

## TOK EXHIBITION

Prompt No. 17

Why do we seek knowledge?

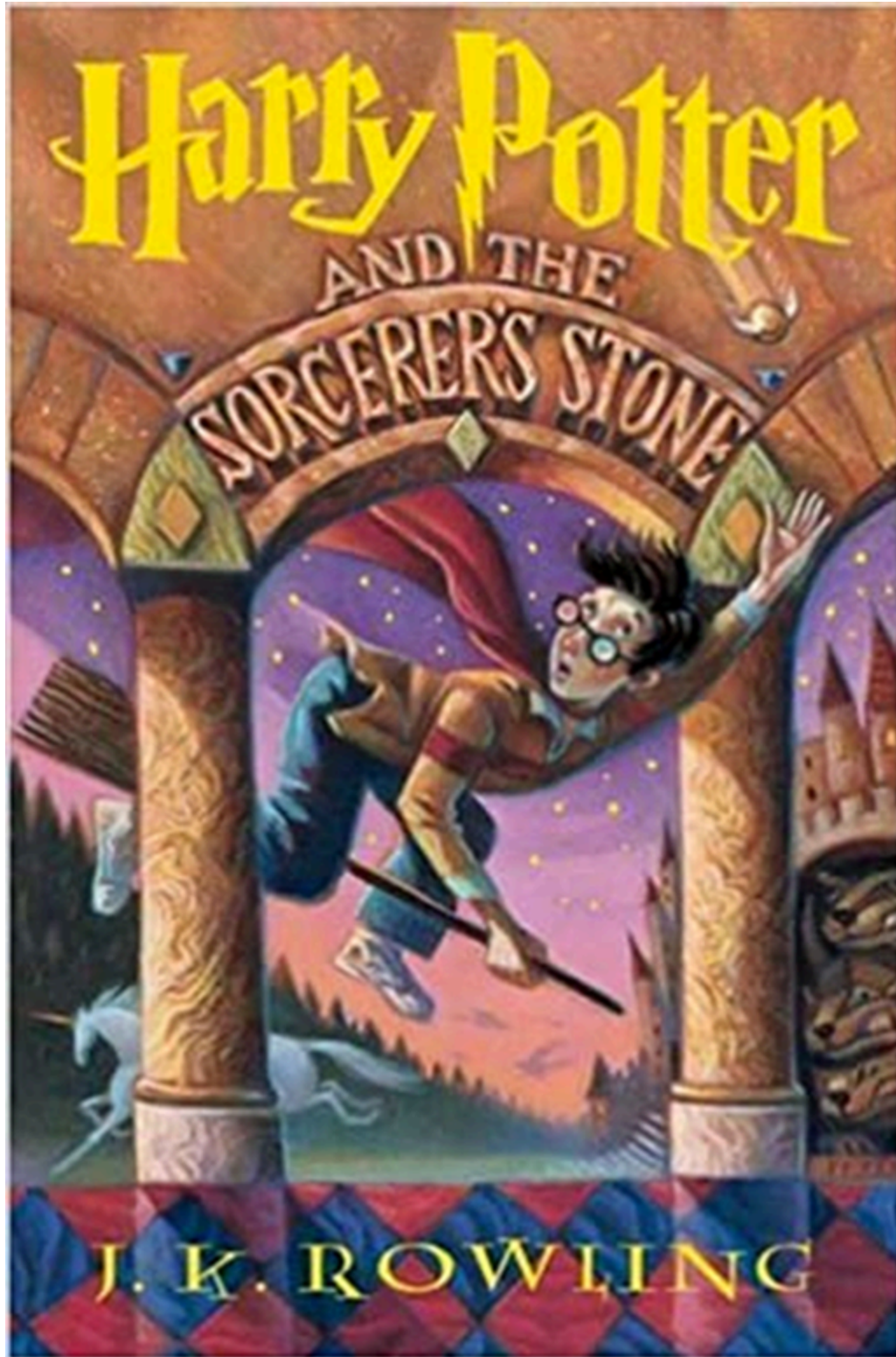
Object 1: Prostaff 97L



The concept of seeking knowledge has been a fundamental part of humans for as long as we have existed. From creating our first tools 2.6 million years ago to creating maglev trains,

humans have always been and always will be innovating. The idea of innovating as a reason for seeking knowledge is why I chose my tennis racket that I have had since I first started playing as one of my objects, specifically the prostaff 97L. I have been playing tennis for 3-4 years now, and in this relatively short period of time, I've always been trying to improve, or innovate myself regarding the game. Regarding tennis, the concept of seeking knowledge within the sport is synonymous with improvement. This rule applies to all sports, from esports to basketball. When you attempt to deepen your knowledge, or understanding of anything, you are improving in that field. So going back to my object, the reason I chose my prostaff as my object is because it represented more than just a tool for me to improve, it represented everything I was striving for, because, Roger Federer, one of the greatest tennis players of all time used the same line of rackets that I was using. So when I looked at my racket, I saw Roger playing, I saw what I was trying to achieve and why I chose it, because one day I wanted to be as great as Roger. Going back to my point of improvement is synonymous with seeking knowledge, my prostaff represents a unique side of why I seek knowledge, and why others may seek knowledge as well in order to innovate. Because at the end of the day, it represents a beacon of what I want to become and seeking knowledge is just a means to an end of reaching my goal of improving within the sport.

Object 2: *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*



My second object is my *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* book. This book is the first installment of the Harry Potter series, and the book that got me interested in reading. I chose this book as my object because I feel it shows how we seek knowledge because of curiosity.

When I was a child, I was constantly told to read and seek knowledge because it would better prepare me for my future. However, I, being the stubborn person I've always been, never listened to a word my mom would say. My mom, at her wits end, decided to take me to Barnes and Nobles under the pretense that we would get something from the cafe and I would get to choose a toy from the ones they offered at the store. However, while we were sitting my mom told me about how when she was younger, her favorite book was Harry Potter. Now intrigued, I asked what it was about and my mom said I would have to read it to find out. This made me extremely curious, and I immediately began to look for the book in the store, eventually buying it and reading it and the rest of the series. Now because I was so curious about the book and why my mom liked it so much, that curiosity drove me to seek more knowledge about the book that is, reading the book. This concept of curiosity driving the seeking of knowledge is nothing new, in fact it's what has allowed humans to progress as far as we have. And my first Harry Potter book is just one little example of how we seek knowledge due to curiosity.

### Object 3: Biology Classroom



When we seek knowledge, we do it with purpose, with reason. However, in some cases, people tend to seek knowledge simply for the thrill of it. They enjoy learning about new things because learning new things is rewarding in of itself. That is why my third object my biology classroom. I chose this object because my biology classroom is where I learn about biology and how living

systems work. Although biology is a hard subject that many people don't enjoy, me included, I still chose my biology class as my object because within that difficulty lies a challenge. And while navigating through these difficult topics, one becomes enamored with the thrill of figuring out a difficult concept, or bridging two ideas together, reaching that eureka moment when everything clicks into place, and you understand it all. That feeling within itself is enough reason to seek knowledge. Oftentimes though, I find biology incredibly boring and even difficult at times. I don't pay much attention when my teachers are lecturing and put in enough effort to only get a low A within the class. While this evidence may seem contradictory as to why I put my biology classroom as my object, I think it serves to the opposite effect. I think the fact that I find the class so boring but I still manage to seek knowledge about biology because I enjoy that feeling of accomplishment or a eureka moment during/after studying, just serves to strengthen my choice of my biology classroom as one of my objects. To conclude, my biology class represents my desire to seek knowledge because it is rewarding to do so in terms of emotional value.

#### Works Cited

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