

## BEYOND THINKING

*by:*

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General knowledge refers to the broad range of information that an individual has acquired over time, typically through exposure to various sources of information such as reading, education, and personal experience. It encompasses a wide range of subjects, including history, science, art, culture, geography, politics, and more.

Having a good general knowledge is considered an important attribute as it enables individuals to engage in conversations, understand the world around them, make informed decisions, and broaden their perspectives. It also contributes to personal growth and helps individuals develop a well-rounded personality.

General knowledge is often tested in academic and professional settings, such as in exams, interviews, and trivia games. It can also be developed and expanded through various means, such as reading books, attending lectures and seminars, watching documentaries, and participating in discussions and debates.

However, it is clear to most young people nowadays that they lack common knowledge on almost all major issues, which has a significant impact on their decision-making abilities. In fact, most of them appear to be filled with uncertainties and complexities regarding their career plans or even the strand they will take for senior high school.

This raises a more serious concern, because if such a lack of common knowledge persists, we will most likely face a future fraught with chaotic uncertainties. Hence, it is critical to expose our children to relevant experiences, engage them in significant learning activities,

and expose them to life-changing opportunities that will eventually lead to the development of their ability to think and decide.

As educators, we shape our youth to be responsible and productive citizens of our country by assisting them in discovering the meaning of their life. As how the French philosopher Rene De Carte put it, "Cogito, ergo sum." (I think, therefore, I am.)"

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