

*Il doit être très ignorant car il répond à toutes les questions qu'on lui pose.
[He must be very ignorant, for he answers every question he is asked.]*

— Voltaire

The solution of every problem is another problem.

— Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

The answer is "yes" or "no", depending on the interpretation.

— Albert Einstein, *Scientific American* (April 1950)

An answer is always a form of death.

— John Fowles, *The Magus* (1966)

When I am working on a problem, I never think about beauty, but when I have finished, if the solution is not beautiful, I know it is wrong.

— R. Buckminster Fuller

It is not the answer that enlightens, but the question.

— Eugène Ionesco, *Découvertes* (1969)

To learn which questions are unanswerable, and not to answer them: this skill is most needful in times of stress and darkness.

— Ursula K. LeGuin, *The Left Hand of Darkness* (1969)

The chief cause of problems is solutions.

— Eric Sevareid (1970)

The solutions all are simple. . . after you have arrived at them. But they're simple only when you know already what they are.

— Robert M. Pirsig, *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* (1974)

*WASSA HAT?
HOM TONT HO*

— George Booth, "Ip Gissa Gul", *New Yorker* (January 20, 1975)

There is no such thing as a problem without a gift for you in its hands. You seek problems because you need their gifts.

— Richard Bach, *Illusions: The Adventures of a Reluctant Messiah* (1977)

It is a mistake to think you can solve any major problems just with potatoes.

— Douglas Adams, *Life, the Universe and Everything* (1982)

A solution which does not prepare for the next round with some increased insight is hardly a solution at all.

— Richard W. Hamming, *The Art of Doing Science and Engineering: Learning to Learn* (1991)

Just because we can't find a solution it doesn't mean that there isn't one.

— Andrew Wiles