Unit 8: Sensation and Perception (6-8%)

Reading Guide and Quiz 1 Due:

Notecards and Quiz 2 Due:

*Everything that organisms know about the world is first encountered when stimuli in the environment activate sensory organs, initiating awareness of the external world. Perception involves the interpretation of the sensory inputs as a cognitive process.*

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| **Learning Objectives** | **Notecard Terms** |
| • Discuss basic principles of sensory transduction, including absolute threshold,difference threshold, signal detection, and sensory adaptation.• Explain the role of top-down processing in producing vulnerability to illusion.• Discuss the role of attention in behavior.• Identify the major historical figures in sensation and perception (e.g., Gustav Fechner, David Hubel, Ernst Weber, Torsten Wiesel).• Describe sensory processes (e.g., hearing, vision, touch, taste, smell, vestibular,kinesthesis, pain), including the specific nature of energy transduction, relevantanatomical structures, and specialized pathways in the brain for each of the senses.• Explain common sensory disorders (e.g. visual and hearing impairments)• Describe general principles of organizing and integrating sensation to promotestable awareness of the external world (e.g., Gestalt principles, depth perception).• Discuss how experience and culture can influence perceptual processes (e.g.,perceptual set, context effects).• Challenge common beliefs in parapsychological phenomena. | 1. Transduction
2. sensory adaptation
3. selective attention (ex: Cocktail Party Phenomenon)
4. sensation
5. cornea
6. pupil
7. iris
8. lens (include accommodation)
9. retina
10. rods
11. cones
12. optic nerve
13. blind spot
14. David Hubel and Torsten Wiesel
15. trichromatic theory
16. opponent-process theory
17. Eardrum
18. The ossicles
19. cochlea (include basilar membrane)
20. pitch theories (include and explain both)
21. Gate Control Theory
22. vestibular sense
23. kinesthetic sense
24. perception
25. absolute threshold
26. difference threshold (JND)
27. Weber’s Law
28. signal detection theory
29. Perceptual Set
30. top-down processing
31. bottom-up processing
32. Gestalt Rules (grouping)
33. perceptual constancy (include types)
34. Phi Phenomenon
35. visual cliff experiment
36. binocular cues (include retinal disparity and convergence)
37. monocular cues
38. Muller-Lyer Illusion
39. Synesthesia
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