Usually when we ask a question, it's usually because we want an answer. But that isn't the purpose of every question. Sometimes you can ask a question that doesn't have an answer to help you think. These types of questions have been used by thinkers throughout history, the most famous being Zen koans. These answerless questions have helped monks to focus their thinking and meditate, and they can help us to. Practicing thinking through difficult logic, learning to approach questions at different angles, and deeply considering what words do (and don't!) mean are all valuable skills.

Take a few minutes to think through some of these questions. Don't worry about what answer you come to, the important thing is to work towards an answer, not get there.

**The Challenge**

If a tree falls in the forest and no one is around, does it make a sound?

What is the sound of one hand clapping?

What came first, the chicken or the egg?

If you mix dirt and water, do you have dirty water or wet dirt?

If we replace every piece of a car one at a time, at what point is it a different car?

If a person says "I am lying", are they?

How many grains of dirt makes a heap?

What happens when an immovable object meets an unstoppable force?

Can you lose something on purpose?

**Everything Zen? Will these questions without answers expand your mind or just confuse you?**