

# Avanti Trust PRE Curriculum

## Worksheet Sheet 7.1.2b (1)

### “How Do We Know Things”



#### “I know I’m right!”

Are you sure you are right? If you are sure, why are you so certain? Perhaps because it *feels* right - but don’t our feelings sometimes mislead us? For thousands of years, philosophers have pondered this question: “How can I tell for certain?” Now, let us consider the same problem: first, read through the following 4 questions, and indicate the best answers by circling one of a, b or c.

#### Exercise 1:

##### 1. You already know that $2+2 = 4$ . How do you know?

- (a) It feels right when I look at it.
- (b) I learned this in primary school, so it must be right.
- (c) It’s like I’ve always known this – you really understand it by thinking about it.

##### 2. You are holding a ripe, red apple. How do you know that it is red?

- (a) Because I can clearly see its redness.
- (b) Because other people call this colour ‘red’
- (c) Because it’s not green.

##### 3. How do you know that William the Conquer won the Battle of Hastings in 1066?

- (a) 1066 is magical number
- (b) I have read and heard about it from historians (people who study history).
- (c) I saw it myself, on a video – I even saw King Harold get an arrow in his eye.

##### 4. Most of us think murder is wrong. But why?

- (a) It’s against the law, so it must be wrong.
- (b) If we allowed it, there be loads of dead people around, which would be a big problem!
- (c) It feels wrong; we know it automatically, without really thinking about it.

#### Exercise 2:

Now, in groups (or as teacher tells you), please discuss your answers to the above questions. Use your answers to write down in your exercise books at least 3 or 4 ways we know things. Come up with more if you can!

Thank you!