

K = JTB

1. Is it possible to know a false proposition?
2. Did the ancients know that the Earth is flat?
3. Can you give an example of a proposition that is true but not known?
4. Is it possible to believe something false?
5. Did the ancients believe that the Earth is flat?
6. Can you give an example of a proposition that true but not believed?
7. William flips a coin, and confidently believes—on no particular basis—that it will land tails. The coin does land tails. Did William *know* that the coin would land tails? Why?
8. What is the traditional analysis of knowledge?

9. Describe a Gettier case against the traditional analysis of knowledge. How does it undermine the traditional analysis of knowledge?
10. If you want to keep the traditional analysis of knowledge, how would reply to the objection in question 9?
11. If you don't want to keep the traditional analysis of knowledge, how would you reply to the objection in question 9?
12. Suppose Walter comes home after work to find out that his house has burned down. He says: "I don't believe it". Critics of the belief condition argue that Walter knows that his house has burned down (he sees that it has), but, as his words indicate, he does not believe it. Do you think this is the correct assessment of the case? Why?
13. Colin Radford (1966) described the following case: Suppose Albert is quizzed on English history. One of the questions is: "When did Queen Elizabeth die?" Albert doesn't think he knows, but answers the question correctly. Moreover, he gives correct answers to many other questions to which he didn't think he knew the answer. Let us focus on Albert's answer to the question about Elizabeth:
- (E) Elizabeth died in 1603.
- Radford makes the following two claims about this example:
- (1) Albert does not believe (E).
(2) Albert knows (E).
- (a) In support of (1), Radford emphasizes that Albert thinks he doesn't know the answer to the question. He doesn't trust his answer because he takes it to be a mere guess. How could someone object to Radford's reasoning?

(b) In support of (2), Radford argues that Albert's answer is not at all just a lucky guess. The fact that he answers most of the questions correctly indicates that he has actually learned, and never forgotten, such historical facts. How could someone object to Radford's reasoning?

(c) If (1) and (2) to be true, how does the case undermine the traditional analysis of knowledge?

True or false?

- 14. ____ If a proposition is true, then it's known.
- 15. ____ If a proposition is known, then it's true.
- 16. ____ If a proposition is true, then it's believed.
- 17. ____ If a proposition is believed, then it's true.
- 18. ____ If a person is justified in believing a proposition, then she knows it.
- 19. ____ If a person knows a proposition, then she is justified in believing it.
- 20. ____ If a person is justified in believing a proposition, then the proposition is true.

The answer to most of the questions on this handout and a more in depth discussion on the subject can be found here: https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/knowledge-analysis .
