

# Definition of knowledge - assignment

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Come up with a **example of knowledge** that correlates with the knowledge definition you have been handed.

Find this particular definition on Fronter and **add your example as a comment.**

# EPISTEMOLOGY

## PT II

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INTRODUCING DOUBT

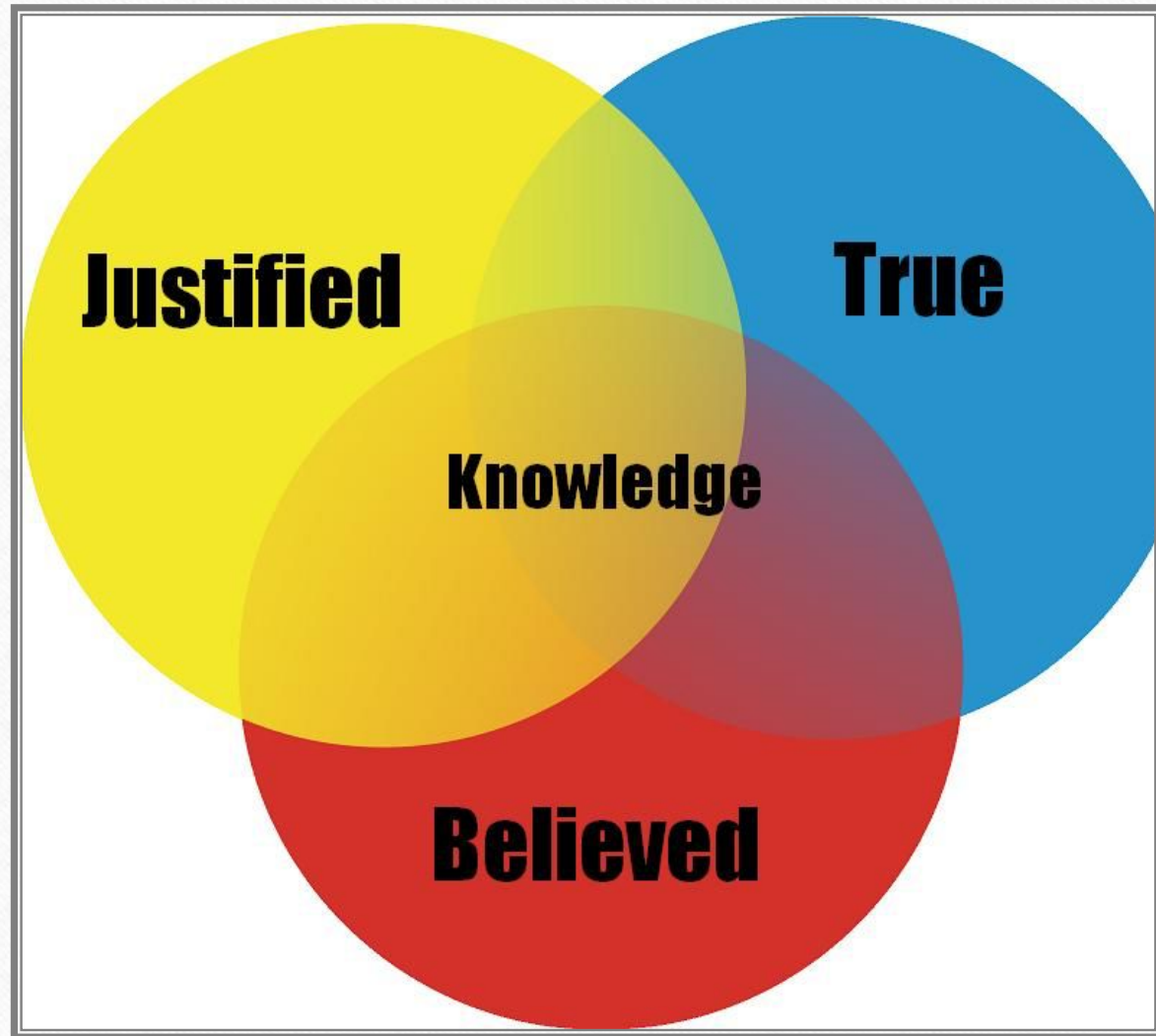


# The classical definition of knowledge

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From Platos dialogue *Theaetetus*

- **Belief** – one mentally affirms to a proposition
- **True** - One believes this proposition to be true
- **Justified** - One has good evidence or reason for the proposition



# The classical definition of knowledge

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It is my **belief** that my name is Marina

It is **true** that my name is Marina because it is documented that I was baptized with that name as a child.

It is **justified** because everybody calls me Marina.

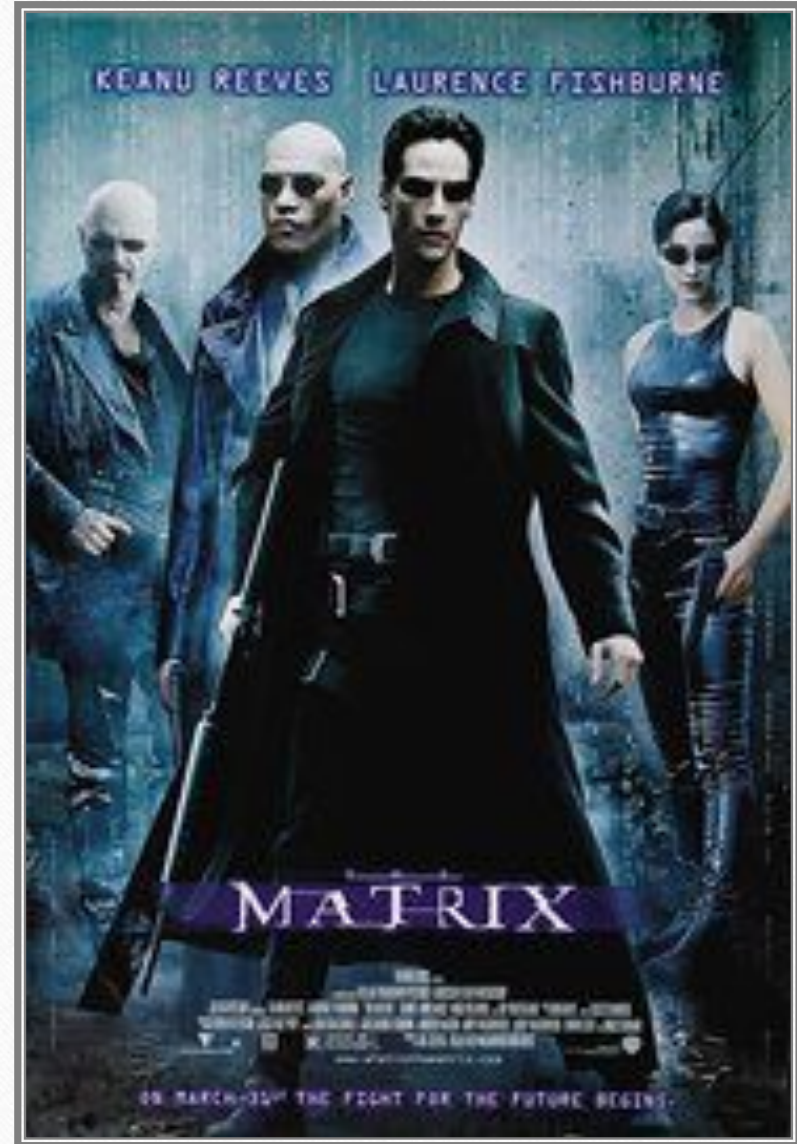
I have true, believable and justified knowledge that my name is Marina



# How do we know what is true?

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- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-kAuzG4hBGs>



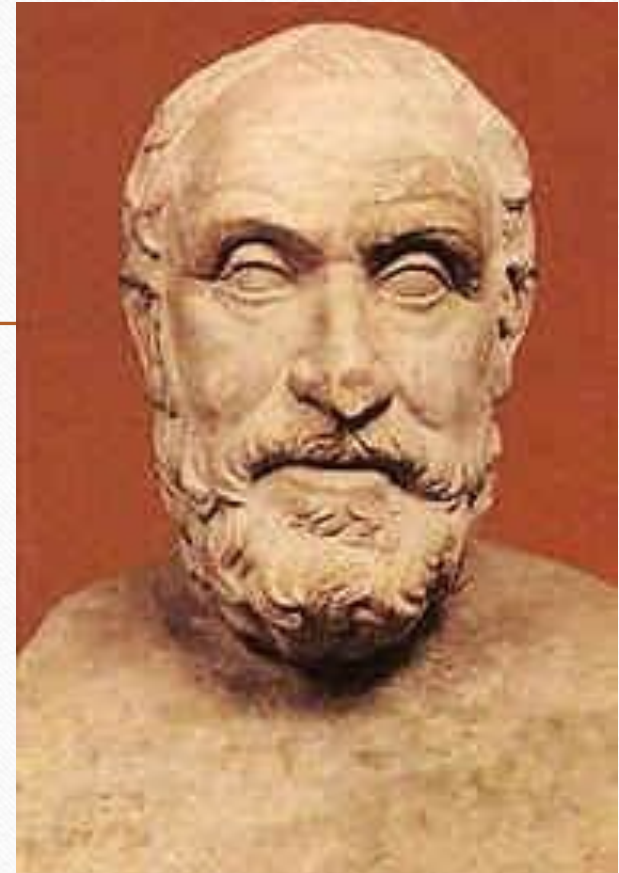
# Introducing doubt

**Pyrrho (360- 270 b.c)**

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- Greek philosopher and founder of philosophical school of **scepticism**
- Methodological scepticism
- *It is beneficial for one to question everything.*

**Philosophical scepticism** denies the possibility of certain or objective knowledge.





# Discussion: In small groups

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- Discuss pros and cons with scepticism.
- What does it mean to be sceptical about everything?
- What is worth being scepticle about and what not?

A portrait of René Descartes, a French philosopher, mathematician, and scientist. He is shown from the chest up, wearing a dark, high-collared garment. He has long, dark, wavy hair and a small, neatly trimmed mustache and goatee. His expression is serious and contemplative. The background of the portrait is a soft, out-of-focus grey.

# René Descartes (1596- 1650)

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*Cogito, ergo sum*  
(I think, therefore I am)

**Assignment:** Find out what this means and what it has to do with scepticism?  
Why was Descartes so important?

Write a short summary of a few sentences and hand it in to Fronter.