

Ways of understanding I

Through the course of human history, people have had different ways of understanding their world and things in it. One of the most fundamental improvements of human thought is to recognize that there are these different ways of understanding, and then to decide which way of under-

standing is superior to the others.

This page illustrates that concept by presenting different ways of thinking about the origin of frips, an imaginary category of imaginary things. A frip might be something that we would call an organism, a geological structure, or an artifact, but it is

something about which the origin and nature might be debatable. We aren't really concerned about what a frip is – we're focusing on the different ways that different people at different times might understand what a frip is.

Some possible ways of understanding The origin and nature of frips

When I was a small child,
I was taught that frips are frumps,
and that settles it.

The chemical similarity of frips to frops,
the structural similarity of frips to frops,
and the contextual association of frips with frops
all indicate that frips are frops.

My ancestors believed,
and therefore I believe,
that frips are froops.

I have heard a voice or voices
that told me that frips are freeps.

The sacred texts of the ancient Normurians
clearly state that frips are fromps.

Deep in my heart,
I know that frips are fraps.