

# THE DRIVING TOK KNOWLEDGE QUESTION: HOW DO WE KNOW?

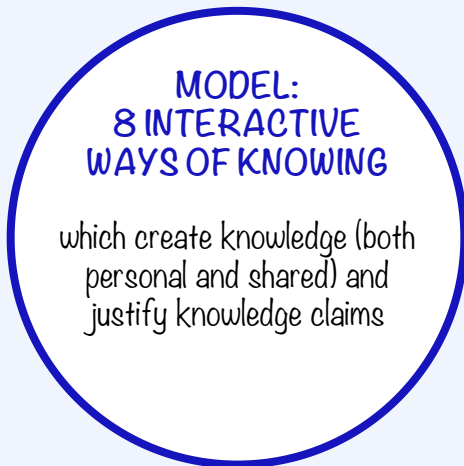
## OVERVIEW CONCEPTUAL UNDERSTANDING



How do diverse **PERSPECTIVES** (cultural, ideological, academic/theoretical etc.) affect what we know as individuals (personal knowledge) and groups (shared knowledge)?



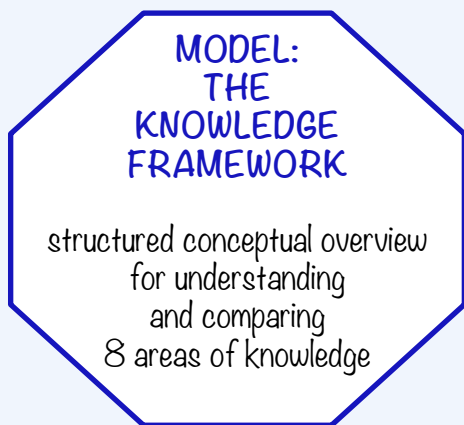
How do the **TOK WAYS OF KNOWING** interact to create knowledge...



and **JUSTIFY KNOWLEDGE CLAIMS...**



in **AREAS OF KNOWLEDGE** and the **WIDER WORLD?**



**UNIFYING THREAD:** How do we ask and answer **KNOWLEDGE QUESTIONS** in different areas of knowledge and the wider world?



## APPLIED CRITICAL ANALYSIS

Analyse **PERSPECTIVES** for their assumptions, values, selection of information, and accepted processes of validation -- and the implications for thought and action of accepting their resulting knowledge claims.



Assess the contributions to knowledge and the limitations of each of the **WAYS OF KNOWING**. Consider how they interact to create, share, and evaluate knowledge, and the extent to which we can learn to use them consciously and critically.

Consider interconnected kinds of **KNOWLEDGE**: personal experience, skills, and knowledge claims.



Distinguish different kinds of **KNOWLEDGE CLAIMS**: observations, value judgments, metaphysical statements, definitions, predictions, etc.

Evaluate the **JUSTIFICATIONS** offered for different kinds of knowledge claims and counter-claims. Recognize common errors (such as fallacies and cognitive biases) and tactics of persuasion.



Compare **AREAS OF KNOWLEDGE** for what they study, how they study it, and what contributions they make.

Consider how skills of critical analysis develop into conscious **METHODOLOGIES**.



Apply TOK **overview conceptual understanding** and **critical analysis** to **REAL LIFE SITUATIONS** in the wider world.

Eileen Dombrowski

TOK develops thinking skills toward responsible action in the world.

