

Socrates' Triple Filter Test: Truth, Goodness and Usefulness



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Socrates' Triple Filter Test:

MINDJOURNAL

If what you're going to say to others is...



NOT TRUE
AND/OR
NOT GOOD
AND/OR
NOT USEFUL
... don't say it!



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In ancient Greece (469 – 399 BC), Socrates was widely lauded for his wisdom.

One day the great greek philosopher came upon an acquaintance, who ran up to him excitedly and said, “Socrates, do you know what I just heard about one of your students?”

“Wait a moment,” Socrates replied. “Before you tell me, I’d like you to pass a little test. It’s called the Test of Three.”“Test of Three?”

“That’s correct,” Socrates continued. “Before you talk to me about my student let’s take a moment to test what you’re going to say. The first test is the Truth. Have you made absolutely sure that what you are about to tell me is true?”

“No,” the man replied, “actually I just heard about it.”

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“All right,” said Socrates. “So you don’t really know if it’s true or not. Now let’s try the second test, the test of Goodness. Is what you are about to tell me about my student something good?”

“No, on the contrary...”

“So,” Socrates continued, “you want to tell me something bad about him even though you’re not certain it’s true?”

The man shrugged, a little embarrassed.

Socrates continued, “You may still pass though because there is a third test – the filter of Usefulness. Is what you want to tell me about my student going to be useful to me?”



"No, not really..."

"Well," concluded Socrates, "if what you want to tell me is neither true nor good nor even useful, why tell it to me at all?"

The man was defeated and ashamed and said no more.

So, this triple filter test stands on three pillars – **Truth, goodness, and usefulness.**



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Those who believe money can't buy happiness and those who believe money buys happiness are both equally right. The reality is that money is important for happiness, but whether money brings happiness or not is something we need to find out.

In a world where wealth seems to equal success, it's easy to wonder about the relationship between money and happiness. Let's explore how money and happiness are intertwined together.



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Are we living in a world where our recollections can deceive us, or is there something more extraordinary at play? In this article, we delve deep into the Mandela Effect, exploring its origins, possible explanations, and mind-boggling examples that continue to confound us.

Let's delve deeper into what is the Mandela effect like and learn some of its popular examples!

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