

## **Script 3**

# **How Do Our Experiences and Knowledge Shape Our Interpretations?**

Let's take a closer look at what happens when a text enters our brains.

As they always do when facing new information, our brains try to make as many connections as possible to make sense of the new information.

The human brain likes it when things make sense!

Don't believe me? Check out this image...

We need to make meaning of what we feed our brains.

And our brains make meaning with what they're given: in this case, the text and what we already know and have experienced.

For example, take this sentence:

As soon as the dog saw the boy, it ran towards him.

If your experience with dogs is negative or if a dog has ever chased you, then this sentence probably means something like this to you:

On the other hand, if you're a dog lover and have had dogs around you all your life, this is probably closer to what you imagine when you hear that sentence:

So we could say that personal experience and knowledge are the main ingredients that will initially influence or shape our perceptions, interpretations and responses!