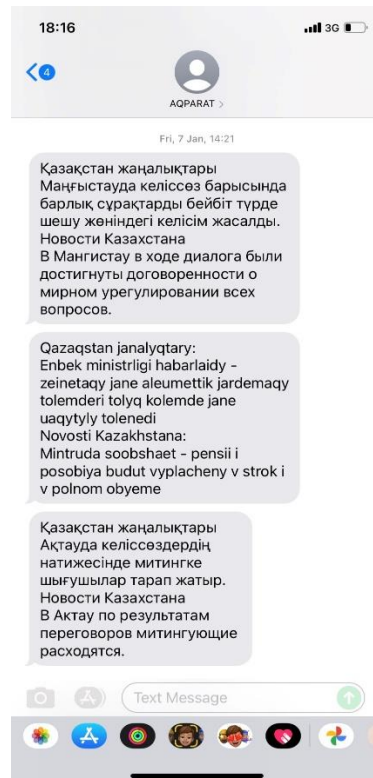


24. How might the context in which knowledge is presented influence whether it is accepted or rejected?

Word count: 806

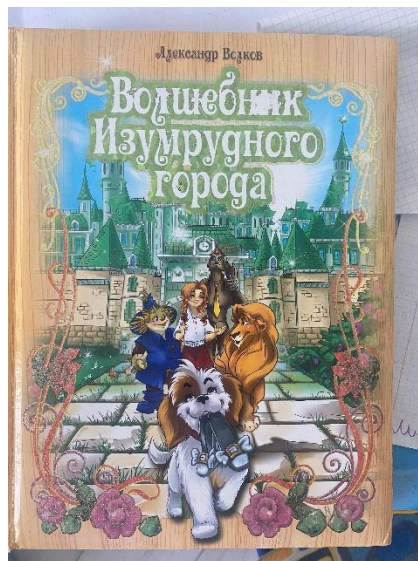


Object 1: My screenshot

This is a screenshot of my “Messages” app, where messenger “AQMOLA” is sending news during the protests in the Kazakhstan. During protests, I did not have any access to online news portals, social media and because my family never used cable TV, we couldn’t watch news either. These SMSs were the only source of information I had and that’s why I trusted the knowledge they presented. Every message informed me of what’s going on in the country, yet there are always different perspectives from which knowledge can be presented. For example, these messages are from the government’s perspective and they didn’t include some information in these messages. As after

protests ended, I finally had a chance to check other news portals. I discovered a lot of new information, which shows that in the time of need, when I had no other choice but to trust messages, I did trust them. They were my only source of knowledge that I accepted, but as soon as I started to have a choice again, the information that was presented earlier was no longer as accepted by me, as it was before.

This object is relevant to the prompt, as due to the protests, people couldn't use their usual sources of information, but at the same time everyone was interested in what's going on in other cities. Therefore, they accepted information presented by "AQMOLA" as they had no choice. That's why I can say that when a person has no options while choosing informant, they trust the only one they have and accept all the information he presents.

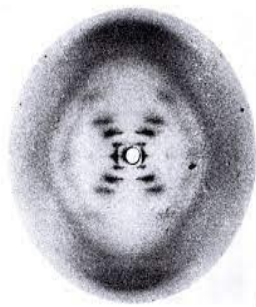


Object 2: My book

This is my book that I used to read in the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. It introduced me to the world of magic and being an easily impressed 8 year old I truly believed that the story in the book happened in real life and that one-day tornado will take me to that magical place

too. Here we can see how age affects the way we perceive a knowledge, as 17 year old me now does not believe that shown book is based on real life. It probably has to do with our intelligence, as usually younger kids do not know about atoms, anatomy, physic laws etc. Therefore, it is easy for them to believe in the existence of magic, yet an adult will see that it isn't backed up by science, facts and will easily dismiss it. The book itself is an example of how easily a kid can be made to accept certain type of knowledge due to being not educated enough to see the falseness of it. Any other believe about Santa, tooth fairy, Eastern bunny etc. prove the same point.

While children believe magical things due to their limited awareness, the same can happen to adults but their limited awareness will have different consequences. As I believe that in real life, ones awareness affect their acceptance of information. If a person is not educated enough to distinguish truth from false then they can be made into accepting any information given to them. Therefore, if the information is presented to uneducated audience, it'll be easy for them to accept any provided information. However, for more educated public it'll be easier to analyze, evaluate provided information to either accept or reject it.



Object 3: Franklin's DNA structure image (Bernal,1958)

It is a picture of DNA structure taken by Rosalind Franklin in 1953. Her male college denied the finding. However, later the same man was awarded a Noble Prize for it, as he

used Franklin's picture without her permission. In that time women in science were not welcomed, yet even now there are some prejudice towards them in men dominated fields. In the Franklin's case, men in the field did not accept the knowledge she acquired, yet when the man presented the same knowledge, he was awarded. It shows how one's gender can influence whether their knowledge is being accepted/ rejected.

Men in the scientific field were prejudice towards Franklin, which affected the way people received her findings. Yet, they were not prejudice towards scientist that plagiarized her work, because being a man in STEM is more accepted and normalized. Even now, in 21<sup>st</sup> century women face prejudice in men dominated fields, which affect the way others receive the information they provide. Women might not be taken seriously, just as Franklin even though their knowledge is important, valuable.

This photo was selected, because it shows how in this case "context" is one's gender and how it influences if the knowledge is accepted or rejected. Franklin's college rejected her knowledge, yet then used it behind her back and got away with it, because she was a woman. That's why, when he presented the same knowledge- it was accepted. As a result, we can see how being a woman creates a prejudice that can affect whether the knowledge is accepted or rejected.

#### Bibliography:

Bernal, J. (1958). *Franklin's X-ray diagram of the B form of sodium thymonucleate (DNA) fibres* [Photograph]. Nature.

<https://www.nature.com/articles/nature01399/figures/1>