

LEND ME YOUR EARS ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT MAKING Handbook

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Making something—whether it's a craft, a piece of art, a DIY project, or a creative invention—can be an incredibly rewarding experience. It involves a blend of skill, planning, patience, and creativity. If you're interested in starting your making journey or want to improve your current skills, this comprehensive guide will walk you through everything you need to know about making. From understanding the basics to advanced techniques, this article covers all essential aspects to help you turn your ideas into reality.

Understanding the Foundations of Making

Before delving into specific projects or techniques, it's important to grasp the fundamental principles of making. These foundations will serve as the backbone of your creative endeavors.

What Does Making Entail?

Making involves transforming raw materials into finished products through various processes, including assembling, shaping, carving, sewing, or coding. It's a broad term that encompasses a wide range of activities from woodworking and metalworking to digital fabrication and culinary arts.

The Benefits of Making

- Enhances Creativity and Problem-Solving Skills
- Develops Practical and Technical Skills
- Promotes Sustainability through Upcycling and Repurposing
- Provides Personal Satisfaction and Sense of Accomplishment
- Can be a Source of Income or Hobby

Essential Mindset for Making

- Patience and Persistence
- Willingness to Learn and Experiment
- Attention to Detail

- Openness to Failure as Part of the Learning Process

Gathering Knowledge and Planning Your Project

Successful making begins with thorough planning and research. Here's how to lay the groundwork for your project.

Research and Inspiration

- Explore Online Platforms: Pinterest, YouTube, Instructables
- Visit Local Maker Spaces and Workshops
- Study Similar Projects or DIY Tutorials
- Keep a Inspiration Journal or Mood Board

Define Your Goals

- What do you want to create?
- What purpose will it serve?
- What skills or tools will you need?
- What is your budget and timeline?

Design and Sketching

- Create rough sketches or digital drawings
- Use CAD (Computer-Aided Design) software for precise plans
- Consider dimensions, materials, and assembly process

Materials and Tools Planning

Make a list of:

- Raw materials (wood, metal, fabric, electronics, etc.)
- Tools (saws, drills, sewing machines, soldering irons)
- Safety equipment (gloves, goggles, masks)

Core Techniques and Skills in Making

Depending on your project, different techniques will be necessary. Here are some common making techniques and skills to develop.

Cutting and Shaping Materials

- Using saws, knives, scissors
- Shaping with routers, grinders
- Carving and sanding

Assembling and Joining

- Screwing, nails, and bolts
- Gluing and adhesive bonding
- Welding and soldering (for metals)
- Sewing and stitching (for textiles)

Finishing Touches

- Painting, staining, or varnishing
- Polishing and buffing
- Adding decorative elements

Electronics and Programming (Optional for Tech Projects)

- Soldering electronic components
- Programming microcontrollers (Arduino, Raspberry Pi)
- Wiring and circuit design

Step-by-Step Guide to Making Your First Project

To illustrate the process, here's a simplified step-by-step guide for a beginner woodworking project: creating a simple shelf.

Step 1: Planning and Design

- Decide dimensions and style

- Sketch your design

Step 2: Gathering Materials and Tools

- Wood planks
- Screws and brackets
- Drill, screwdriver, measuring tape, saw

Step 3: Cutting Materials

- Measure and mark cuts
- Cut wood to size

Step 4: Assembly

- Sand edges for smoothness
- Attach shelves to side panels using screws
- Ensure stability and level

Step 5: Finishing

- Apply paint or stain
- Add protective sealant if desired

Step 6: Final Inspection

- Check for sturdiness
- Make adjustments if necessary

Safety Tips and Best Practices

Safety is paramount when making, especially when handling power tools, chemicals, or electronics.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Safety glasses or goggles
- Gloves suitable for the task
- Dust masks or respirators

Work Environment

- Work in well-ventilated areas
- Keep your workspace clean and organized
- Have a fire extinguisher nearby

Tool Safety

- Read manuals and instructions
- Use tools as intended
- Turn off and unplug tools when not in use

Handling Materials and Chemicals

- Follow manufacturer safety guidelines
- Store chemicals properly
- Dispose of waste responsibly

Learning Resources and Community Support

To enhance your making skills, utilize various resources and connect with communities.

Online Tutorials and Courses

- YouTube channels dedicated to DIY and crafting
- Online platforms like Skillshare, Udemy, Coursera
- Maker community forums and blogs

Local Maker Spaces and Workshops

- Access to tools and expertise
- Opportunities to collaborate with others

- Participating in classes and events

Books and Magazines

- ?The Complete Manual of Woodworking?
- ?Make: Magazine?
- Specialty craft books related to your interest

Networking and Collaboration

- Join local maker groups
- Attend craft fairs and exhibitions
- Share your projects online to receive feedback

Advanced Techniques and Expanding Your Skills

Once comfortable with basic making, explore advanced techniques.

Digital Fabrication

- Laser cutting and engraving
- 3D printing
- CNC machining

Upcycling and Sustainability

- Repurposing old materials
- Eco-friendly paints and finishes
- Designing for disassembly

Customizing and Personalizing Projects

- Engraving, carving, or painting
- Incorporating unique materials
- Developing your own style

Scaling Up Projects

- Managing larger projects
- Budgeting and resource planning
- Collaborating with others or forming small teams

Monetizing Your Making Skills

If you find joy and success in your projects, consider turning your hobby into a source of income.

Ways to Monetize

- Selling on online marketplaces like Etsy, eBay, Amazon Handmade
- Participating in craft fairs and markets
- Offering workshops or classes
- Creating custom commissions

Building a Brand

- Establish an online presence via social media
- Document your process through videos and blogs
- Develop a portfolio of your best work

Pricing Your Products

- Calculate material and labor costs
- Research market prices
- Consider your skill level and uniqueness

Conclusion: Embrace the Making Journey

Making is a fulfilling activity that combines creativity, technical skills, and problem-solving. Whether you're just starting or looking to refine your craft, understanding the fundamentals, planning thoroughly, learning continuously, and prioritizing safety are key to success. Remember, every maker was once a beginner, and with patience and perseverance, you can create amazing things. So, pick your project, gather your tools, and let your imagination lead the way?your next masterpiece awaits!

Start Making Today!

Lend Me Your Ears: All You Need to Know About Making ? A Comprehensive Guide to Effective Communication and Audience Engagement

In an era dominated by information overload, the phrase "lend me your ears" resonates more than ever. Whether you're a speaker, presenter, performer, or content creator, understanding the art of making your message resonate is crucial. This guide delves into the nuanced skills, strategies, and insights needed to master the craft of making an impact?be it through speech, storytelling, or any form of communication that seeks to capture and hold attention. By the end of this article, you will have a thorough understanding of how to craft compelling messages that inspire, inform, and persuade.

The Power of Making: Why Effective Communication Matters

Before diving into the mechanics, it's essential to understand why making?or crafting your message?is so vital. At its core, effective communication is about making a connection with your audience. It transforms mere words into a shared experience, fostering understanding and emotional engagement.

Impact of Good Making

- Builds trust and credibility
- Enhances persuasion and influence
- Fosters clarity and understanding
- Inspires action and change

The Cost of Poor Making

- Misunderstanding or misinterpretation
- Loss of audience interest
- Damage to reputation
- Missed opportunities

Foundations of Making: The Principles of Effective Communication

To excel in making your message, you need to grasp foundational principles that underpin successful communication.

Clarity and Simplicity

- Avoid jargon or complex language unless appropriate
- Focus on core messages; keep them straightforward
- Use analogies or stories to clarify abstract concepts

Engagement and Relevance

- Know your audience's interests, needs, and values
- Tailor your message to resonate with them
- Use compelling anecdotes or examples

Authenticity and Credibility

- Be genuine in your delivery
- Support claims with facts or data
- Share personal stories or experiences to build trust

Confidence and Delivery

- Practice your speech or message beforehand
- Use appropriate body language and eye contact
- Modulate your voice to emphasize key points

Crafting a Message That Makes an Impact

Creating a memorable and persuasive message involves a structured approach. Let's explore the key components.

- Know Your Audience

Understanding who you're speaking to can make or break your message.

- Demographics (age, profession, background)
- Interests and values

- Expectations and prior knowledge
- Cultural sensitivities

- Define Your Objective

Be clear about what you want to achieve.

- Inform or educate
- Persuade or motivate
- Entertain
- Inspire action

- Develop a Core Message

Summarize your main idea in a concise statement.

- This acts as the foundation of your entire message
- Ensure it's memorable and compelling

- Structure Your Content

Organize your message logically.

- Introduction: Capture attention and state your purpose
- Body: Provide supporting points, evidence, stories
- Conclusion: Reinforce your core message and call to action

- Use Stories and Analogies

Stories make messages relatable and memorable.

- Personal anecdotes
- Case studies

- Hypothetical scenarios
- Incorporate Visuals and Props

Visual aids can enhance understanding and retention.

- Charts and graphs
- Slides or videos
- Demonstrations or physical props

Mastering Delivery: How to Make Your Message Come Alive

Even a well-crafted message falls flat without effective delivery. Here are techniques to make your presentation engaging.

Vocal Techniques

- Vary pitch and tone for emphasis
- Use pauses for effect
- Speak with clarity and confidence

Body Language

- Maintain eye contact
- Use gestures to emphasize points
- Move purposefully on stage

Engaging the Audience

- Ask rhetorical or direct questions
- Invite participation or feedback
- Read audience cues and adapt accordingly

Managing Nervousness

- Practice extensively
- Use breathing exercises
- Focus on your message, not yourself

The Art of Making: Advanced Strategies for Impact

To elevate your making skills, consider these advanced techniques.

- Emotional Appeal (Pathos)

Connect on an emotional level to motivate action.

- Share heartfelt stories
- Use vivid language
- Demonstrate passion and conviction

- Logical Argumentation (Logos)

Support your message with facts and reasoning.

- Use statistics and data
- Present logical progression
- Address counterarguments

- Ethical Appeal (Ethos)

Establish authority and trustworthiness.

- Cite reputable sources
- Highlight your expertise or experience
- Be honest and transparent

- Use of Rhetorical Devices

Enhance memorability and persuasion.

- Repetition
- Alliteration
- Metaphors and similes
- Rhetorical questions

Crafting Content for Different Contexts

The principles of making adapt depending on the context.

Public Speaking

- Focus on stage presence
- Use storytelling to connect
- Engage with visual aids

Writing

- Use compelling headlines and introductions
- Maintain clarity and conciseness
- Include calls to action

Digital Content

- Optimize for readability and engagement
- Use multimedia elements
- Foster interaction through comments or shares

One-on-One Communication

- Personalize your message
- Listen actively
- Use empathetic language

Common Pitfalls and How to Avoid Them

Even experienced speakers make mistakes. Recognize and sidestep these common issues:

- Overloading with information?keep it focused
- Monotonous delivery?vary your tone and pace
- Ignoring audience cues?be adaptable
- Lack of preparation?practice thoroughly
- Failing to connect emotionally?share stories and passion

Final Thoughts: Making Your Message Count

The phrase "lend me your ears" encapsulates the essence of what it takes to make a message resonate. It's not just about speaking or writing; it's about creating a meaningful connection that leaves an impression. Successful making combines clarity, relevance, authenticity, and engaging delivery. Whether you're persuading stakeholders, inspiring a team, or simply sharing an idea, mastering the art of making ensures your voice is heard and remembered.

Remember, effective communication is a skill that can be developed with conscious effort and practice. Embrace feedback, keep refining your craft, and always aim to make your message compelling enough that your audience is eager to lend you their ears again and again.

Lend me your ears?and let's make every word count.

Question What is the main message behind the phrase 'Lend me your ears' in the context of making a presentation or speech? The phrase 'Lend me your ears' emphasizes the importance of capturing your audience's attention and engaging them fully when delivering a presentation or speech, ensuring they listen and understand your message. How can I effectively prepare when making a compelling speech or presentation? Effective preparation involves understanding your audience, organizing your content clearly, practicing your delivery, using visual aids appropriately, and anticipating potential questions or challenges. What are some common mistakes to avoid when making a presentation? Common mistakes include reading directly from slides, speaking monotonously, neglecting audience engagement, going over time, and failing to tailor the content to the audience's interests or knowledge level. How can I make my speech more engaging and memorable? Use storytelling techniques, incorporate humor where appropriate, vary your tone and pace, include visual elements, and interact with your audience through questions or activities to keep them interested and make your message memorable. What role does body language play in making a successful presentation? Body language helps convey confidence, emphasize key points, and build rapport with the audience. Good gestures, eye contact, and an open posture can enhance your message and keep the audience engaged. Are there any tips for handling nervousness when making a speech or presentation? Yes, preparation is key?practice thoroughly, use deep breathing techniques to calm nerves, focus on your message rather than yourself, start with a strong opening

to boost confidence, and remember that the audience is generally supportive.

Related keywords: lend, ears, all, need, know, making, speech, communication, presentation, oratory

What S It All About

What s it all about: Unraveling the Meaning and Significance of the Phrase

Understanding the phrase "what s it all about?" can seem straightforward at first glance, but it often carries layers of meaning depending on the context in which it is used. This article aims to explore the origins, various interpretations, and significance of this phrase, providing comprehensive insights for readers seeking clarity.

Origins and Linguistic Background

Historical Context

The phrase "what s it all about?" is a colloquial variation of the more formal "what is it all about,?" which has been part of the English language for centuries. Its roots trace back to conversational speech, where contractions and informal expressions are common. Over time, it has become a popular rhetorical question used to seek understanding or meaning behind a situation, event, or concept.

Language and Usage

The phrase is often employed in everyday speech, music, literature, and media to prompt reflection or to question the essence of something. Its informal tone makes it accessible and relatable, resonating with audiences across various age groups and backgrounds.

Common Interpretations and Uses

Asking for Clarification

One of the primary uses of "what s it all about?" is to request clarification or explanation. For example:

- ?I don?t understand this project; what s it all about??
- ?Can you tell me what s it all about??

In such contexts, the speaker seeks to grasp the core idea or purpose behind a subject.

Expressing Curiosity or Skepticism

The phrase can also convey curiosity or skepticism, especially when someone questions the motivations or significance of an action or idea:

- ?Everyone?s talking about this new trend. What s it all about??
- ?He claims to have a plan, but I wonder?what s it all about??

Here, the speaker is probing to understand the true nature or intent behind something.

Philosophical or Reflective Inquiry

In more profound contexts, ?what s it all about? can be used to ponder life's bigger questions:

- ?After all these years, I still ask myself?what s it all about??
- ?Is there a purpose to this journey? What s it all about??

Such usage reflects introspection and a desire to find meaning in existence or experiences.

Variations and Cultural Significance

Popular Music and Media

The phrase gained popularity in the 1960s through the song ?What?s It All About, Alfie?? by Cilla Black, which itself was inspired by the film ?Alfie.? The song?s lyrics explore themes of love, life, and existential questioning, embedding the phrase into popular culture.

Literature and Art

Authors and artists often use variations of this phrase to title works or pose rhetorical questions that challenge audiences to think deeply about societal issues, personal identity, or philosophical concepts.

In Daily Conversation

In casual speech, "what s it all about?" serves as a quick way to express confusion, curiosity, or skepticism, making it a versatile phrase in informal communication.

Significance in Communication

Facilitating Understanding

Using this phrase helps clarify complex ideas or situations, prompting others to explain or elaborate, which enhances mutual understanding.

Encouraging Reflection

It encourages individuals to think critically about their beliefs, motivations, or the purpose behind their actions.

Building Connection

Shared curiosity or philosophical questioning can foster deeper conversations and stronger connections among individuals.

How to Use "What s it all about?" Effectively

In Questions and Discussions

To ask for clarification:

- "Can you tell me what s it all about this project?"

In expressions of curiosity or skepticism:

- "Everyone's excited about the new policy, but I wonder what s it all about?"

In philosophical pondering:

- "After contemplating life's mysteries, I keep asking myself what s it all about?"

Tips for Clear Communication

- Use proper punctuation and context to avoid ambiguity.
- Combine with additional questions or statements to deepen understanding.
- Be mindful of tone; the phrase can sound inquisitive, skeptical, or contemplative depending on delivery.

Conclusion

Understanding "what is it all about?" involves appreciating its role as a versatile phrase that captures human curiosity, skepticism, and philosophical pondering. Whether seeking clarification, expressing curiosity, or reflecting on life's purpose, this expression resonates across contexts, cultures, and media. Its enduring relevance highlights our innate desire to comprehend the world around us and find meaning in our experiences.

By recognizing its origins, uses, and significance, individuals can leverage this phrase effectively in communication, fostering better understanding and deeper conversations. Ultimately, "what is it all about?" serves as a timeless reminder of our quest for knowledge, purpose, and connection.

What Is It All About?

Understanding the Core of a Concept, Phenomenon, or Topic

Introduction: Deciphering the Essence of "What Is It All About?"

The phrase "what is it all about?" is a universal inquiry that resonates across cultures, disciplines, and individual pursuits. It encapsulates the human desire to understand, find meaning, and grasp the core purpose behind everything from abstract ideas to tangible objects. Whether pondering the meaning of life, the purpose of a specific project, or the significance of a cultural phenomenon, this question drives curiosity, reflection, and exploration.

This comprehensive exploration aims to dissect the multifaceted nature of "what is it all about?" by examining its philosophical roots, practical applications, interpretative challenges, and implications across various domains. By doing so, we strive to deepen our understanding of how humans seek meaning and how that quest shapes our perceptions and actions.

Philosophical Foundations of "What Is It All About?"

The Quest for Meaning and Purpose

At its core, the question "what is it all about?" is rooted in existential philosophy. It reflects the innate human desire to find purpose amidst the chaos and complexity of life. Philosophers have long debated whether life or phenomena have inherent meaning or whether meaning is something we

impose ourselves.

- Existentialism: Thinkers like Jean-Paul Sartre and Albert Camus suggest that life has no predefined purpose, and it is up to individuals to create their own meaning. The question then becomes a personal journey of self-discovery.

- Absurdism: Camus, in particular, explored the absurdity of seeking meaning in a universe that offers none, prompting the question "what is it all about?" as a reflection of human longing versus cosmic indifference.

- Teleology: Conversely, some philosophical traditions propose that everything has a purpose or end goal, which can be uncovered through reasoning or divine revelation.

Meta-questions and the Search for Understanding

Beyond seeking purpose, the question also probes into the nature of understanding itself—how do we comprehend the world around us? It invites reflection on:

- The limits of human knowledge
- The reliability of perception
- The frameworks we use to interpret reality

This introspective dimension adds depth, transforming "what is it all about?" from a mere quest for purpose into an inquiry into the very nature of existence.

Practical Dimensions: Applying the Question in Everyday Life

Personal Reflection and Self-Discovery

On an individual level, asking "what is it all about?" can serve as a catalyst for self-awareness and growth.

- Identifying Core Values: It encourages introspection to determine what truly matters to us.
- Aligning Actions with Purpose: It helps in aligning daily activities with long-term goals or beliefs.
- Overcoming Existential Dilemmas: When faced with crises or uncertainties, this question provides a framework for finding clarity or redefining priorities.

In Professional and Creative Contexts

Professionals and creators often ask this question to refine their projects, products, or artistic

endeavors.

- Business Strategy: Companies ask "what is it all about?" to clarify their mission, vision, and value proposition.
- Content Creation: Writers, artists, and filmmakers explore the core message or purpose behind their work.
- Innovation and Problem Solving: Entrepreneurs and engineers seek to understand the fundamental problem they are solving to develop effective solutions.

Societal and Cultural Implications

On a larger scale, societies and cultures grapple with "what it's all about" to define collective identities and goals.

- National Identity: Countries reflect on their core values and purpose.
- Cultural Movements: Movements often emerge from questions about societal purpose or direction.
- Global Challenges: Issues like climate change, inequality, and technological advancement prompt global introspection on humanity's collective trajectory.

Interpreting "What Is It All About?: Challenges and Nuances

Subjectivity and Multiple Perspectives

One of the most significant challenges in addressing this question is its inherently subjective nature.

- Different individuals or cultures may have vastly divergent answers based on their beliefs, experiences, and values.
- For some, "what it's all about" might be spiritual enlightenment; for others, personal happiness or material success.

Complexity and Ambiguity

Many phenomena are complex, layered, and multidimensional, making definitive answers elusive.

- Abstract Concepts: Ideas like love, justice, or consciousness resist simple definitions.
- Interconnected Systems: Societal, ecological, and technological systems are deeply

interconnected, complicating straightforward explanations.

Changing Contexts Over Time

What seems meaningful at one stage of life or in one era may shift over time. This fluidity adds to the challenge of pinning down ?what it?s all about.?

Deep Dive Into Domains: How Different Fields Approach the Question

Philosophy and Theology

Philosophers and theologians have historically sought to answer ?what it?s all about? through reason, faith, and spiritual insight.

- Religious Perspectives: Many religions posit that life?s purpose is tied to divine plans, spiritual growth, or moral obedience.
- Philosophical Inquiry: Rational inquiry seeks logical explanations for existence, purpose, and morality.

Science and Empirical Inquiry

Science approaches ?what it?s all about? by examining observable phenomena.

- Cosmology: Investigates the origins of the universe, seeking answers about its purpose or lack thereof.
- Biology: Explores evolution and survival, often framing life?s purpose in terms of reproduction and adaptation.
- Neuroscience: Studies consciousness and perception, attempting to understand what it means to be human.

Art and Literature

Creative expressions serve as explorations of meaning, often posing ?what it?s all about? through storytelling, symbolism, and emotional resonance.

- Art challenges viewers to interpret underlying messages or themes.
- Literature often explores existential questions, moral dilemmas, and human experiences.

Psychology and Personal Development

Psychology examines what drives human motivation and fulfillment.

- Many therapeutic approaches help individuals find personal meaning.
- Concepts like self-actualization (Maslow) address the pursuit of purpose.

Implications of the Question in Contemporary Society

Technology and the Digital Age

Rapid technological advancements have transformed how we seek and find meaning.

- Social Media: Alters perceptions of success, connection, and purpose.
- Artificial Intelligence: Raises questions about consciousness, identity, and what it means to be human.
- Digital Identity: Challenges traditional notions of self and authenticity.

Sustainability and Global Responsibility

In facing ecological crises, "what it's all about" now extends to our relationship with the planet.

- Collective purpose centers around sustainability, conservation, and responsible innovation.
- Movements like climate activism embody society's search for meaning in stewardship.

Ethical and Moral Dimensions

Deciding "what it's all about" involves moral judgments about right and wrong.

- Ethical frameworks influence policies, social norms, and personal choices.
- The question underpins debates on justice, rights, and societal progress.

Conclusion: The Ongoing Journey of Inquiry

Ultimately, "what it's all about" is a dynamic, multi-layered question that fuels human curiosity and introspection. It is not a question with a singular, definitive answer but rather a perpetual prompt for exploration, reflection, and growth. Every individual, community, or discipline approaches it from

different angles, contributing to a collective tapestry of understanding.

By engaging deeply with this question, we embrace the complexity of existence, acknowledge diverse perspectives, and foster a mindset of continuous inquiry. Whether seeking personal purpose, societal goals, or cosmic understanding, the pursuit of 'what it's all about?' remains one of the most profound and enduring aspects of the human experience.

In summary:

- It is a fundamental question rooted in the human desire for meaning.
- It spans philosophy, science, art, and everyday life.
- It involves subjective interpretations, complex systems, and evolving contexts.
- It challenges us to reflect, adapt, and seek understanding across various domains.
- Its ongoing nature makes it a vital part of personal growth and societal progress.

By embracing this inquiry, we participate in a timeless quest that shapes our identities, guides our actions, and enriches our understanding of the universe and ourselves.

Question What is the main purpose of the phrase 'what's it all about'? It's used to ask for a summary or understanding of the core idea or meaning behind something. How can I interpret 'what's it all about' in a conversation? It typically indicates that someone wants clarification or more information about the topic being discussed. Is 'what's it all about' a common expression in everyday English? Yes, it's a popular colloquial phrase used to inquire about the essence or significance of something. Can 'what's it all about' be used in a philosophical context? Absolutely, it can be used to question the meaning or purpose of life, existence, or complex topics. What are some alternative ways to ask 'what's it all about'? Some alternatives include 'What's the point?', 'What's the meaning?', or 'Can you explain what it's all about?' How has the phrase 'what's it all about' gained popularity in media? It has been frequently used in movies, TV shows, and music to express curiosity or seek understanding about a situation. Is 'what's it all about' mainly used in informal settings? Yes, it's predominantly informal and commonly used in casual conversations rather than formal contexts. What should I consider when someone asks 'what's it all about'? You should consider providing a clear, concise explanation or overview to help them understand the main idea or purpose.

Related keywords: meaning, purpose, overview, explanation, summary, significance, theme, main idea, gist, context

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