

Re: this is the time to pray

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Assembler/alt.lang.asm/2005-01/0636.html>

From: Percival (dragontamer5788_at_yahoo.com)

Date: 01/17/05

Date: Mon, 17 Jan 2005 11:07:37 -0500

On Mon, 17 Jan 2005 10:14:17 +0100, The \o/\annabee wrote:

- > *However, self-awareness is a bit like love, a bit slippery*
- > *to define. For all that we know its part of yet unknown forces. Like for*
- > *instance gravity once was.....*
- >
- > *Awareness is at least not an absolute quantity. It is not present in all*
- > *animals and humans in the same amount. You list humans and chimps ? Well,*
- > *you can add my Cat to the list. And many many other animals as well, I am*
- > *sure.*

- > [snip]

- > *At any rate, self-awareness cannot be quantified (my claim), like amount*
- > *of water in the body. It depends HEAVILY, if not exclusively on the*
- > *expericem, and the way the human lead his life, and the situations he*
- > *met or create. Try teaching a computer that !*
- >
- > *If you still be stubborn enough for thinking that you can define*
- > *self-awareness physically, or that it is something imposed from the*
- > *outside, try explain why my mother cannot control her level of*
- > *self-awareness, but I can.....*

Look into a mirror. You can see yourself. Comb your hair, or whatever. You know what happens in a mirror happens to you.

Ask a dog to look into a mirror, they will bark, and may even attack it. They do not understand that it is them who appears in a mirror.

I'd say that is one quality of being self aware, the fact that you know that you exist. Well, perhaps Narcissus wasn't self aware, which would explain why he fell in love with his reflection :)

Percival