

IB Theory of Knowledge Summer Work, 2020-2021

Okay. So. There are two Big Categories Of Things that we will explore in greater detail and talk about endlessly throughout the year. They are the Ways of Knowing (WOKs) and Areas of Knowledge (AOKs). More specifically--

8 Ways of Knowing (WOKs): Language, Sense perception, Emotion, Reason, Imagination, Faith, Intuition and Memory.

8 Areas of Knowledge (AOKs): Mathematics, the Natural Sciences, the Human Sciences, History, The Arts, Ethics, Religious Knowledge and Indigenous Knowledge.

As you will quickly discover, TOK is *everywhere*. There's a reason why, when people ask me what the class is about, I flounder around before settling on, "Well, it's about everything, really."

So what I want you to do this summer is to start paying attention to that. Read articles (longreads.com and longform.org are great places to start). Watch some TED Talks. Listen to some podcasts (*Radiolab*, *This American Life*, and *Invisibilia* discuss some intriguing things. I also dearly love *Risk!*, but the content can be a little...rough? Vulgar? I mean, I wouldn't want to listen to it with my mom--let's put it that way). Read some nonfiction! Watch a documentary! The possibilities are truly endless.

You aren't limited to just these places to find articles, podcasts, etc.. If you've got a go-to source that you love and that makes you think, go for it! If you want to check out some new things, please do! I also don't really even care what the articles/TED Talks/podcasts/etc. you decide to explore are *about*. If it piques your interest, look into it further. If you start something and it's boring you to tears, abandon ship! If you're into true crime and want to start listening to *My Favorite Murder*, go on with your bad self. If the arts are your thing, give *Exit Through The Gift Shop* a viewing. I think you get my point.

All I ask is this (which I guess is the actual assignment itself):

At some point(s) over the summer, email me. Provide me with a link to your resource, if at all possible; if it's not possible, at least give me the title. Tell me a little bit about what that resource is about. And then tell me how different AOKs and WOKs are linked to that particular resource. Don't worry about using the same ones twice. Don't worry if you don't use some of them at all. You should do this for two, SEPARATE resources. (I do ask that you send separate emails for each resource.) What I mean by that is--don't send me emails about two stories from *Risk!* Send me an email about a story from *Risk!* and an email about *Tiger King*. Make sense?

I really don't care how long your email is. Just show me that you've mused over the WOKs and AOKs, and that you've begun to start seeing how these concepts are everywhere in our daily lives.

You can do this today; you can do it in August. I don't care about that, either, as long as you send me two emails at some point, doing the above.

My email address is klampe@vikingmail.org. Don't be surprised if I email you back to follow up with further discussion; while you are not required to reply to these emails, I definitely encourage it!

Also, in case you're not already aware, there's a Google Classroom set up for this class already. The code is 4k7qu55. I think I have added most, if not all, of you already--but just in case!