

Autism and Context

Most people recognise the typical characteristics of autism as problems in:

Social interaction | Communication | Sensory world

But the main issue in autism is the **UNCERTAINTY**.

What can a drop of water mean to someone?
 Many different things such as:



Rain



Dew



Sweat



Leaky faucet



Tear



Brain “guess” which one to choose depending on the **context** each time.



Examples:

- If the brain sees a drop of water on a leaf early morning with a blue sky it will guess without thinking that it is a dew.
- If the brain sees a drop of water on a face, it will guess that it's a tear.
- *This tear could mean a lot of things such as sadness or joy*
- A red light could mean: *STOP* and at the same time *DON'T STOP* (in case someone is already crossing a street),
- A raising hand could mean: *Hello* but also *Can I ask you something* or *I want to say something*.



What is the takeaway message?
 Nothing has an absolute meaning!

**If UNCERTAINTY is the main problem in autism,
 we should clarify the world!**



If you want to learn more about autism and context please visit:
www.petervermeulen.be