

# Knowledge and the Knower: What Counts as Knowledge?



## Humans

Homo sapiens are a species who have evolved over hundreds of thousands of years, yet still form hardly a fraction of the complete history of this world. Even so, humans are possibly the only species to be this highly dominant as compared to any other species. Humans have knowledge that only they have, other species do not have this same knowledge or their knowledge is not as advanced. Evolution was followed by invention, and invention was followed by revolutions, which have led to many changes as they are today. Now, humans are a thriving community who are struggling with the effects of their own advancements in knowledge which have damaged the environment. So maybe some knowledge is bad or maybe knowledge is always good and some humans just use it in bad ways.



## Fire

Fire has existed ever since the dawn of time, it has burned and thrived even before the first sign of life had appeared, and when it did, fire could have killed it. In other words, or in scientific terms, “fire is the rapid oxidation of a material in the exothermic chemical process of combustion” as cited by Wikipedia.

Fire is a very dangerous occurrence and is easily spreadable if not handled with care. Yet, even with these life-threatening characteristics of fire, we have learnt to tame this beast, and humble it to do our needs. It has been used for ages to make edibles taste better such as cooked ham, it has been used to warm our surroundings in the form of a fireplace and even used as a weapon of destruction in the means of a flamethrower. We use our knowledge of fire to use fire to help us do things.

Without fire, there would be a major and everlasting impact on humans. Food would never be cooked, thus would always taste raw to humans. So many discoveries and inventions such as cars, trains, planes and even medieval and ancient things such as swords and shields, flaming arrows would not have been discovered. The history of mankind would have gone a completely different path, or no path at all. They may not have survived the coming ice age or would have evolved in a different manner to adapt to the changes.



## Food

Food varies from species to species. Most animal species act as hunters to acquire it while many plant species decide to make it for themselves. Humans, on the other hand seemed to not hunt for these foods but do anything to make it taste better as a whole, even if it means extracting out all the healthy nutrients from it. Food differs from country to country, as different regions grow different items, making each region's food unique. Humans from country to country know about different ingredients and different recipes and ways to cook food, so they make different food because of their different knowledge.