

# The Definition of Knowledge

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*Abstract: Plato described knowledge as a “true justified belief” but this is too complicated because what is true is arguable, what is justified is arguable and what constitutes a belief in relation to the two is arguable. Plato’s definition of knowledge is vague, inconsistent and depends on the opinion of the person or group. A more encompassing easy to understand definition of knowledge is given with a little explanation.*

**Knowledge: Belief or set of beliefs**

**True Justified Belief**

These words were added to dress the word belief up. Knowledge can't simply be just a belief!

**Belief**  
=  
**Knowledge**

Epistemology is the philosophical study of knowledge and belief.

The people that go searching for "knowledge" are not searching for understanding, they are searching for something to believe in.

This should be your clue. Knowledge is belief. It is really that simple. The philosophers separated the two concepts because they needed to rationalize their own existence. The very idea that everything we think we "know" is nothing but a collection of beliefs is frightening!

Many people will not like this definition for knowledge because it will make them uncomfortable by forcing them to think. Many people do not like the pain of thinking so they adopt beliefs to make sure it happens less than often. The people who think too much and do not like the pain of thinking go to college and get masters and doctorate degrees so that the pain of thinking will eventually go away. The weird part is that the people who don't think at all appear similar to the people who can bear the pain of thinking, because neither bother with attaining a doctorates/masters degree. It is now understood that people with PhD/masters do not like thinking contrary to what society has been conditioned to understand.