



is the glass half full or half empty?.. (2)

The optimist says the glass is half full.

The pessimist says the glass is half empty.

The logician says that where the glass is in process of being filled then it is half full; where it is in the process of being emptied then it is half empty; and where its status in terms of being filled or emptied is unknown then the glass is one in which a boundary between liquid and gas lies exactly midway between the inside bottom and the upper rim, assuming that the glass has parallel sides and rests on a level surface, and where it does not then the liquid/gas boundary lies exactly midway between the upper and lower equal halves of the available total volume of said glass.

The scientist says a guess based on a visual cue is inaccurate, so mark the glass at the bottom of the meniscus of the content, pour the content into a bigger glass; fill the empty glass with fresh content up to the mark; add the original content back in; if the combined content overflows the lip, the glass was more than half full; if it doesn't reach the top, the glass was more than half empty; if it neither overflows nor fails to reach the top then it was either half-full or half-empty. Now what was the question again?

The fanatic thinks the glass is completely full, even though it isn't.

The entrepreneur sees the glass as undervalued by half its potential.

The grammarian says that while the terms half-full and half-empty are colloquially acceptable the glass can technically be neither since both full and empty are absolute states and therefore are incapable of being halved or modified in any way.

More on the glass half-full/empty at www.Businessballs.com/quotes.htm. Featured extracts, thanks: P Deer, C Trafford, J Benad, R Wishin, B Langley, C Bacon, D Spira, J Cooper, M Lemma, J Crawshaw, J Crowthers, R Stalenberg, James, GGC, R Huff, H Arora, Rosalie, D Thompson, W Snethlage, P Keogh, S Ainscough, S Billbess, whose collective creative genius is greatly appreciated. If you can extend the debate as to whether the glass is half-full, half-empty, in some other state, or in a different space/time continuum altogether, feel free to send your ideas via the Businessballs website. The world needs to know.