

# Lucky Humans

Humans have an autonomic nervous system enabling us to keep breathing. Not really that impressive when you consider that all animals have this system. But we have brains. Again, not that impressive when you consider other animals. But we have thinking brains. Still, not impressive.

Other animals are aware of their environment and can strategize about it. But human brains use language. True, but other animals use vocal and behavioral language. But humans can use a word to represent something in the physical world. Now we're getting somewhere. But other animals can recognize and use signs of food or danger in their environments. But human representations are not limited to the physical world. We can use words to represent ideas. Now we're starting to get impressive.

Other animals feel emotions like fear, but are these emotions part of a larger organization? We also don't know how animals think. We use syntactic structures enabling us to manipulate our representations in an infinite number of ways and degrees. Human superiority yet? How about thumbs. Monkeys essentially have a thumb on each foot, for climbing. However, our thumbs give us the dexterity to create machines that to an extent utilize and control environments. Now, if an animal could think in abstractions, they would need the capability of symbolic language. No evidence of this though. Human intelligence has generated within us curiosity about us and about our physical and non-physical worlds, a force which prompts us to ask questions. Not just any questions. The big ones....

Are we an accident? Are we a creation? If the latter, Who?