

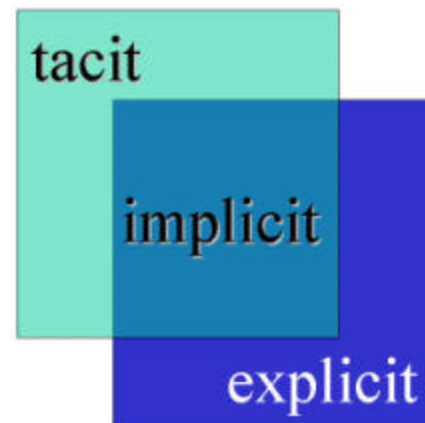
What is the difference between tacit, implicit, and explicit knowledge?

The focus of Knowledge Harvesting is to elicit, organize and deploy implicit knowledge as organizational knowledge assets. The terms “Tacit” and “Implicit” are not interchangeable.

“Tacit” refers to things we know that CANNOT be made explicit (express using language). Examples are:

- ability to recognize grammaticality.
- ability to say that a group of letters is not a word, even though we do not know all the words in the dictionary.
- how we recognize faces.
- how we associate taste with food items.

Implicit knowledge is that which has not been made explicit, and is presumed to be possible. Implicit knowledge is something that is known, but is very difficult to verbalize. Humans store tacit and implicit knowledge inside their brains. The goal of Knowledge Harvesting is to make implicit knowledge explicit, with the goal of decreasing its susceptibility to organizational loss or personal forgetfulness.



Explicit knowledge is knowledge that has been written down, recorded as text, audio, video or graphic. It exists as a physical or virtual entity. Explicit knowledge can be named, disseminated, and measured. The monetary value of explicit knowledge can be determined.

The important thing is this—“How far can we go?!” Our goal is to continuously improve processes and products for Knowledge Harvesters so that we push the boundary of implicit and tacit knowledge.

