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ПРАКТИКУМ

по совершенствованию владения английским языком
(на материале текстов по психологии человека
для неязыковых специальностей)

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Практикум содержит аутентичные материалы и предназначен для совершенствования владения английским языком. Материал практикума состоит из трех частей.

В части I совершенствуются навыки владения устной речью.

Части II и III направлены на развитие практических навыков перевода с английского языка на русский и наоборот.

Практикум предназначен для студентов, обучающихся по специальности 020400 Психология (дисциплина "Иностранный язык (английский)", блок ГСЭ), очной формы обучения.

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PART I

UNIT 1. SENSATION and PERCEPTION

1 .Match the following definitions with the words given below.
Give your own definitions of them.

a) Cells specialized to detect certain types of energy and convert it into neural activity.

b) Senses that are spread throughout the body rather than located in a specific organ.

c) Decreasing responsiveness to an unchanging stimulus over time.

d) Mental process resulting from stimulation of a sense organ.

e) The portion of vertebrate central nervous system enclosed within the skull that constitutes the organ of thought and neural coordination.

f) The increasing ability to see in the time passes

g) The mental interpretation of physical sensations produced by stimuli from the external word.

1) Brain

2) Adaptation

3) Dark adaptation

4) Receptors

5) Sensation

6) Perception

7) Somatic senses

2. What is the difference between sensation and perception?

3. A visual illusion occurs when two objects produce exactly the same retinal image but are perceived as different images. Illusions are incorrect but not abnormal.

– Give your own definition of a visual illusion. When does it occur?

4. Perceptual processes have four characteristics; they are automatic, selective, contextual and creative.

How do you understand these characteristics? Give examples to illustrate them.

What You See Is What You've Learned

Part I

The fact that the sensory world (what you see, hear, touch, taste and smell) usually appears to you in an organized way is due to your abilities of perception. Sensations are the raw materials for perception. Your brain's perceptual processes are involved in three general activities:

- 1) selecting the sensations to pay attention to;
- 2) organizing these into recognizable patterns and shapes;
- 3) interpreting this organization to explain and make judgments about the world.

In other words, perception refers to how we take this jumble of sensations and create meaning.

The perceptual strategy you probably use the most is called figure-ground. We appear to have a natural tendency to divide sensations into figure and ground relationships. It makes the world a much more organized place.

Other organizational strategies we use routinely to create order and meaning out of those chaotic sensations are called "perceptual constancies". These refer to our ability to know that the characteristics of objects stay the same, even though our sensations of them may change drastically. One of these is shape constancy. You perceive the shape of the chair, for example, to be unchanged even though your angle of vision changes.

Another one of these techniques is size constancy. You perceive a familiar object as being the same size, regardless of its distance from you.

Are these perceptual abilities learned or inborn. Research with individuals who were blind at birth and who later gain their sight has suggested that our ability to perceive figure-ground relationships is, at least in part, innate, that is, present from birth. Perceptual constancies, on the other hand, are clearly a product of experience.

Could a situation exist in which a person might grow to adulthood and not possess some of these perceptual talents? Well, Turnbull's brief report published 30 years ago shed a great deal of light on these questions.