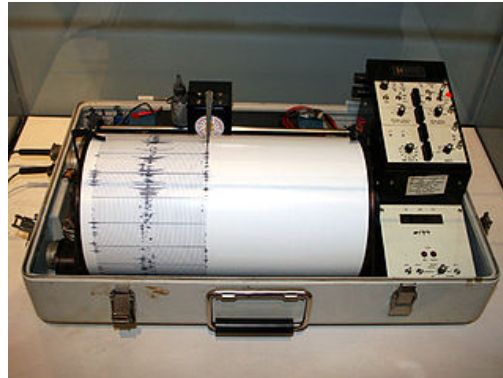


14. Does some knowledge belong only to particular communities of knowers?

Object 1 - Kinematic seismograph



(Yamaguchi先生, 2006)

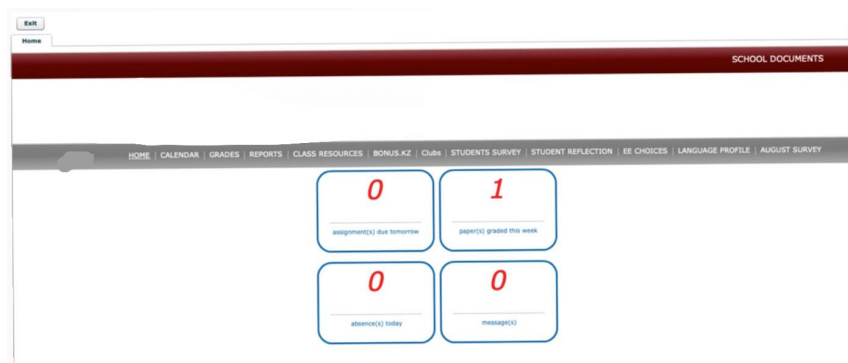
This is an instrument used by seismologists to record the motion of the ground during an earthquake. Acquired data might be used for further investigation of Earth's internal structure and for the characterization of earthquakes in a particular part of the world. The data from seismographs permits the scientists to detect the distance, magnitude, direction and type of earthquake that happened.

Personally, I belong to different kinds of communities of knowers, for example I take Geography and I belong to that community, because I study natural disasters including earthquakes and their impact on people's life. However, me as a student I am unable to comprehend the knowledge that seismographs produce during real earthquakes. Therefore, I will never understand the knowledge of seismologists on how to use a seismograph, how to comprehend data produced by a seismograph and how to properly interpret it. It is also worth mentioning that, I'm completely uninterested in the process of making the data from earthquakes using seismographs, but this is pivotal knowledge for

earth structure scientists to detect the type of earthquake, exact time, distance of influence. Me as a geography student, I can understand the knowledge that seismologists present in an easy way and use their facts in my works, but I will never be a part of their community, as I won't connect my life with investigating earthquakes.

Seismograph shares the knowledge about earthquakes to different communities, whether it will be geography students like me or real people who suffered from big earthquakes. However, this particular knowledge only belongs to earthquake scientists and seismologists.

### Object 2 - Out Of Seven



Screenshot of my account on school app

It is a specialized app for students and teachers of my school, that is used for checking grades, assigning assignments, and checking the presence of a student. It is useful only for students and teachers of my school who have the designed password and connected mail.

As a student who uses this app on a daily basis, the knowledge that my account holds belongs to me, the schedule of my lessons, my grades and my reports. However, it also highlights that knowledge can't truly belong to only one person. Nevertheless, that only I know the password and use this app, a

certain amount of knowledge on my account also belongs to developers, administration, because they created this app and gave me my password at the beginning of usage and kept updating my schedules of lessons, sending me notifications about reports. Furthermore, the knowledge of my grades and feedback that my teacher give me, belongs to them. That's how knowledge can't belong to only one person or only to one community, knowledge is constantly shared across people and improving with each pass to new people. From the other perspective, even within the community of users and knowers of this app, there is division between users from developers to teachers and students which form a community within the community. Developers might not know the passwords of teachers, while teachers don't have access to change their lessons and students can't access the functions of neither teachers nor developers. It demonstrates that communities consist of diverse people with their own experience of being in their current community and different possibilities of each identity in the community.

### Object 3 - My book of Haruki Murakami's Norwegian Wood



This is a novel by Haruki Murakami, which tells about the college years of Toru Watanabe in Tokyo. It is a story about the loss of a friend, motivations to live and a nostalgic scenery of Japan in the 1960s.

I discovered this book during winter break and I couldn't miss the chance to read this worldwide bestseller. During reading, I noticed that on every 5-10 pages there were remarks from the publisher, most of them either give a short description of places or explanation of Japanese cultural aspects. Culture of eating together, additional information about the setting of the book, authentic food regarding the region in Japan and their meaning.

At that moment, I understood that I will never be able to understand this book fully, simply because I'm not Japanese and I will never understand their culture. Additionally, since the book is translated from Japanese to Russian, some important knowledge might be lost during translation, which makes this book's knowledge belong only to Japanese people.

Other than that, Japanese people might interpret this book in another way in comparison to people from other countries due to being raised in Japanese culture. Therefore, foreign people can only appreciate and understand the meaning of the book on the surface level, whereas this book belongs only to Japanese people and they can understand every aspect of the book and cultural nuances.

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