1a. The incentive was the pressure put onto everyone by the scammers themselves. Since if someone dared to say anything, they would be viewed as incompetent or foolish nobody dared to speak against the clothes. So, the townspeople could have willed the clothing into existence even if in their hearts they truly believed the emperor was wearing nothing.

1b. The creation of the emperor’s clothes was half collective and half individual. The social pressure willed the creation of the clothes to begin with as the pressure was too much for the townspeople to overcome themselves. While not as important the individual component effects how each individual saw the clothes as the color and pattern of the clothes would differ person to person.

1c. While people are possible of making physical reality for themselves the ability to truly believe in that reality is based on the strength of belief in the reality. We see this in the story as a child breaks the reality by saying the emperor was wearing nothing breaking their belief or immersion in the reality. People who get engaged in literature can describe this feeling as being invested in the story and perceiving the world through characters eyes can be broken by a bad plot point in the story, the immersion of the reality is broken.

1d. The colors determined by each individual would have been vastly different from the person next to him as each person would view the clothing as a pattern and color they would “see” as the most magnificent piece of clothing. While this belief held for a while it only took an innocent child to break the notion of the clothes of the town people showing they saw the clothing at first, but their belief was broken when they realized that the clothes were a figment of their imagination.

2a. Peer pressure effected every individual because nobody was willing to doubt, they were bringing tricked at the risk of being viewed as a fool or incompetent. Until somebody considered outside the scope of the peer pressure, a child, said something the pressure kept anyone from speaking up.

2b. No, while some absurdities can be called out in a connected world some cannot as perspectives change person to person. A good example would be the black and blue dress craze that happened in 2017. While the dress was Black and Blue based on Perspective and just flaws in human perception caused a lot of people to see the dress as white and gold. This at least showed that at least some absurdities can be agreed and called out but if a dress can be perceived differently whose to say how enforced norms can truly be enforced.

3. We shape our perspectives through our perceptions of things. The poem is a good example of this as all of the men had different perspectives because they each had different perceptions of what the elephant was. This can also show that even if the object is the same depending on how someone views or touches the object their perspective can be very different than someone else’s.

4. Because they only had felt one part each and since each believed the part they felt was the only part of the elephant the others must have been wrong. Not one of the men had taken the time to feel the entire elephant so each person only knew what they had felt to begin with and nothing else.

5. No, the blind men try to apply their knowledge to the unknown. They couldn’t explain what the Elephant’s trunk was because they couldn’t see it. Therefore, they used analogies to things they have seen or felt before like snakes. Their representations aren’t meant to be taken literally but is instead supposed to show the thoughts of the men as they try and figure out what is in front of them.

6. The poem could relate to Science as many Scientific concepts and theories are based on things, we can’t physically see normally, viruses, gravity etc. Evidence is then gathered and scrutinized heavily by scientists in the community. This can relate to the phrase ‘we argue about gods that none of us have seen’ as scientists debate many topics that effect humans but aren’t always visible to the naked eye.