

Guided Reading Activity 8-2

The Senses

For use with textbook pages 214-222

Directions: Recalling the Facts Use the information in your textbook to answer the questions.

1. How do sensory receptors make it possible for you to perceive external stimuli? _____

external stimulus is converted into a chemical-electrical message that is relayed to brain

2. What are the differences between rods and cones? _____

Rods - (black + white vision) - require less light, night vision
Cones - (color vision) - require more light, daytime vision

Found in retina!
75-150 million
6-7 million

3. Why does a pea look green? _____

- reflects green light and absorbs all other colors

4. Why do some people see the world in only blacks, whites, and shades of gray? _____

possess non-functional cones

p. 218
X-linked recessive

5. Why would you perceive one object as closer than another? _____

larger retinal disparity for the closer object than object farther away

6. How would you describe the sound of a bass guitar at a rock concert in terms of sound waves? _____

Rock concert = loud = high waves (amplitude)
Bass = low rates of vibration

p. 219

7. How can your ears tell you from which direction a sound is coming? _____

sound reaches slowest ear first and will be slightly louder in that ear

8. If you experience dizziness while riding a roller coaster, what is likely occurring? _____

overstimulation of vestibular sense

semicircular canals

9. Why does food often taste bland when you have a cold? _____

stuffy nose = reduced smell = diminished taste

10. How does feeling pain benefit you? _____

alerts body of injury to body tissues / indicates to stop harmful activity

11. What process makes it possible to bounce a basketball without looking at it? _____

receptors in muscles, tendons, and joints (kinesthetic sensations)
- cooperation of vestibular/visual senses

retinal disparity
differences between the images stimulating each eye

Deafness:
Conduction or middle ear damage
- use hearing aids

Sensorineural
- damage to cochlea
- cochlear implants

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The Senses

I. Sight

1. Sclera

- outermost layer of the eye
- protects the eye

Cornea - front of the sclera (transparent)

2. Choroid

- middle layer of the eye
- possesses many blood vessels

Iris - muscles that respond to incoming light (colored part)

Lens - focusing structure (biconvex)

3. Retina

- innermost layer of the eye
- images (upside-down) transferred to neurons

Optic Nerve - transmits image impulses to the brain

Rod Cells - sense black & white images

Cone Cells - sense colored images

Absolute Threshold = seeing a candle flame 30 miles away on a clear night

II. Hearing

1. Outer Ear

Pinnae / Auditory Canal - collects and funnels sound

Eardrum - transmits sound

2. Middle Ear

Hammer, Anvil, & Stirrup - bones that vibrate due to eardrum
- relays sound to the inner ear

Eustachian Tube - equalizes air pressure

3. Inner Ear

Cochlea - detects sound and relays impulses to brain (via auditory nerve)

Semicircular Canals - balance organ; detects head movements

Absolute Threshold = hearing a watch ticking 20 feet away

III. Touch

- sensory receptors respond to heat, cold, pressure, & pain (beneficial)

Skin - largest sensory organ

Absolute Threshold = feeling a bee's wing falling a distance of 1 cm onto your cheek

IV. Taste

- detects substances that are sweet, salty, sour, & bitter
- sensory interactions with smell

Taste Buds - chemoreceptors located on tongue, roof of mouth, lips, & throat

Absolute Threshold = tasting 1 tsp. of sugar dissolved in 2 gallons of water

V. Smell

- chemoreceptors located in the upper part of the nasal cavity

Olfactory Nerve - transmits sensations of smell to the brain

Absolute Threshold = smelling 1 drop of perfume in a 3-room house

VI. Vestibular

- sense of balance

Semicircular Canals - fluid-filled with sensitive hairs
- located in the inner ear

Vestibular-Cochlear Nerve - transmits sensation of balance to the brain

Cerebellum - part of the brain that responds to balance sensory stimuli

VII. Kinesthetic

- sense of movement and body position
- receptors located in and near muscles, tendons, & joints