

2. Are some types of knowledge more useful than others?

When looking at the usefulness of different forms of knowledge, I think it is safe to say that to some extent, all knowledge is important. Whether some knowledge is more useful than others is up for debate, since different groups of knowers value different forms of knowledge differently and it depends on that individual's circumstances and experiences. At the same time, it is also important to consider the definition of the word "useful" since this can also spark some controversy. When I think of the word "useful" I think of being able to be used in multiple ways and serving some purpose. It is important to keep this definition in mind when discussing the variations in the usefulness of the different objects.

Object 1: Bike



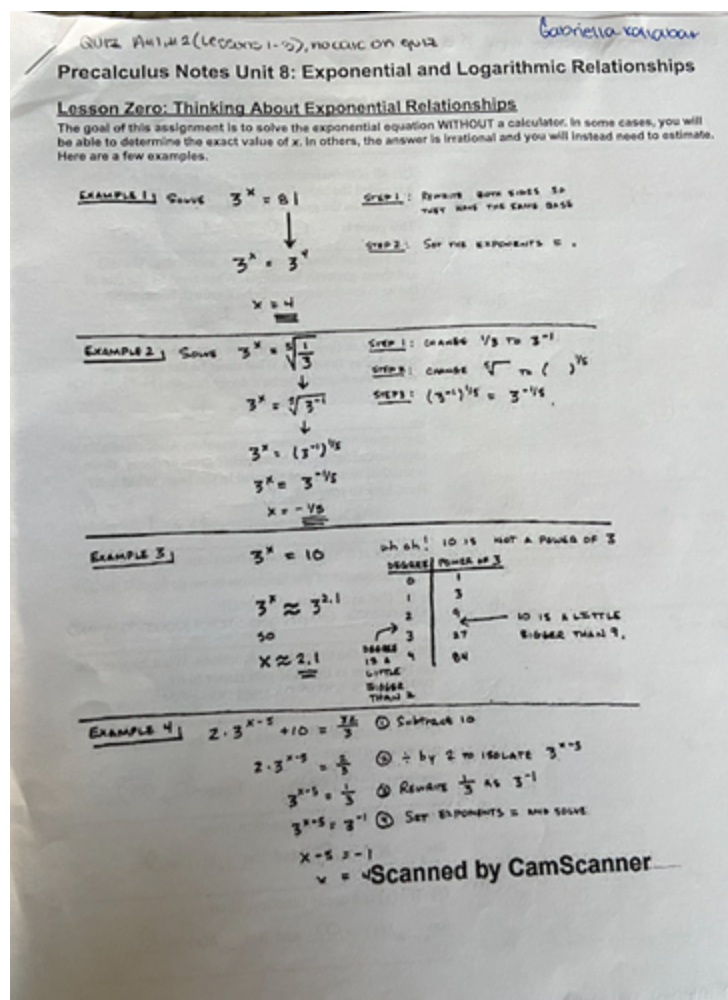
In this image, you can see a picture of my bike, and I used this to go on bike rides with my friends and family, and I especially used it over quarantine when there were not many indoor activities to do.

When thinking about the uses of bike riding, there are many ways to look at the use of a bike. It could be for fun bike rides with friends, but for others, a bike is their only form of transportation. Considering this, it is hard to distinguish what categorizes this knowledge as more or less useful than other forms of

knowledge. It is difficult to call this type of knowledge extremely useful, at least in my situation, since it is the type of knowledge that does not provide much substantial use for me. While it gave me something to do over quarantine, it is not the type of knowledge that is unique or makes it stand out. Unlike a dying language where there are few people in the world who know how to speak it, with bike riding, most people know how to ride a bike, so the knowledge is not rare.

However, it is interesting to note that this type of knowledge is different than others. It is not like a biology textbook where you might read it and then forget all the information a week later. With a bike, you learn how to ride it, and never forget. It is the type of knowledge that becomes muscle memory, which takes it beyond just surface-level knowledge. With this, it is important to recognize that while all knowledge is useful, it really depends on the individual to decide what makes specific forms more useful than others.

Object 2: Math Packet



When I was in elementary school, the math I used to learn was very simple, and it taught me the basic things I needed to know in life. In middle school math, the concepts went more in-depth, but the content still felt related to the real world and I could see myself using the knowledge I gained in everyday life.

However, in high school, it came to the point where I started to wonder when I would use any of these concepts in real life. I started to question the importance of math and the knowledge I was gaining in class. I would question the purpose of learning how to evaluate logs or how useful graphing functions would be in my job in the future, which is the content of the math notes packet in the image. However, I came to realize that while this knowledge might never directly impact me in any way, the study techniques and skills I learn will carry with me throughout my educational journey. I may never have to write a limit for a function or use the natural log, but either way, the knowledge gained will apply in other forms. Understanding math helps your brain work differently, which helps in other subjects as well. So while it became easy for me to categorize my knowledge from math as unimportant or useless, I learned that all knowledge is useful and cannot be neglected.

Object 3: Cookies



Baking is a form of procedural knowledge or knowledge gained through skills, strategies, and processes (“The 6 Types Of Knowledge: From A Prior To Procedural”). Sometimes procedural knowledge is just intuitive, while other times, it takes practice and time. In this image, you can see a picture of a dessert I made for my family. It took me a while to learn how to bake well, and as I continue to get better, I enjoy baking more and more. I mainly bake for fun and enjoyment, so the knowledge of being able to bake brings a lot of joy to my life. However, while all knowledge can be considered important, it's also important to recognize that some knowledge is more useful than others, and this really depends on the individual and the knowledge community.

Some people consider some forms of knowledge more useful than others, and this can be due to the person's location, job, interests, or life situations. I love to bake, and I do it mostly for pleasure. However, I personally consider the knowledge of baking less useful than other forms of knowledge. While I do find enjoyment in baking, unlike other forms of knowledge, I do not find the knowledge I gain very useful in things unrelated to baking. For me, baking skills can really only be used in the kitchen, and there is not much use for them otherwise. Revisiting my definition of “useful”, I felt that the knowledge of baking did not encompass the idea of being able to be used in several ways or being practical in an environment outside of the culinary community, which is why I came to the conclusion that some forms of knowledge are more/less useful than other forms of knowledge.

Works Cited

Editor, Udemy. "The 6 Types Of Knowledge: From A Priori To Procedural." *Udemy Blog*, 17 June 2021, blog.udemy.com/types-of-knowledge/.