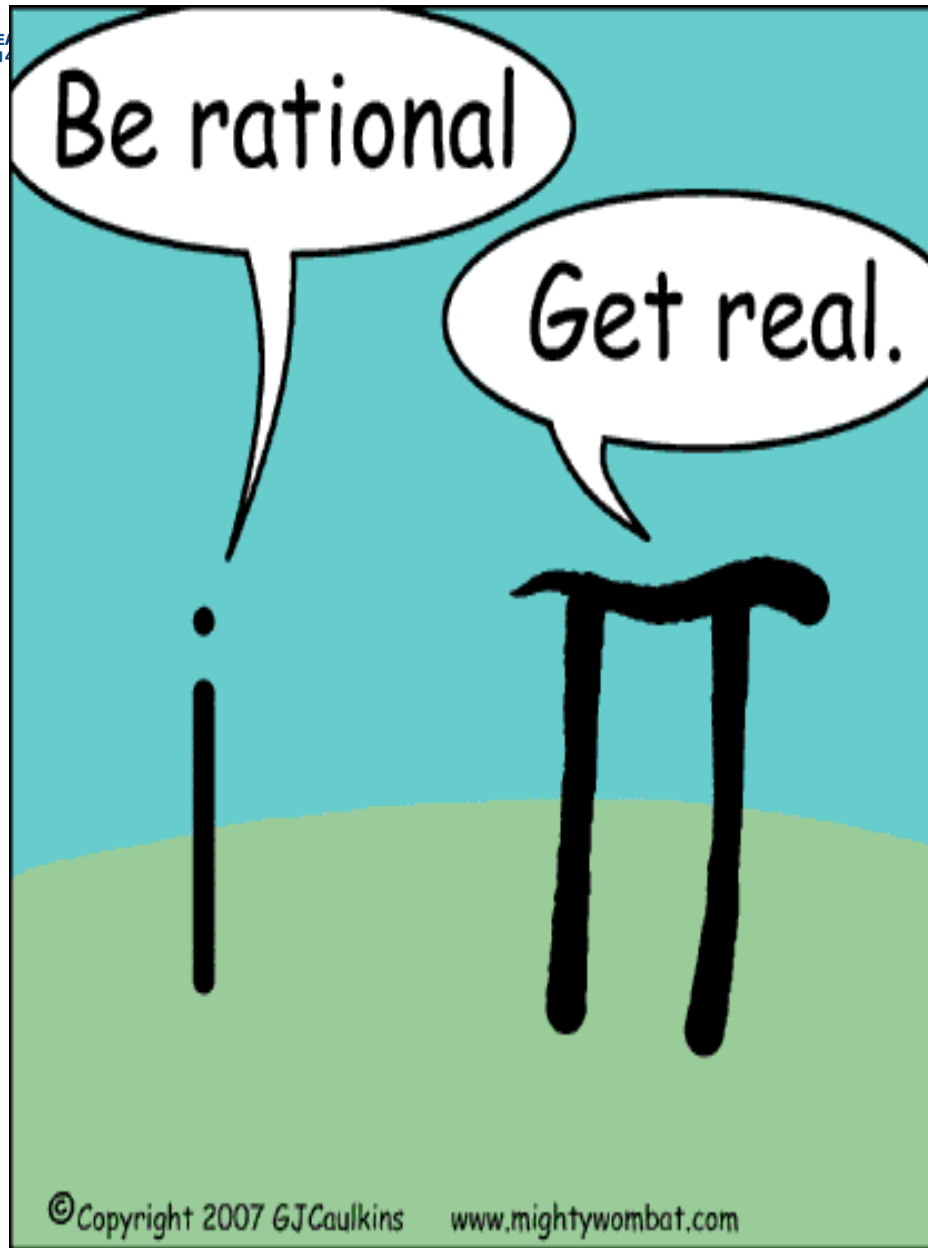


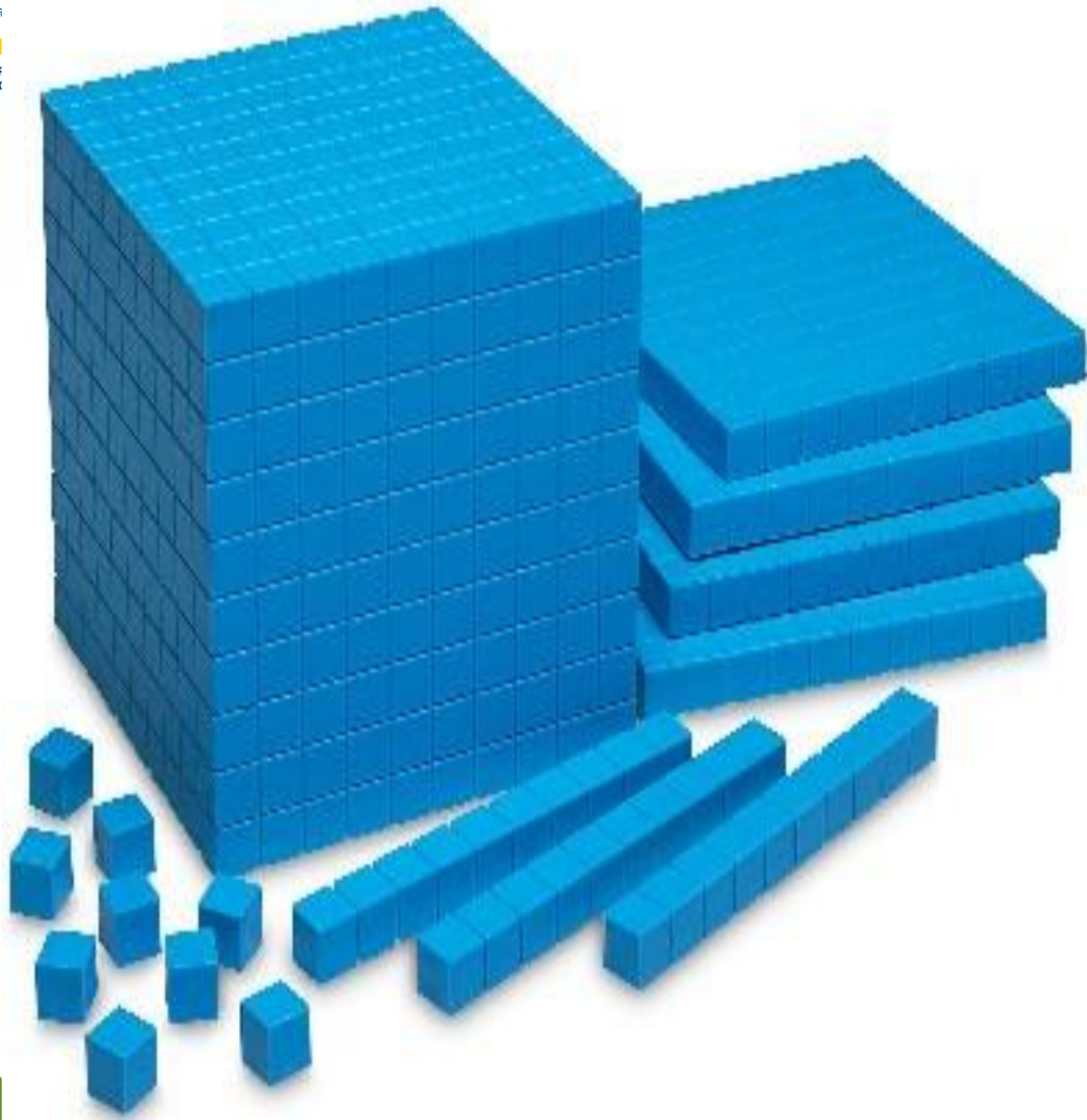
- A. 50.24 cm²
- B. 50.264 cm²
- C. 50.265472 cm²

Turn to the person sitting next to you and explain to the person sitting next to you how we can calculate the finite area of a circle using a number we still do not know the final value of?



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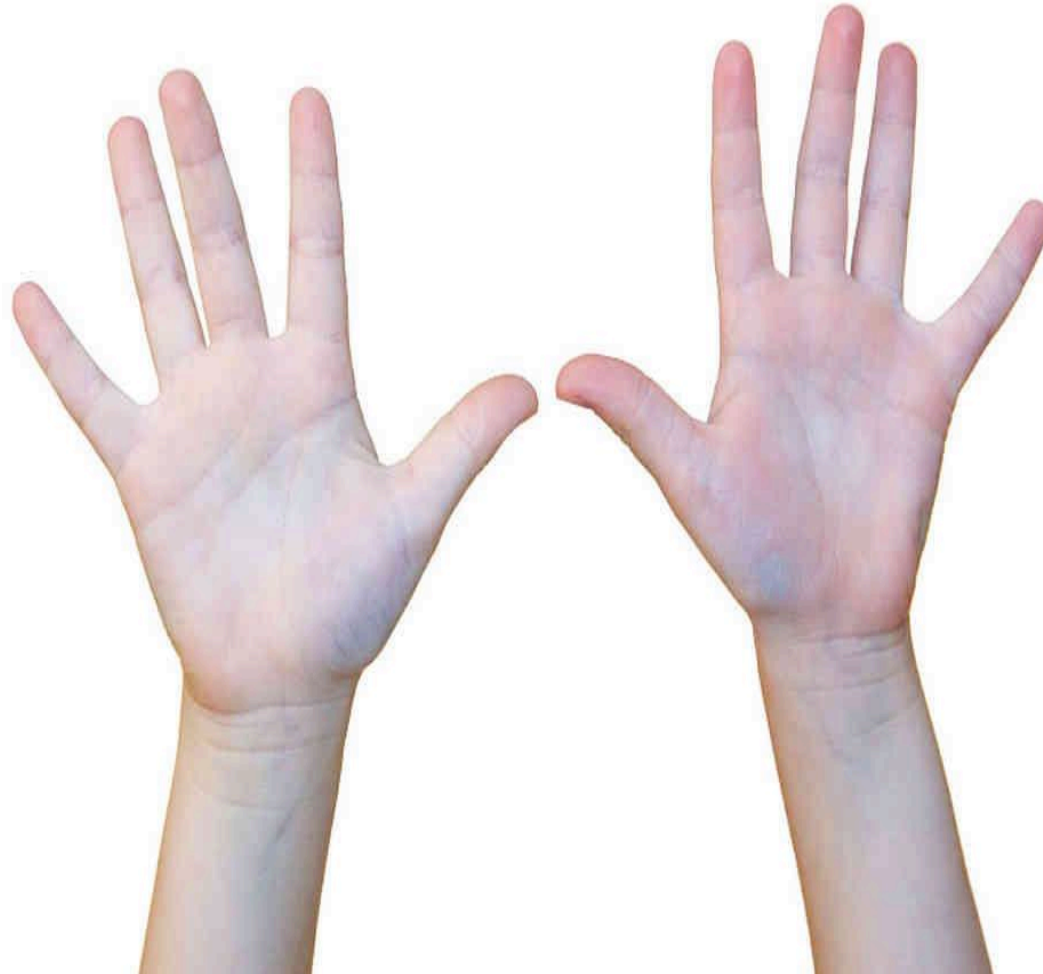






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How do we know base 10 is right?





Faith in History

Making reference to their origin and purpose assess the value and limitations of the sources in studying X.....



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- Origin: the ‘story’ of how the source came into existence.
- Purpose: the reason(s) why
- The context of the source clearly has implications with regards to the level of trust we have in the source



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Faith in the other AOKs

Human Science

The Arts

Ethics

Indigenous Knowledge Systems



3, 2, 1

- Share 3 things that you found interesting.....
- Share 2 things that you think you can use...
- Share 1 thing that you know you will use.....



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Thank you!

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