

# Review of: "Either you know or you've gotta believe"

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I really enjoyed reading this article. It was an interesting analysis of critiques of the JTB thesis concluding that these critiques render the JTB thesis obsolete. I have some specific suggestions for improving the writing:

- I especially liked the emphasis on an active processes like “deciding” in defining belief, but I think the writing would be clearer if it explained why these *active* processes are a requirement for belief.
- It wasn't clear to me whether the argument made here involves the claim that knowledge is necessary for believing (although believing is more than just knowledge) or if knowledge is not even necessary.
- I'm not sure that based on the analysis provided here, I see why belief *requires* action or why believing is often understood as “thinking”. It seems to me like a lot of our beliefs don't involved conscious thinking but they are still beliefs we hold! Also related to this topic, please see Heiphetz et al., 2021 (“does thinking mean the same thing as believe?”) I think a brief discussion of why belief might *require* action on all of the accounts presented here would be useful. I think the “attitude” of “as if true” towards *p* might be key to understanding why action is required.
- I think the writing could improve in organization and in the structure of the argument by providing a systematic summary of the critiques of the entailment thesis based on which of the three propositions of JTB each critique is responding to or how the three propositions are expanded or revised. For example, it's not clear to me how the Myers-Schulz and Schwitzgebel arguments are responding to the JTB thesis. One way to situate their findings as a response to JTB is to emphasize how these empirical results show that English-speaking adults' intuitions about the two mental states of beliefs and knowledge (or language used to refer to the two mental states) don't align with the JTB. This then raises the next question of which of the three JTB propositions do people's intuitions not align with? Is it that knowledge requires a “belief”, the “truth”, or the attitude of the knower towards the proposition? Basically, what I'm trying to suggest here is a more systematic structure to the discussion of prior work on the issue.

Minor point about the writing:

- some sentences are incomplete or too long. I recommend reading carefully, streamlining, and simplifying the sentence structures. For example, the first sentence under “Cases against the entailment thesis” does not read smoothly!