**Reading Outline for Plotnik’s Introduction to Psychology, 4th Edition**

**Module 6 “Perception”**

**Introduction**

***What do an audiotape, a puppy, and a mammogram have in common?***

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1. **Perceptual Thresholds**

**First Question: At What Point Do We Become Aware of a Stimulus?**

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1. Gustav Fechner

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2. Absolute threshold

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3. Subliminal stimulus

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**Second Question: At What Point Do We Know If a Stimulus Has Decreased or Increased in Intensity?**

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**B. Sensation versus Perception**

**Seeing and Perceiving**

*Sensations: What do you see?*

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*Perceptions: What do you perceive?*

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**How Do Sensations Become Perceptions?**

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**C. Principles of Perceptual Organization**

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**1. Structuralism –**

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**2. Gestalt approach –**

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**Principles of Organization**

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Figure-ground –

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Similarity –

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Closure –

Proximity –

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Simplicity –

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Continuity –

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**D. Perceptual Constancy**

**Size, Shape, Brightness, and Color Constancy**

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Size

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Shape

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Brightness

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Color

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**E. Depth Perception**

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**Binocular Depth Cues**

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**Retinal Disparity and the Cyclops**

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**Monocular Cues for Depth Perception**

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**1. Linear perspective –**

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**2. Interposition –**

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**3. Relative size –**

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**4. Light and shadow –**

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**5. Atmospheric perspective –**

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**6. Texture gradient –**

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**7. Motion parallax –**

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**F. Illusions**

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Ames Room –

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Impossible Figure –

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Moon Illusion –

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Ponzo Illusion -

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Muller-Lyer Illusion –

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G. **Research Focus: Subliminal Perception**

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*Research Question: Do Subliminal Messages Change Specific Behaviors?*

* Subliminal messages:

**Method -**

**Double-blind procedure -**

**Results -**

* Self-fulfilling prophecy:

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*Research Question: Do Subliminal Emotions Affect Behaviors?*

**Method –**

**Results -**

**H. Cultural Diversity: Changing Perceptions**

**Does Your Culture Influence Your Perception?**

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**Perception of Images**

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**Perception of Constancy and Depth**

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**Perception of Motion**

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**Three Dimensions**

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**Perceptual Sets**

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**I. ESP: Extrasensory Perception**

***Controversy***

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***Trickery***

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***Questionable Methodology***

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***ESP Abilities***

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- Extrasensory perception:

* + - Telepathy –
    - Precognition –
    - Clairvoyance –
    - Psychokinesis –

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***ESP Experiment: Ganzfeld Procedure***

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***Current Status of ESP***

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**J: Application: Creating Perceptions**

***Creating Movies***

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* Real motion:
* Apparent motion:

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***Creating Reality***

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* Virtual reality:

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***Creating Moving Lights***

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* Phi movement:

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***Creating Impressions***

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