

What is knowledge?

Chāvan, Know

Relations known. Apprehended truth. opposite of opinion. Certain knowledge is more than opinion, less than truth. the relation between subject and object.
- The Dict. of Phil., D.D. Runes

Knowledge is not the same as belief or opinions. To say that a person knows that P implies that P, but to say that he believes that P does not imply that P.
The two statements 'A knows that P' and 'B knows that not-P' cannot be true together for the first implies that P and the second implies that not-P. people can know different things, but they cannot know incompatible things.
- The Penguin dict of phil., Thomas Mautner

SNK: - Jñāna
↓
Cognition, knowledge, wisdom, philosophic understanding, insight to effect moksha

Two questions: -
What is knowledge?
and is knowledge possible?

Knowing how to do sth and knowing that sth is true. Epistemologists - usually are concerned with understanding "knowing that." To determine what it is to know that sth is true

Q:- What is it to know that sth is true?
What is it to know that you are alive right now and that you are reading this book?

Is it merely to believe these things? or

Is knowledge sth beyond or different from belief? Does knowledge differ from mere information, from the data stored in computers or books? Does it include what is remembered?

Plato: - Theaetetus: - a dialogue devoted almost entirely to the question of what is knowledge?

✓ Knowledge may be equated with sense perception!

- to see a candle burning would be to know a candle is burning; hearing sound would be to know that sound; to hear Socrates talking would be to know that he is talking; to feel pain would be to know you are in pain; and so on.

Plato rejected the suggestion. If you ^{comes} know that sth is true, you can retain your knowledge even after you are no longer in sensory contact with the thing about which you have knowledge. And besides, whereas sense perception only provides information within this or that sensory channel, knowledge reaches across sensory channels. When I take chocolate,

My taste informs me of its sweetness, and my eyes informs me of its redness, but my knowledge brings together the redness and the sweetness. So knowledge seems to ~~involve~~^{involve} some sort of integrative activity on the part of the mind that goes beyond sense perception.

✓ the idea that knowledge is correct thinking or true belief!

But Plato rejected this idea because true belief may be based on hearsay evidence or just a lucky guess.

He then concluded that knowledge consists of "correct belief together with an account."

But problem is that what is the concept of an "account" either to his own or to anyone else's satisfaction. He was unable to clarify it.

{ that knowledge is true belief together with an account }

most contemporary philosophers, however, would not put things just that way. Instead, they would say this: for you to know that sth is true - say, that

Socrates is dead - means that three conditions must hold, namely: -

- (1) you must believe that Socrates is dead
- (2) your belief that Socrates is dead must be true
- (3) your belief that Socrates is dead must be justified: it must be based on evidence, grounds, or reasons that warrant that belief.

"justification" is just the modern word for what Plato called an "account."

The kind of knowledge usually discussed in Epistemology is propositional knowledge, "knowledge-that" as opposed to "knowledge-how" } the knowledge that " $2+2=4$ " as opposed to the knowledge of how to go about adding two numbers.

①

Knowledge is the awareness and understanding of particular aspects of reality. It is the clear, lucid information gained through the process of reason applied to reality. The traditional approach is that knowledge requires three necessary and sufficient conditions, so that knowledge can then be defined as "Justified-true-belief" (JTB)

- Truth: Since false propositions cannot be known - for sth to count as knowledge, it must actually be true. As Aristotle famously expressed it: "to say of sth which is that it is not, or to say of sth which is not that it is, is false. However, to say of sth which is that it is, or of sth which is not that it is not, is true"

- belief: because one cannot know sth that one doesn't even believe in, the statement "I know x, but I don't believe that x is true" is contradictory.

- Justification - as opposed to believing in sth purely as a matter of luck.



The definition of justification:

✓ Evidentialism - what makes a belief justified in this sense is the possession of evidence - a belief is justified to the extent that it fits a person's evidence.

✓ Reliabilism - suggests that either: - ① justification is not necessary for knowledge provided it is a reliably-produced true belief; ② justification is required but any reliable cognitive process (e.g. vision) is sufficient justification.

✓ Infallibilism - holds that a belief must not only be true and justified, but that the justification of the belief must necessitate its truth, so that the justification for the belief must be infallible.



whether justification is external or internal : -

✓ Externalism - holds that factors "external" (meaning outside of the psychological states of those who are gaining the knowledge) can be conditions of knowledge,

So that if the relevant facts justifying a proposition are external then they are acceptable

* Internalism :- claims that all knowledge-yielding conditions are within the psychological states of those who gain knowledge.