

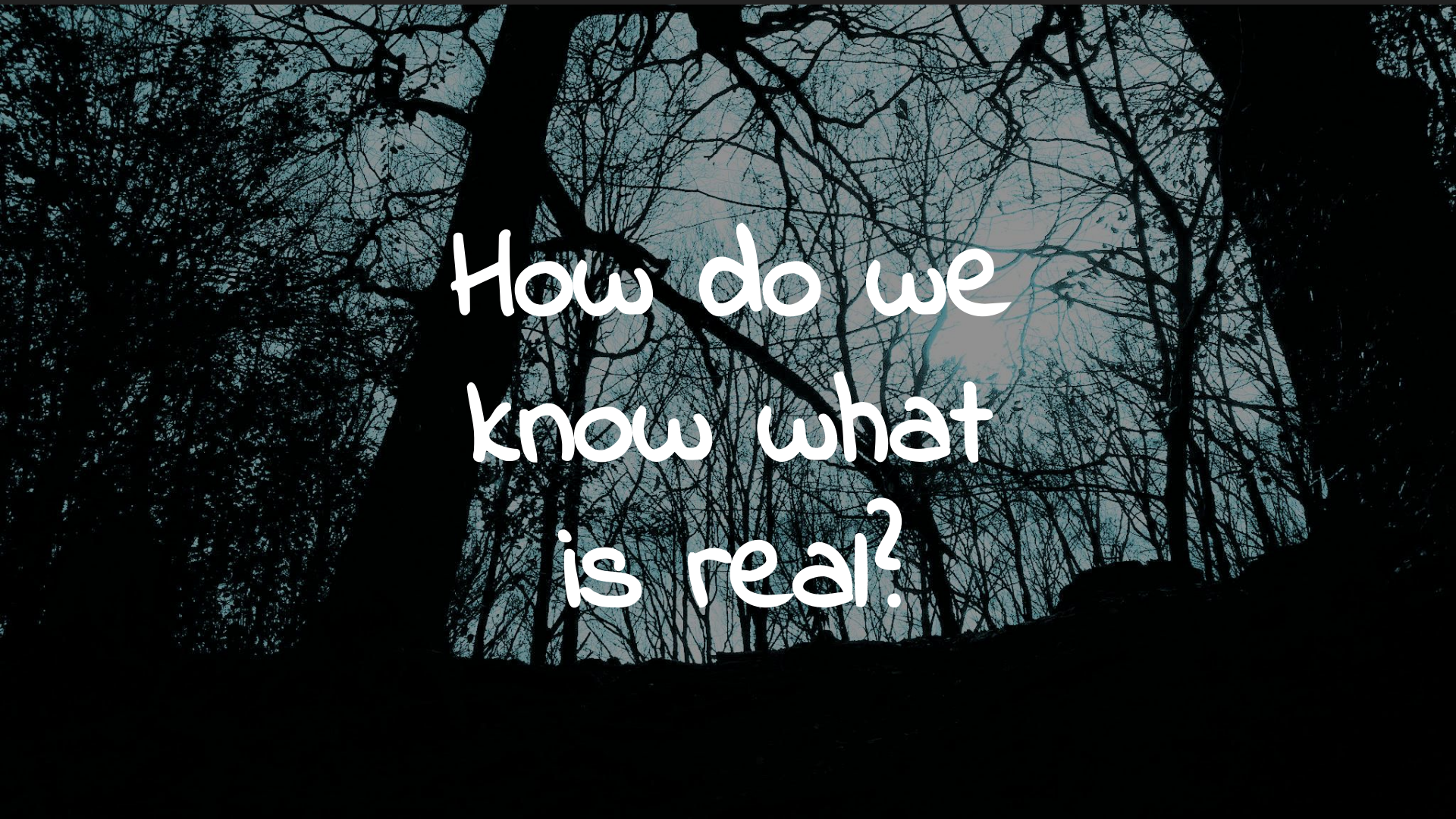
ON 2A LESSON 2A LESSON 2A L



Aid to the
Church in Need

ACN UNITED KINGDOM

MY REALITY

A low-angle photograph of a forest with bare trees against a blue sky. The text "How do we know what is real?" is overlaid in white, handwritten-style font in the center of the image.

How do we
know what
is real?



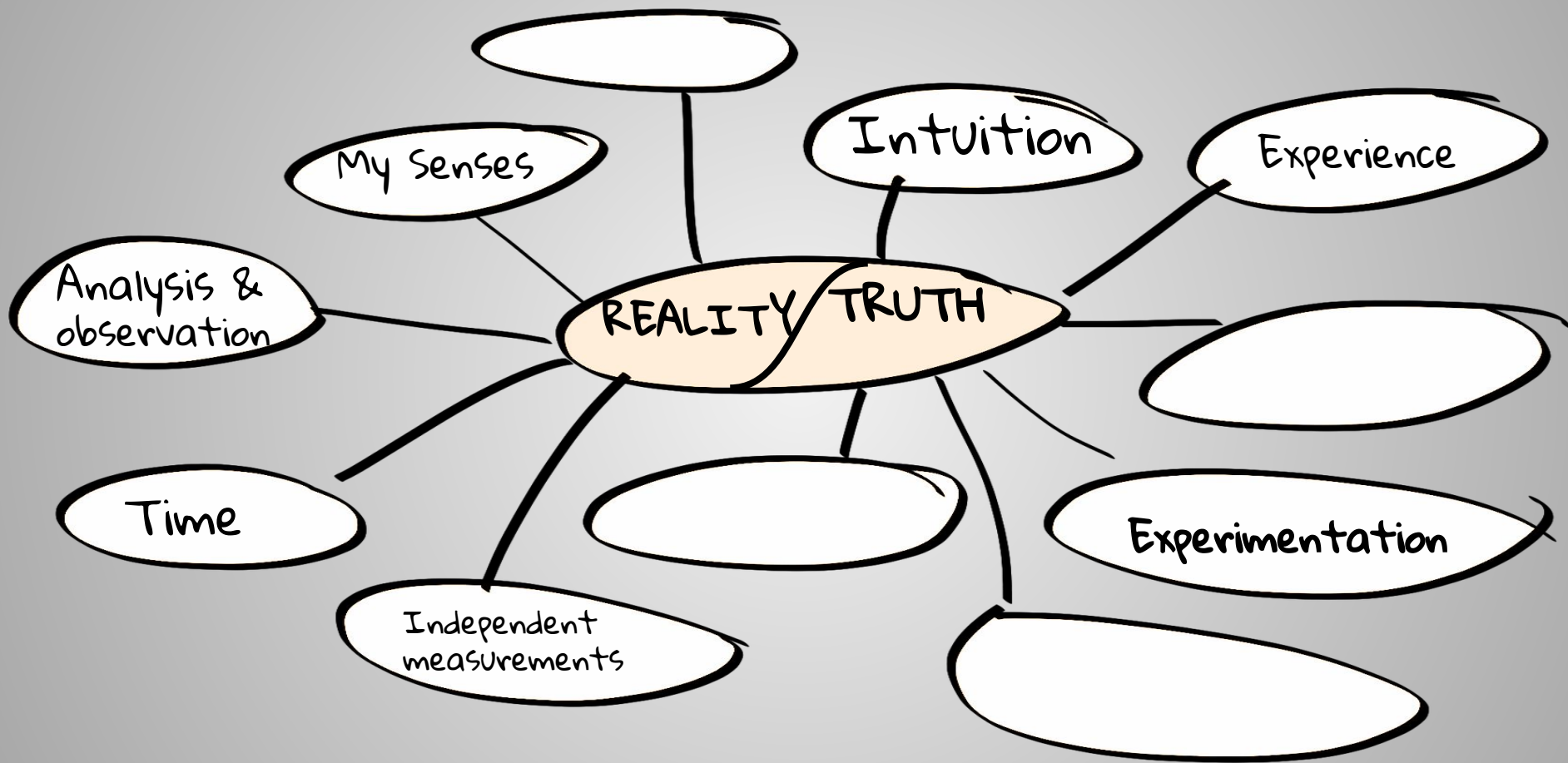
Sixth Form GENERAL/CORE RE



02:50

WORLD

STARTER



Learning Outcomes

By the end of this lesson I will
have:

- Considered the nature of reality by looking at the universe, the world and myself
- Researched and discussed different ideas about what is real
- Identified the areas of reality which interest me most with reference to 1 Corinthians 2:9

Key words, people & references

Metaphysics, knowledge
epistemology, realism, anti-realism,
empirical, consensus reality,
existential, artificial intelligence,
quantum

People: Plato, St Thomas Aquinas

1 CORINTHIANS 2:9

REALITY
PRESS HERE

WHICH OF THESE IS REAL?





me and my life



our world



the universe



1: ME AND MY LIFE

What I experience
through my senses

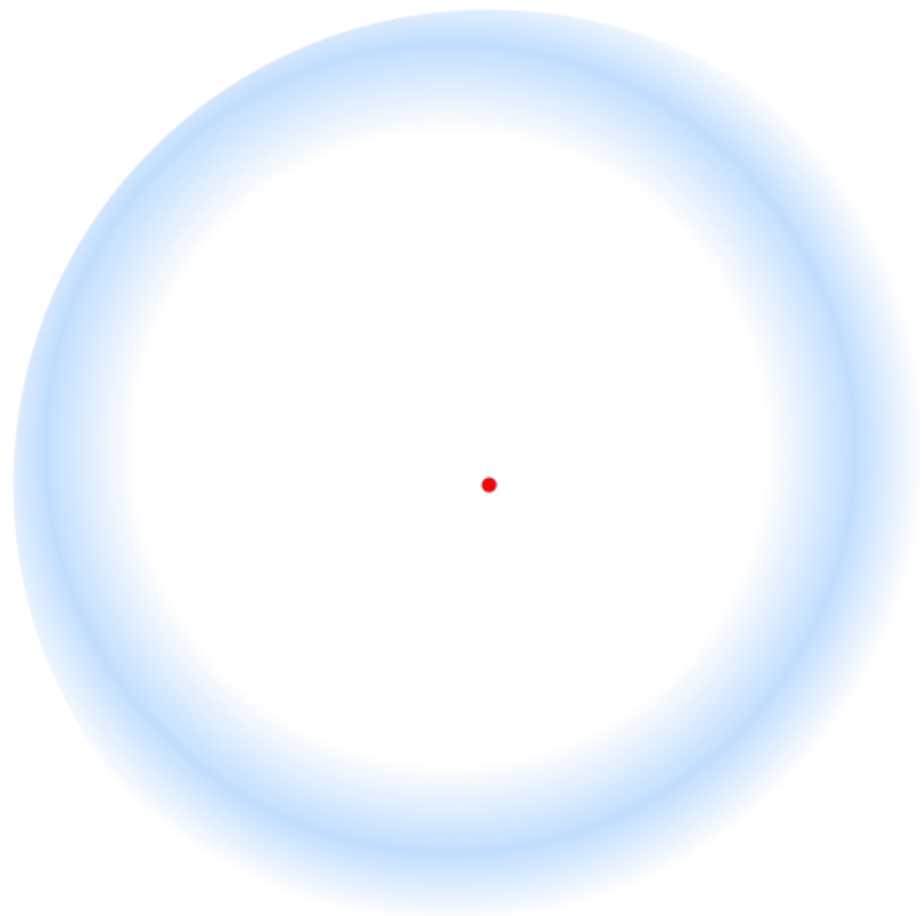
WHAT WE SEE

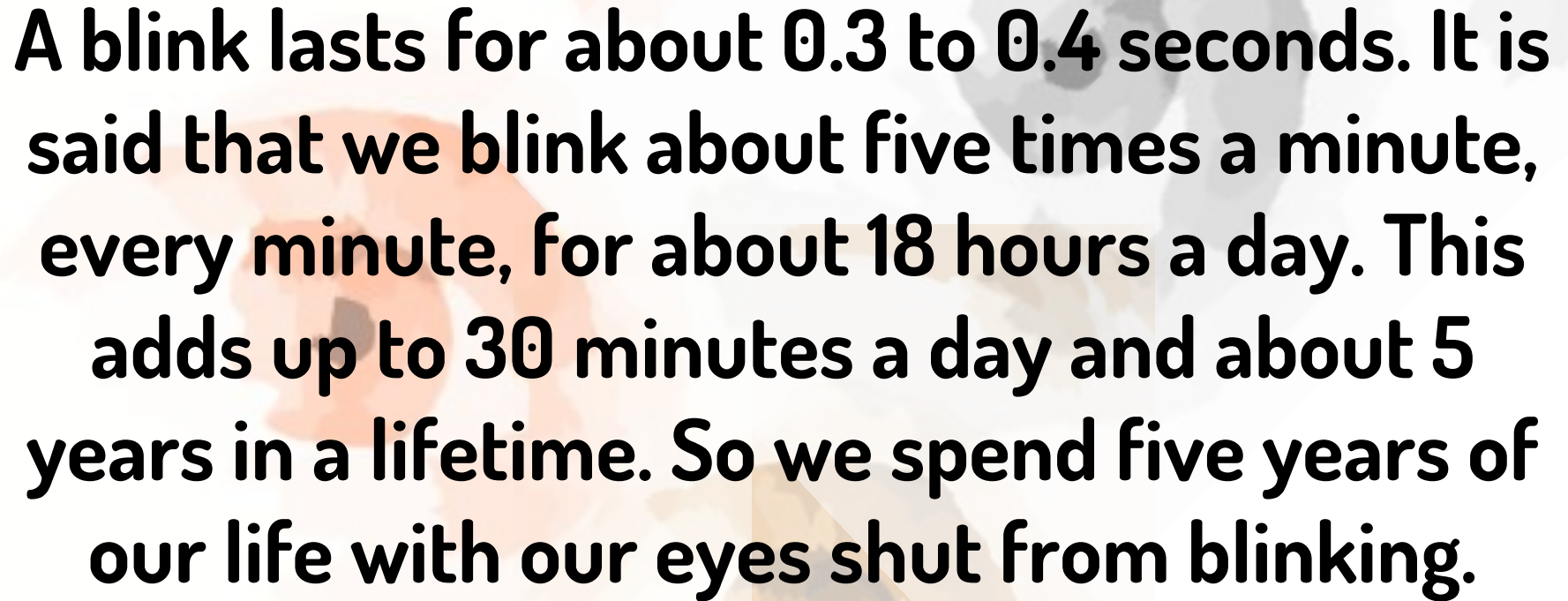




On the next slide:

when steadily fixating the central dot for many seconds, the peripheral annulus will fade and will be replaced by the colour or texture of the background

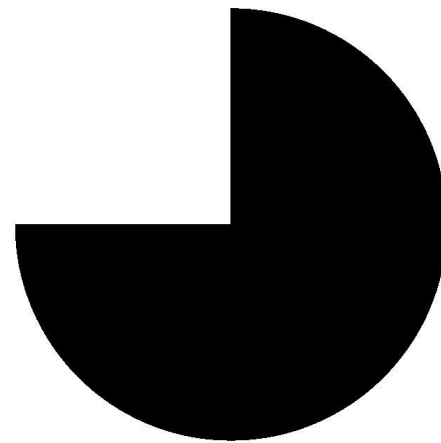
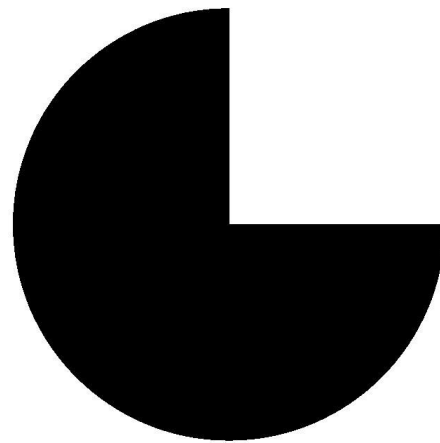
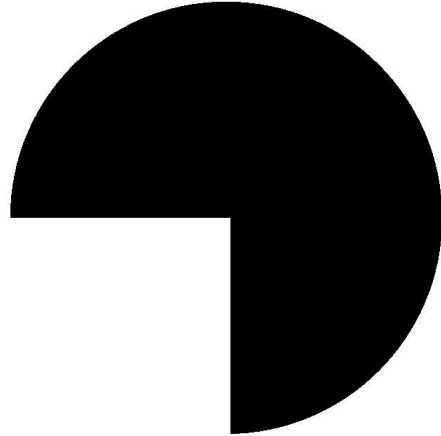
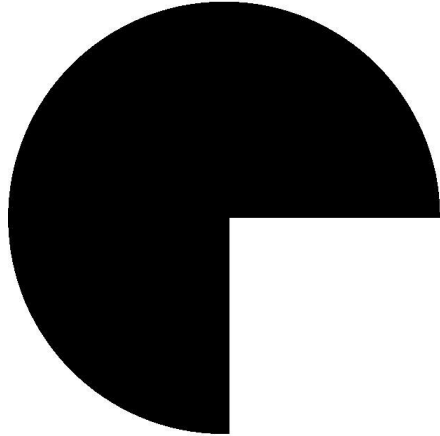




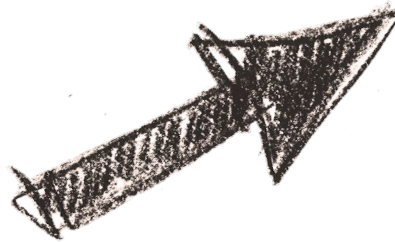
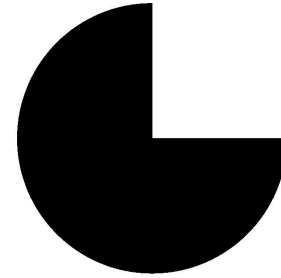
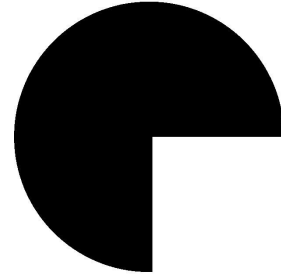
A blink lasts for about 0.3 to 0.4 seconds. It is said that we blink about five times a minute, every minute, for about 18 hours a day. This adds up to 30 minutes a day and about 5 years in a lifetime. So we spend five years of our life with our eyes shut from blinking.

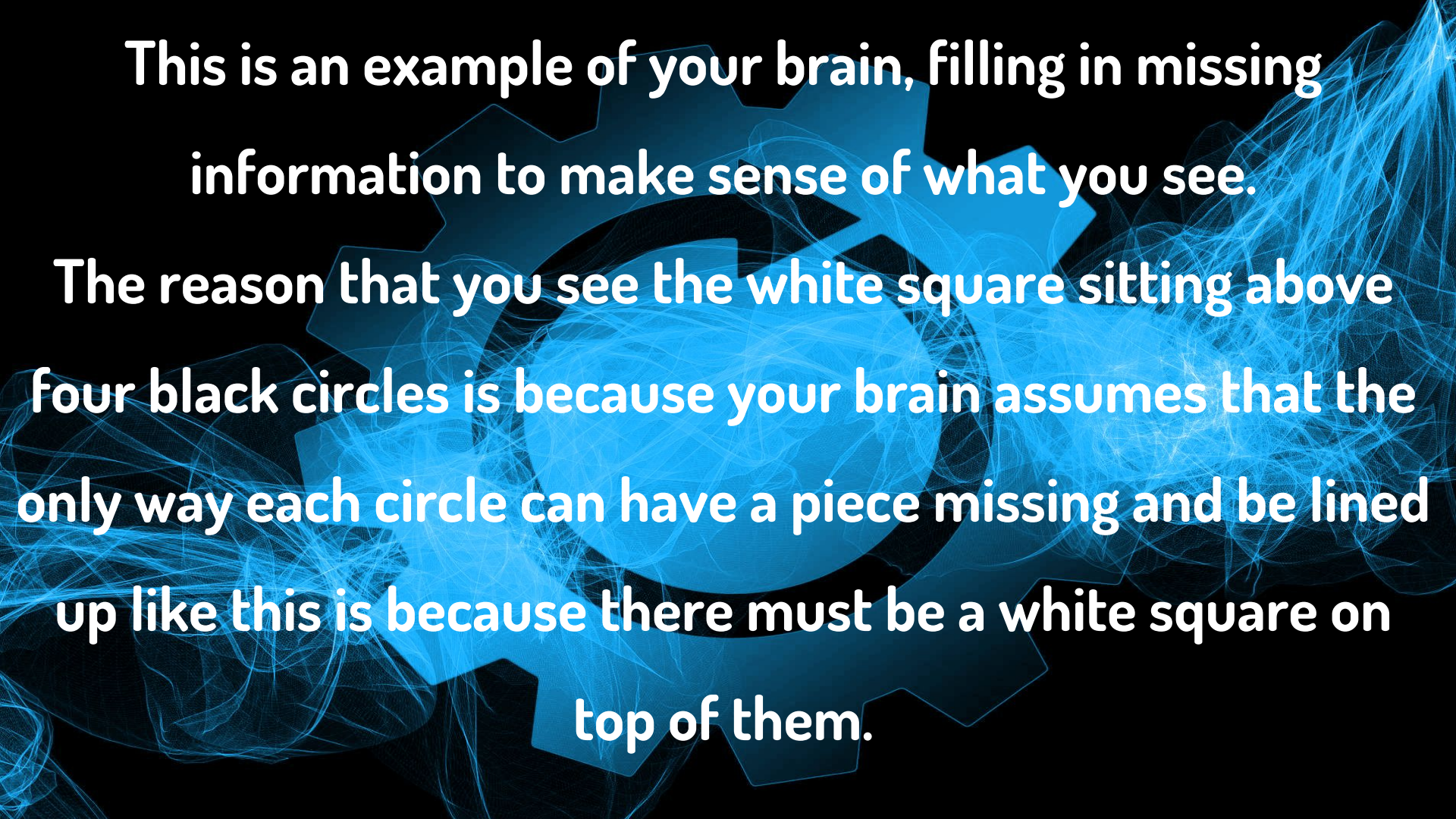
The Kaniza Illusion





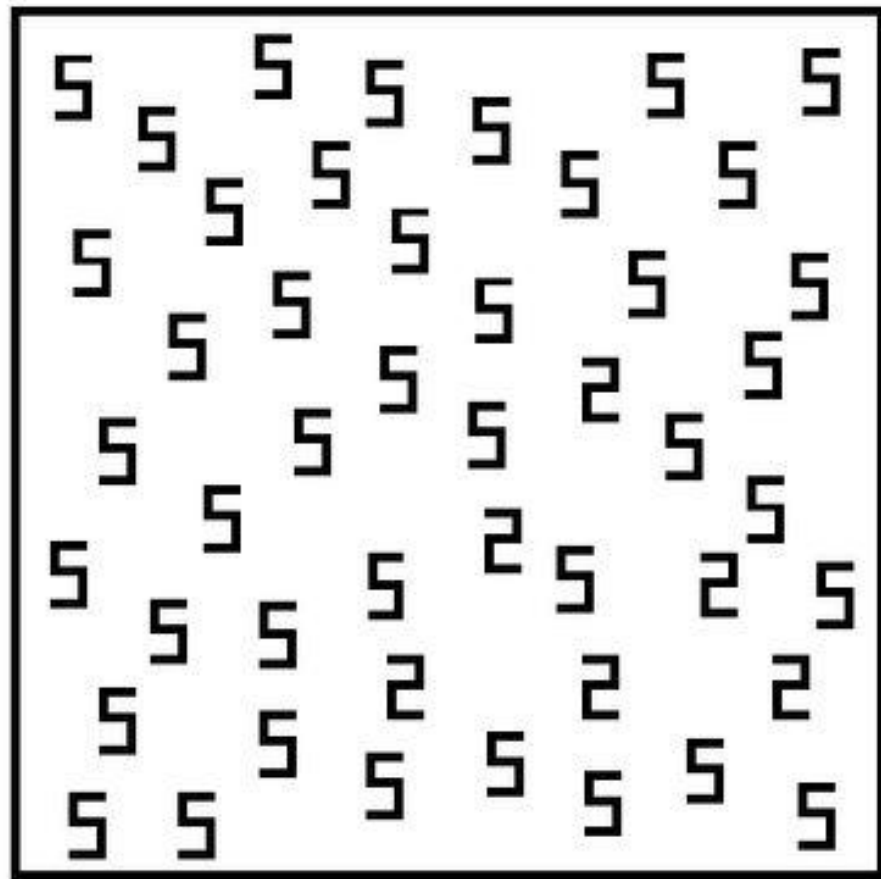
If you arrange pacman
shapes like this:
in the previous slide
you will see a ghostly
square that is not
really there because it
disappears when
you remove
each circle.

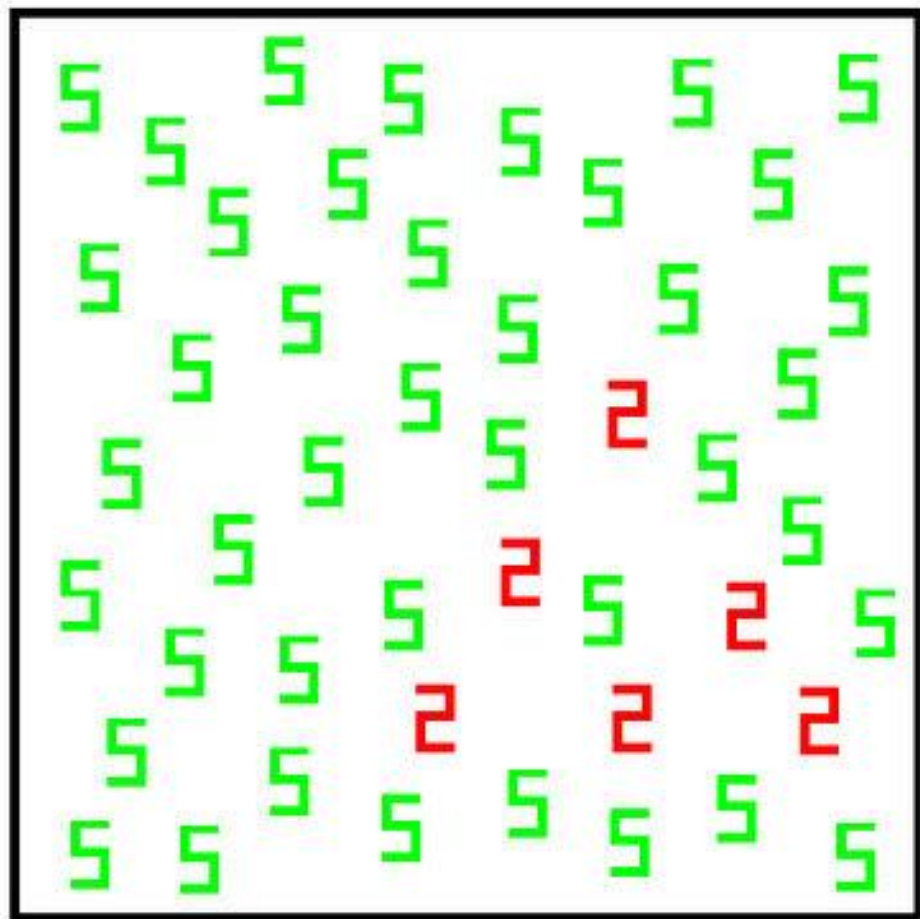


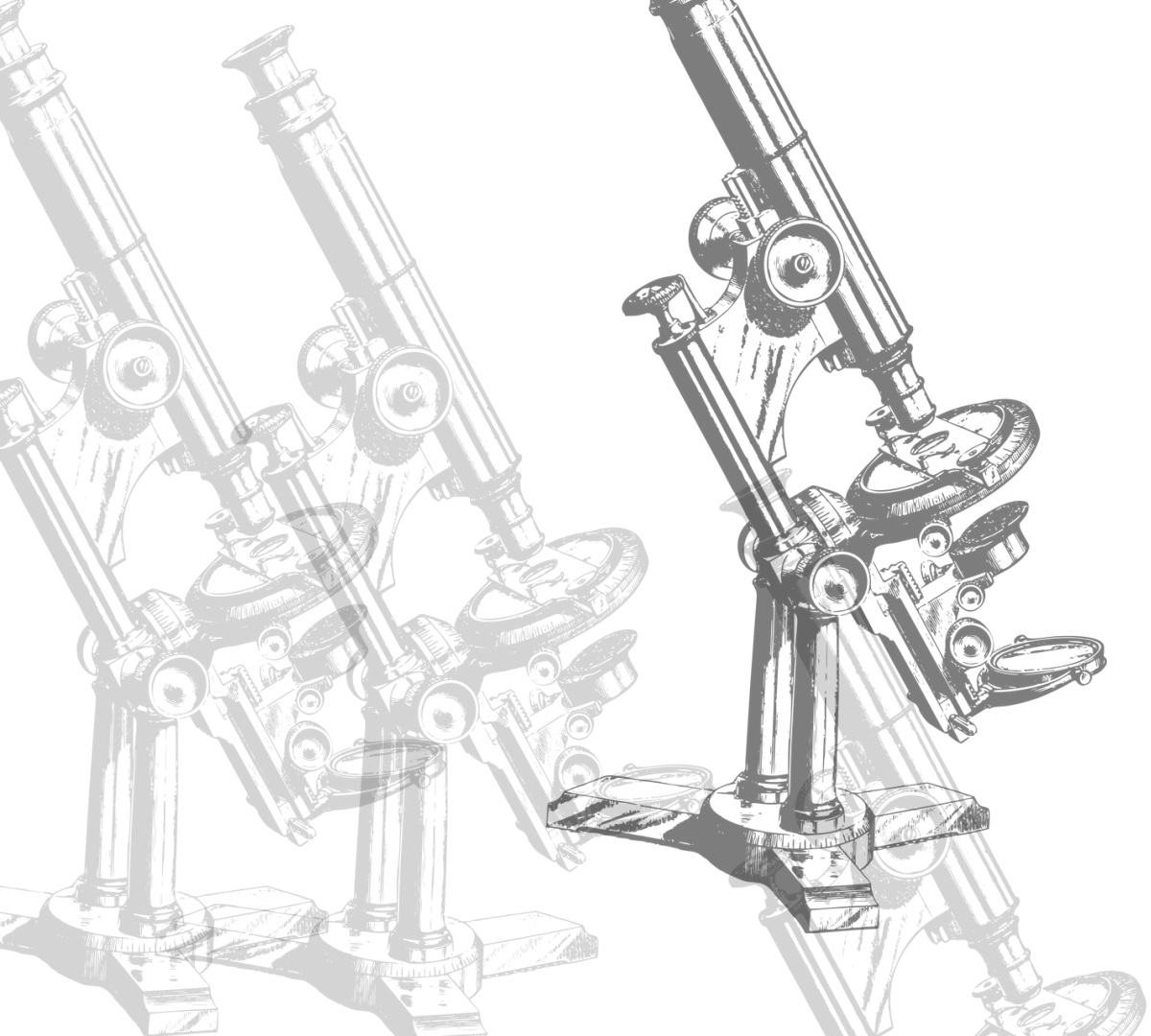
The background features a large, semi-transparent blue gear centered on the left. Overlaid on and around the gear are intricate, glowing blue lines that resemble a neural network or a complex web of connections. The overall color scheme is dark blue and black, with the glowing blue elements providing a sense of dynamic energy and complexity.

This is an example of your brain, filling in missing information to make sense of what you see.

The reason that you see the white square sitting above four black circles is because your brain assumes that the only way each circle can have a piece missing and be lined up like this is because there must be a white square on top of them.







**An example
of how our
brains can
change our
perception.**



Reindeer can not only see ultraviolet light but they can also make sense of the image to find food and stay safe. Humans and almost all other mammals could never do this as our lenses just don't let UV through into the eye.

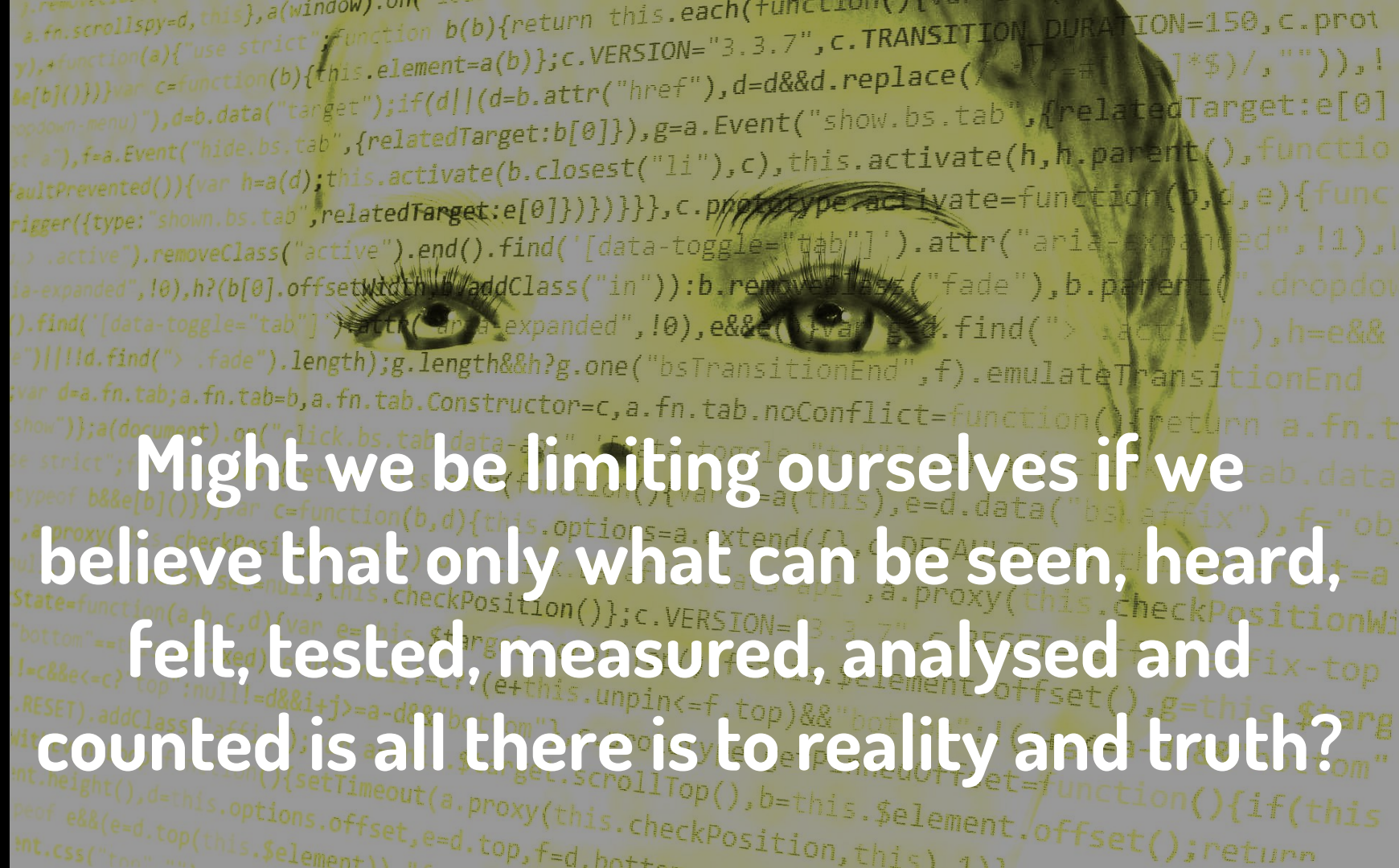




WHAT
WE HEAR







Might we be limiting ourselves if we believe that only what can be seen, heard, felt, tested, measured, analysed and counted is all there is to reality and truth?

JOURNEY 2: OUR WORLD

WHAT WE EXPERIENCE
MEASURE, AND ANALYSE
AROUND US



TIME



what's real?

Time Questions

1. Why is it so difficult to imagine time not existing?
2. Why do you think time seems to slow down when you are bored and speed up when you are having fun?
3. What do you think of the suggestion that time is relative? (that it changes depending on where you are?)

Time provides us with a measure of change by putting dates on moments, specifying which events happen before which other events. In order to do that, some method of time measurement is needed. The science or art of the accurate measurement of time is known as chronometry. A clock that is so accurate it will lose just one second in 16 billion years has been created by scientists.

epistemology

This branch of philosophy is the study of nature and the limits of knowledge. It asks "How can we know?" and is focused on how we come to know what we know. Does everything we know just come from experience or is some knowledge innate (instinctive, inborn) and is it possible to know something just through reasoning. This is important because we have to be able to rely on the knowledge we are in order to grasp of reality, whilst also understanding the limits of what we can know.

seeing is believing

Researchers have warned that virtual reality (VR) can cause behavioural changes in people that last even after they leave the virtual world. Research being done at Stanford University's Virtual Human Interaction Lab (VHIL) by J. Bailenson suggests that the qualities you acquire online — whether it's confidence or insecurity — can spill over and change your conduct in the real world, often without your awareness. In a Stanford study, female participants who had provocatively dressed avatars tended to agree with rape myths more than the women with the non-sexualized avatars. "When we cloak ourselves in avatars, it subtly alters the manner in which we behave," says Bailenson. In other experiments, people assigned to an avatar who is running on a treadmill temporarily increase their physical activity. Why is this significant?

Does this change the real world?

Yes, because so many people are spending so much time in the unreal world - Second Life has nearly half a million inhabitants in a week and the online game World of Warcraft, has 10 million active subscribers who pay to participate. People spend on average about 20 hours a week in alternate worlds like these. (see Kristina Dell)

A study found that 45% of young people spend more time online than in real life. One told me that to be who you want to be, you have to be online and if you don't like it, it is over. 'A' You

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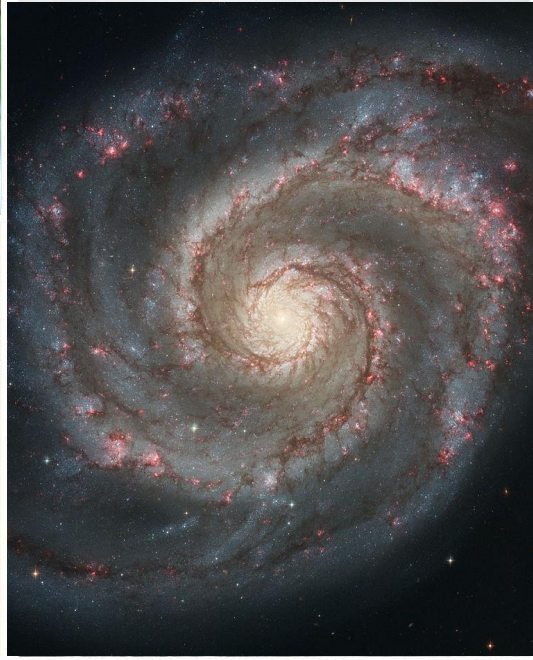
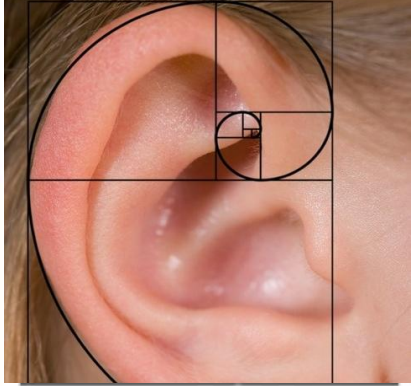
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FIBONACCI NUMBERS





RELATIVE
~~SIMIL~~
~~SEMI-RELATIVITY~~
SIMULTANEITY
✓

**CAN YOU SOLVE
THE BRIDGE RIDDLE?**





surely we know reality what it is..?

It's everything that actually exists, but does this mean a) everything that there is, whether or not it is observable, accessible or understandable by science, philosophy or any other system of analysis b) the views and experiences of a group of people to co, will live and die and that's it d) anything I want it to be. See below for some other ideas and questions about reality:



'ultimate reality'

We can only take in a certain amount of information. If we have too much, our brains get stuck. This happens with the sheer amount of information available on the internet today



consensus reality

Beliefs about reality are formed by the collective views and experiences of a group of people



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attempt
thou
pragm

realism

Aristotle said reality is the world of physical objects & exists independent of the human mind. Truth is objective-what can be observed. Championed the scientific method

nothing is real

Reality simply doesn't exist. Quantum theory suggests that simply observing something changes the result, for example. The Double Slit experiment takes place in a parallel universe, and every possible outcome takes place in a parallel universe. Each observer sees something different in the experiment. This would mean that there are endless versions of 'reality'. This leads people to question whether the human mind itself is real. The mind develops moment by moment. These moments can be divided into past, present and future moments. There is no single mind

plato's cave

Plato said that this world is a shadow or an echo of the real world of the forms. Living in this world is like living in a cave where people never experience the real world outside. The other world is made up of perfect "forms" and what we see around us here are imitations of the real thing. Plato is the father of Idealism (that ideas are the only true reality)



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The world around us has no intrinsic meaning outside of human existence. Existence comes before any definition of what we are. Kierkegaard is fundamental. Jean Paul Sartre said the existential moment was when a young man with Thomas Aquinas. The logical and philosophical Church is encouraged, as is science

brain in a vat

A mad scientist has removed your brain and put it in a vat. He is tricking you into thinking you are still in the world. Do you know what is real?



Metaphysics = beyond physical

focuses on the nature of reality / attempts to find unity between experience and thought / has five strands: idealism, realism, pragmatism (sometimes called experientialism), existentialism and Scholasticism



anti-realism

the theory there is no objective reality, whether acknowledged explicitly or not



"If a tree falls in a forest and no one is around to hear it, does it make a sound?" Does it exist even if there is no one to see, touch, smell or hear it? George Berkeley said "to be is to be perceived"



"Reality is merely an illusion, albeit a very persistent one."
— Albert Einstein

"Life is not a problem to be solved, but a reality to be experienced."
— Søren Kierkegaard

"Imagination is the only weapon in the war against reality."
— Lewis Carroll, Alice's Adventures in Wonderland

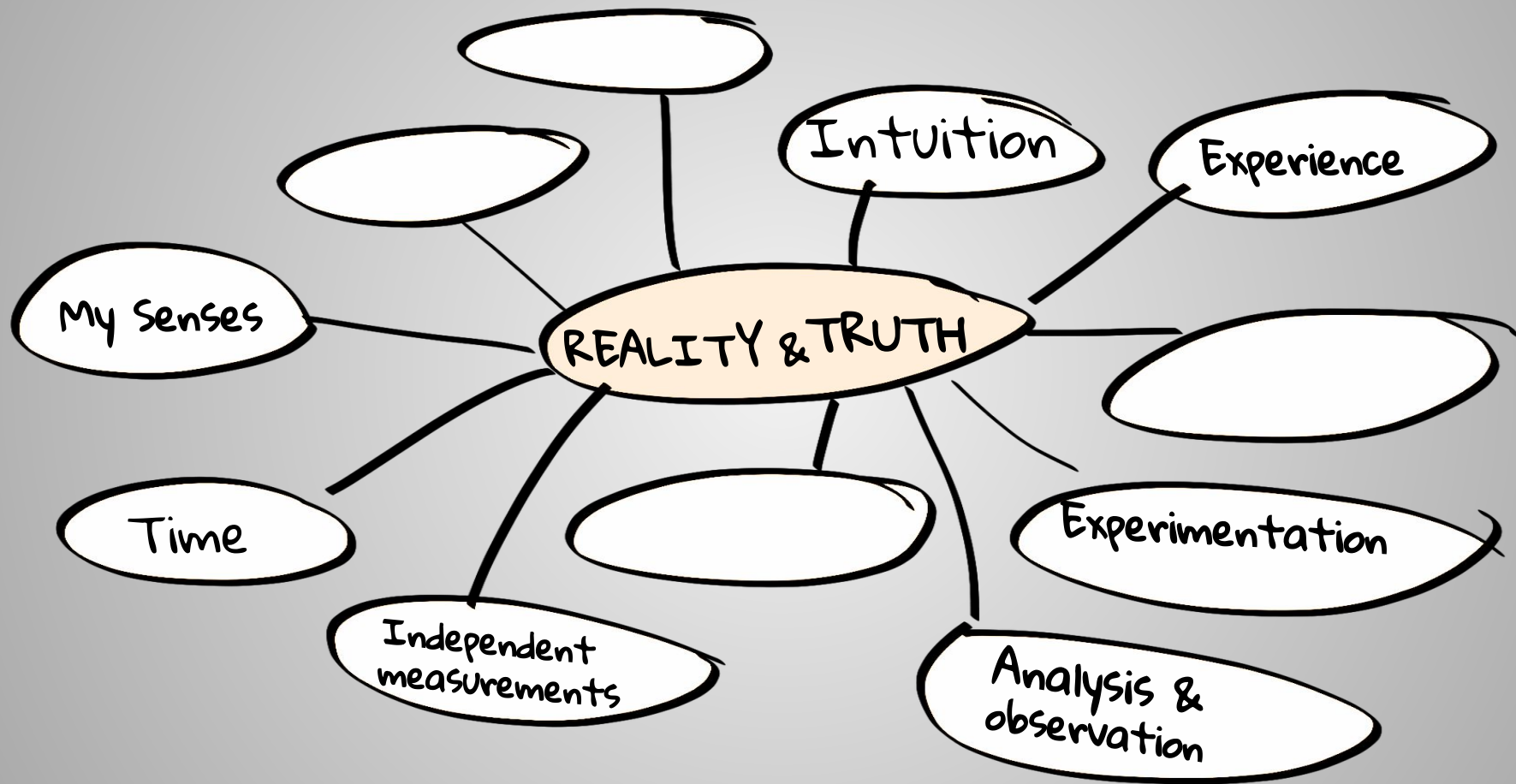
existentialism



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scholasticism

together idealist and realist philosophies, so the thought of Thomas Aquinas. The logical and philosophical Church is encouraged, as is science



THE 3 Ws

Key Questions

→ WHY

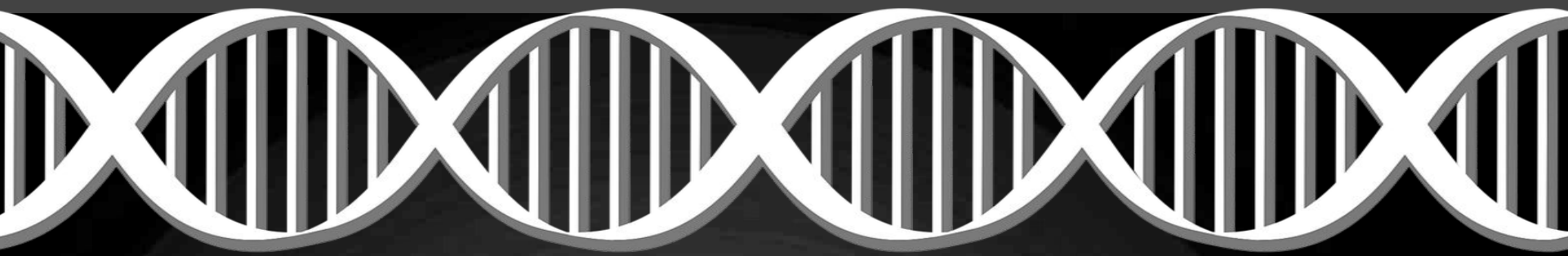
Does knowing what is true and what is real matter?

→ WHAT

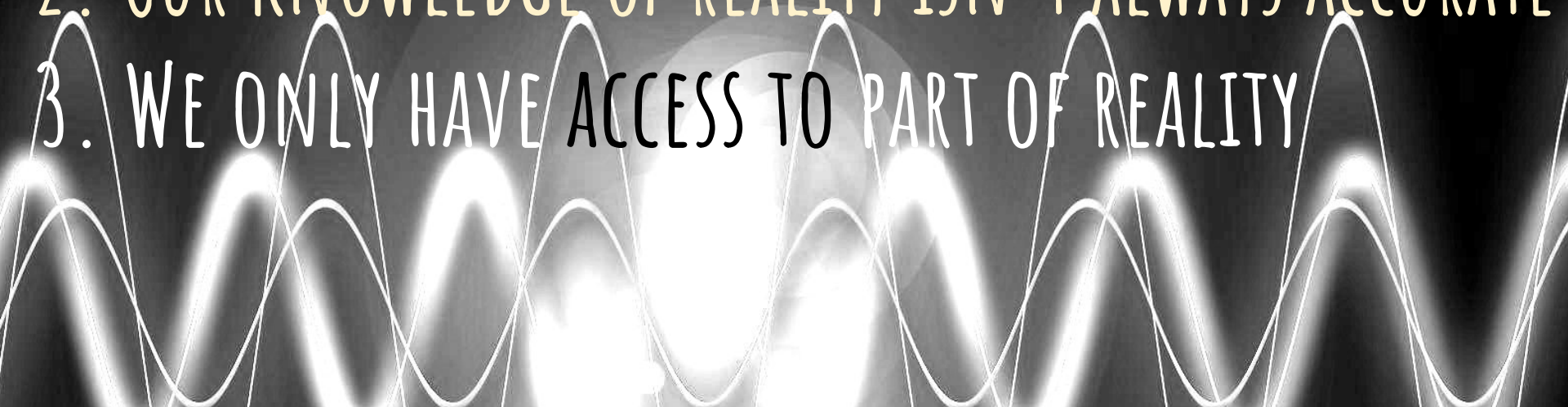
Do you KNOW to be both true and real?

→ WHICH

Part of today's lesson will you remember most?



1. OUR PERCEPTIONS OF REALITY CAN BE DISTORTED
2. OUR KNOWLEDGE OF REALITY ISN'T ALWAYS ACCURATE
3. WE ONLY HAVE ACCESS TO PART OF REALITY



WRITE DOWN HOW YOU JUDGE

a) THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TRUTH AND UNTRUTH



b) THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WHAT IS REAL AND UNREAL



Why does this
matter?

Why does this
matter?

Why does this
matter?

Why does this
matter?

Why does this
matter?

Why does this
matter?

NO EYE HAS SEEN
NO EAR HAS HEARD
NO MIND HAS IMAGINED
WHAT GOD HAS PREPARED
FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM
1 CORINTHIANS 2:9

