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Scenario: Kate spent many hours studying for her history exam. She’s now in class taking the exam. Everything’s going quite well, until she comes to the final question. It reads, “What year did Queen Elizabeth die?” Kate had reviewed this date many times. She had even recited the date to a friend just a few hours earlier. So, when Kate sees that this is the last question, she feels relieved. She confidently looks down at the blank space, waiting to recollect the answer. But before she can remember it, the teacher interrupts and announces, “Alright, the class session is almost over. You have one more minute to finalize your answers.” Kate’s demeanor suddenly changes. She glances up at the clock, now flustered and worried. “Oh, no. I can’t perform well under this kind of pressure.” Her grip tightens around her pencil. She strains to recall the answer, but nothing comes to her. She quickly loses confidence. “I suppose I’ll just have to guess the answer,” she says to herself. With a sigh of disappointment, she decides to write “1603” into the blank space. This was, in fact, the correct answer.

Did Kate know that Queen Elizabeth died in 1603?
yes no (circle one)

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Scenario: Ben receives an email informing him of a bridge closure on his normal route to work. He becomes mildly annoyed and says to himself, “Now I’ll have to turn on Russell Street and go all the way down to Langdon Avenue.”

So, the next morning, Ben wakes up early and quickly gets ready for work. He makes it out of the house with plenty of time to make the drive. Pleased with the success of his early departure, he decides to listen to one of his favorite albums and enjoy the long drive. By the time Ben is approaching Russell Street, where he should turn, he is enthusiastically tapping his fingers to the music, not paying much attention to where he is going, and he drives right past Russell Street, continuing on his normal route to work. Thus it’s only a matter of time before Ben will reach the closed bridge and have to drive all the way back to Russell Street. Nevertheless, Ben just keeps on tapping his fingers to the music and continues to drive towards the closed bridge.

Does Ben know that the bridge is closed?

yes no (circle one)

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Scenario: Juliet is a university professor. Unfortunately, she is also prejudiced against student athletes. In her classes, she calls more often on non-athletes than athletes, and she interprets the comments of the former more charitably. When two soccer players, Brett and Bernard, come to visit her in office hours, she treats them patronizingly, explaining the basic concepts of the course in a very rudimentary manner, failing to recognize the sophistication and intelligence behind their questions. They leave, and shortly after, two students with no involvement in school sports enter. Juliet immediately launches into a high-level discussion, generously assuming the students’ command of the elementary material. When Bernard writes the best essay in the course, revealing the intelligence that a neutral observer would have recognized in his previous remarks, Juliet is surprised. All of this is typical of her.

However, Juliet also repudiates all forms of prejudice. She openly affirms that students involved in athletics are just as capable as non-athletes. In fact, she has it on excellent authority that this is the case: Her chair just completed a study showing that the two groups perform equally well in their philosophy classes. Intrigued by this study, Juliet even reviews her own records and finds that, on average, the athletic students had actually performed better than the other students. But, in spite of all this, Juliet’s prejudice remains. She continues to treat her athletic students as if they are less intelligent than her other students.

Does Juliet know that her athletic students are as capable as her other students?

yes no (circle one)

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Does Juliet believe that her athletic students are as capable as her other students?
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Instructions: Below is a short scenario. Please answer the question with a simple “yes” or “no”

Scenario: Susan loves to watch old horror films. She finally convinces her friend Jamie to watch one with her. It’s an old horror film that Susan actually considers to be quite funny, due to its unrealistic plot. The film begins with a group of astronauts who discover alien life on another planet. The aliens look somewhat like bumblebees, but they are dark-green and about two feet in length. The astronauts capture one of these creatures and bring it back to Earth. Once they have it on Earth, it manages to escape and starts laying numerous eggs. The eggs need water to hatch, so the creature lays the eggs in sink faucets. Thus, whenever people turn on their sink faucet, hundreds of newly hatched alien creatures fly out and begin to attack them.

During one of these attack scenes, Susan notices that Jamie is a bit tense. Susan remarks, “This isn’t bothering you, is it? Come on, you should be laughing at this movie. Look how unrealistic it is.” Jamie responds, “Yes, of course it’s unrealistic. But it’s still scary. I just don’t like these types of movies. They frighten me. Can’t we just watch something else?” “Well, I suppose,” Susan says. Susan then turns off the movie, and they quickly get ready for a second trip to the movie store.

On the way out, Susan stops. “Hold on for a second. I’m thirsty. Let me grab a glass of water.” Susan walks over and begins to turn on the sink faucet. Suddenly, Jamie shouts, “No! Don’t do it!” The words come out of Jamie’s mouth before she even has time to consider what she’s saying. Jamie then looks over and sees that it’s only water coming out of the faucet.

Did Jamie know that only water would come out of the sink faucet?

yes no (circle one)

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Scenario: Tim’s wife Diane is cheating on him. For two years, Diane has been conducting a romantic affair with Mark, who is a colleague of hers at work. Over the past two years, Tim has seen frequent clues that Diane is cheating: unexpected credit card charges, late arrivals from work with weak and flustered explanations as to why, unexplained mysterious phone calls, etc. Diane even occasionally calls Tim “Mark”, and once Tim overheard her saying “I love you, Mark” on the telephone when Diane assumed Tim was not in the house. One night several months ago, Diane even confessed to him explicitly, saying anxiously in a quiet moment in bed, “Tim, you know that I have fallen in love with another man and have been cheating on you for a couple of years”. Tim loudly insisted that she was joking, just trying to get his goat because she was mad with him about some out-of-town travel he was doing – and Diane replied that, yes, she was of course just joking.

Despite all this evidence, Tim vehemently insists that his marriage is in good shape and that Diane would never even think of cheating on him. Perhaps, indeed, he says such things a little *too* vehemently. When Dan, a friend of Tim’s, gently points out to Tim some of the evidence of Diane’s affair, Tim dismisses Dan’s remarks as utter nonsense, saying to himself, “Dan is probably just jealous and wishes that his own marriage was as solid as Diane’s and mine”. When a woman whom Tim finds attractive starts flirting with him at work, Tim brushes her off, saying to himself that he could never do anything that might threaten his marriage. At the same time, however, when Diane comes home late, Tim finds himself much more anxious and bothered about it than he ever used to be, though he can’t quite put his finger on why. When he answers the phone and finds no one there, he sometimes finds himself wondering “could it be a lover of Diane’s?” and then, very quickly after that, “Ridiculous! Ridiculous! She would never cheat!” When he sees a credit card charge for an 8:00 pm dinner at a romantic restaurant, he finds himself with a visual image of Diane having a romantic dinner with a stranger – an image which he rejects as a horrible fantasy, but that he can’t quite put out of mind.

Does Tim know that Diane is cheating on him?

yes no (circle one)

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Does Tim think that Diane is cheating on him?

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Instructions: Below is a short scenario. Please answer the question with a simple “yes” or “no”

Scenario: Ted is sitting in his living room, looking out his rear window into his backyard at a dying tree that he has been meaning to have removed. Suddenly the tree starts to creak loudly and collapse toward his house. Ted stands up in alarm, keeping a close eye on the falling tree, ready to get out of the way if it starts falling towards him. Fortunately, the tree falls at an angle across his back lawn, damaging some plants but nothing important. Ted runs outside to examine the fallen tree. He notices the splintered trunk and he is struck by how large the tree looks, spread across his lawn. He says to himself that he was lucky the tree didn't hit his house, and he starts to consider calling a tree service to cut the dead tree up and haul it away.

Does Ted know that a tree fell over in his backyard?
yes no (circle one)

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Scenario: Lisa owns a small bakery downtown. When she arrives home from work today, she decides to sit down with a cup of tea and sort through the mail. She notices that one of the envelopes is from the electric company. Upon opening it, she finds that it’s a bill for \$45. “I better go grab my checkbook,” she says to herself.

Shortly after returning with the checkbook, she picks up the bill and looks for the due date. “Oh good, I have plenty of time. It’s not due for three more weeks. Well, I should go ahead and put it in the mail, anyway. I don’t want to forget about it.” So, Lisa carefully fills out one of her checks, places it in an envelope, and takes the sealed envelope down to the mailbox.

The next afternoon, the check finally arrives at the post office. Unfortunately, the check is placed in the wrong pile, and it ends up being sent across the country. So, the electric company never receives Lisa’s money.

A few days after the due date has past, the electric company prints another bill for Lisa, which they are about to mail out. This time they include a \$20 late charge.

Does Lisa know that she will be receiving this \$20 late charge?
yes no (circle one)

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Did Kate believe that Queen Elizabeth died in 1613?
yes no (circle one)

Some philosophers have argued that a person can't know that something is true unless that person believes that it is true. Other philosophers have argued that it is possible to know that something is true without believing that it is true. Both sets of philosophers have portrayed their views as consistent with the common sense opinions of ordinary non-philosophers. So we want to know what you think. Can someone know that something is true without believing that it is true?

Please select one response by checking the box next to it:

- Yes, someone can know that something is true without believing that it is true.
- No, someone cannot know that something is true without believing that it is true.

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