

Reflection Task: After reading the text "Why You Need TOK", write a reflective response in your journal (about 300–500 words) in which you explore your thoughts and reactions to the ideas presented. Use the guiding questions below to help structure your response. Guiding Prompts: What idea from the reading stood out to you most? Why? Have you ever been like Henny Penny—believing something without questioning it? What happened? What does it mean to ask "How do you know?" instead of just "What do you know?" How do you usually decide whether to trust information or not? Do you think this approach will change after reading this? How have your culture, family, or education shaped your beliefs and knowledge so far? How comfortable are you with saying "I don't know"? Why do you think TOK encourages this?

In contemporary IB diploma programme, according to the "The big picture" from the Kognity assignment, TOK is not only a subject that encourages you to question the claims, beliefs and assumptions put forth by others, but to question your own knowledge as well. (Introduction to TOK, par. 4). The main purpose of TOK is broader than students think. This essay is going to examine the the questions above

First and foremost, the idea that in modern society we are bombarded with different types of beliefs and knowledge stood out to me most. Also, the modern-day parallel is drawn to the Henny Penny story. The text states that in modern society, society bombards us with different ideas and beliefs and is very similar to real life, and it exemplifies this, for instance, social media posts, parents, friends, teachers, politicians and religious leaders, Like in the Henry Penny's story misinformation can be expressed with the best intentions making it that much more hard to detect which stood out to me.

In addition to that, the text implies that, when we were children, we were dominated by many mediocre ideas like Christopher Columbus was a heroic explorer who discovered America. When I was a child I was dominated by this idea too. Without questioning, I believed in this idea since I questioned what my beliefs were actually true. When I learned more evidence-type information about this topic. I felt disappointed. I also experienced something similar just because I knew there were three states of matter because of lessons from elementary and middle school. I was very shocked when I learned about plasma, the fourth state of matter. These experiences are the best examples of how my education has primarily shaped my beliefs.

Furthermore, in this article, the question "How do you know?" feels like a key that unlocks a deeper level of understanding. While "What do you know?" was passive, the question "How do you know?" is highly active in this article. The text implies us to focus more on evidence and methodology, and this method gives us the opportunity to test the accuracy of the information. This makes us more inquisitive in whether a claim is based on scientific evidence, historical documents etc.

While trusting information, my approach has been basically to test the source's credibility and then search for consensus among standard testifiers. This admittedly problems cause bias, and in that regard, I am more confident of something already substantiated by my own opinion. So the approach will certainly change after reading this. I will be putting a lot more conscious effort into the "How do you know?" question, especially with emotionally charged or controversial topics, and instead of just letting a claim sound good, I will instead proactively ask for the necessary evidence and logic.

In conclusion, the text guides us to embrace the phrase "I do not know," which is a bit challenging but an all-important lesson. Often in academia and society, there is a pressure to confirm one's knowledge. One feels that to admit ignorance is a weakness. On the contrary, the field of Information Science leads one to try to maintain that attitude for the sake of intellectual honesty, which means that every real inquiry begins with that statement. That was the approach used by Socrates and by all great scientists and philosophers. Comfort with "I don't know" is not a slide into ignorance; rather, it is the creation of the cognitive space necessary for...

WORD COUNT : 578 WORDS

