

SENSATION & PERCEPTION

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Time period: 10 days

WHY?

All is not as it seems... Sensation is the physical process of taking in stimuli from the environment, while perception is our response to the stimuli, or how our brain makes sense of them. Many factors affect our sensation and perception, and they can be manipulated to make people sense and perceive different things.

Outcomes: Students will

- A. acquire knowledge of the biological structures and processes by which the body takes in sensory information
- B. comprehend the biological and learned processes by which we make sense of this information, perception
 - 1. identify influences on sensation & perception
 - 2. analyze the different mental processes by which sensation & perception work
- C. comprehend and synthesize ways to manipulate sensation & perception

Resources

- A. text, chapter 4, p. 88-121 (red)

Outline

- I. def. SENSATION & PERCEPTION
- II. The senses
 - A. Vision
 - 1. light
 - 2. structure of the eye
 - 3. color
 - 4. optical illusions
 - B. Audition
 - 1. characteristics of sound
 - 2. structure of the ear
 - C. Cutaneous senses: pressure, temperature, pain
 - D. Olfaction
 - 1. mechanisms of smell
 - 2. smell communication
 - E. Taste: salty, sweet, sour, bitter
- III. perception
 - A. Perceptual constancies
 - 1. size
 - 2. color
 - 3. brightness
 - 4. shape
 - 5. space

- B. depth perception
 - 1. retinal disparity
 - 2. texture gradient
- C. Perceptual organization
 - 1. Gestalt
 - 2. similarity
 - 3. proximity
 - 4. common fate
- D. the unknown
 - 1. subliminal perception
 - 2. Extra Sensory Perception (ESP)

Vocabulary

absolute threshold	depth perception	receptors
adaptation	eardrum	retina
afterimage	extrasensory perception (ESP)	retinal disparity
audition	gestalt	reversible figure
auditory nerve	hair cells	rod
binocular disparity	illusion	sensation
blind spot	intensity	shape constancy
brightness constancy	iris	similarity
cilia	lens	size constancy
closure	Muller-Lyer illusion	space constancy
cochlea	olfaction	subliminal perception
color blindness	olfactory bulbs	taste receptors
color constancy	perception	texture gradient
cone	pheromones	timbre
cornea	pitch	visual cliff
cutaneous	proximity	visual texture gestalt
cutaneous receptors	pupil	white light
decibels		