

# Can a machine know tok essay



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A machine is defined as 'equipment with moving parts that is designed to do a particular job'. a machine runs on a program made by humans. The program is made so that the machine can perform a particular task which makes the task easier, faster and reduces the work load on humans. to know means to have information in your mind as a result of experience. The definition of a machine and know contradict each other. As a machine is only programmed to do a task and does not have a mind of its own.

We use machines in day to day activities. Our life comes to a stand still without the use of machines. If we give a deep thought machines do not know it is us humans who know a give the machine a specific task to perform using our areas of knowledge so can a machine really know? it is us humans our know about a surrounding and convert these into programmes so that a machine can perform a task which will make our lives easier. Machines do know about some areas of knowledge but there scope is limited. Some ways of knowing cannot be used by machines so thus can a machine know?.

There exists a major difference in the ways of knowing for a human and a machine. Man's ways of knowing are language, perception, emotion. due to these ways of knowing man has established areas of knowledge- mathematics, sciences, arts . a machine is programmed using mans area of knowledge. So we can deduce that a machines ways of knowing are mans area of knowledge. This statement makes us wonder whether machine are capable of independent knowing. We shall now look at this topic from various ways of knowing

Language is vast and has various meanings. a human knows the true meaning of language and not a machine. for example it' " its pouring like there is going to be no tomorrow" any human would know the meaning would be its raining heavily but for a machine it is not possible to programme the entire language as it is vast and ever changing so it would not be possible for a machine to know. also a machine cannot think individually it is the programmer who thinks using areas of knowledge and makes the programme for the machine.

Knowing is perception through our senses. these senses are limited or absent in machines. Machines are equipped with artificial sense but still are not capable of interlinking the senses like humans. there is also a absence of mental insights and some senses like smell and vision cannot be converted in to programmes as these senses are so vast that it is virtually impossible for the programmer to convert them into a programme suitable for the machine.

Perception plays a vital role in Knowing. Perception is absent in machines so machine can't really know. Emotion- there exists no programme to convert emotions felt by humans to machines; due to the absence of emotions machines are not capable of knowing. As emotion plays a vital part in knowing we can say that a machine cannot know. Knowledge is a combination of ethics and values. These values are built up due to life experience . this is not possible in the case of machines.

We can conclude by saying that ways of knowing such as language, perception, emotion are Absent in machines thus cannot know. They have a

superficial knowledge of surroundings and only aware of the knowledge that is programmed in them. Machines unlike humans do not have areas of knowledge like humans. Their knowledge is limited and dependent on the programmer. A machine is not able to think independently and carry out functions not mentioned in the programme.