Knowledge is the information that we have through the experiences of our predecessors and our own at present. Information of all things discovered or experienced is knowledge. But, creativity is needed to put that information together to come up with new results and solutions.

Albert Einstein said “Imagination is more important than knowledge. For knowledge is limited to all we now know and understand, while imagination embraces the entire world, and all there ever will be to know and understand.”

Knowledge, no doubt has a role to play. Without knowledge, creativity does not have any substance to work with. Creativity puts together already available information in a manner to come up with new solutions to new problems. Without the 2 working in tandem, nothing new could have been created.

Let’s discuss a simple example that all of us must have surely come across: In school, we all knew that one guy/girl who would mug-up the whole book from top to bottom. No question would be left in the book which was not known to him/her. And there would be another guy/girl who would not toil so much. He/she would only understand how to solve the questions, the methodology, and the reasoning behind all of it. Come maths exam. Let’s say a few questions were asked which were not in the book. The first guy/girl would cry foul over not being able to solve the questions since they were “out of syllabus”. While the other guy/girl, though slower in speed, would solve all the questions(even the new ones) and get a better score than the latter.

Now the question arises, who among the above 2 is truly educated? Definitely not the rote learner! This points to the fact that creativity trumps knowledge in solving new problems. Knowledge can get you through old problems easily, but only creativity can help you tackle new problems.

In light of the above discussion, it can be concluded that knowledge is definitely required but only knowledge in isolation cannot help us. Knowledge has to be accompanied by creativity in order to make true progress in life. These rules apply to every sphere of our life.

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Your Turn...

Which one will you choose in between creativity and knowledge? Express your thoughts
Which one is more important – Creativity or Knowledge?

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