

AP PSYCH
Unit 4.1 Activities
Selective Attention & Thresholds

These first questions should be based on your own opinions and life experiences. You don't have to use the book.

1. Describe an experience when you saw a face in a random object.

2. Why does that happen? Why do we see faces in random objects? Try to guess from an evolutionary psychology perspective...

3. The first page of the textbook described a woman that is unable to recognize faces (prosopagnosia). If you had that condition how would you feel? What would your experiences be? What do you think faces would even look like??

Use your book and the notes to answer the following questions.

1. Design a real-world difference between sensation and perception. Consider looking at objects, or finding faces in random things, or design any other example you would like. Use the book or ask the teacher if necessary. You must use these 4 terms in your description: sensation, perception, bottom-up processing, top-down processing.

Sensation	Perception	Bottom-Up Processing	Top-Down Processing

2. Describe a real world example of you demonstrating selective attention. Use supporting details.

3. Describe a real-world example of you experiencing the cocktail-party effect. Use supporting details.

4. Describe a real-world example of you experiencing inattentional blindness. Be sure to read carefully about the example in the book then reflect on your own life to come up with a real-world scenario.

5. Now describe a real-world example of you experiencing change blindness. Be sure to read carefully about the change blindness examples in your book and then reflect on your own life to come up with a real-world scenario.

6. What is change deafness?

7. What is choice blindness?

8. Describe a real-world example of you experiencing *pop-out*. Use supporting details.

9. Absolute thresholds: Explain the difference between young and old people's absolute thresholds for sounds. Explain why they demonstrate these differences.

10. Use a life or death situation to explain signal detection theory.

11. Can we sense a subliminal message? Why or why not. You must use the term priming or prime in your answer.

12. Explain difference threshold (jnd) using Weber's Law.

13. Describe a real-world example of you experiencing sensory adaptation. Use supporting details.