Productive Reading!
Skills 2

The day was February 26, 2015. Cate Holderness, who _____ for a news website, received a message from someone at Tumblr, a social media site. Tumblr wanted the news site to _____ a question about the color of a dress in a photograph: was it white and gold, or blue and black? The question didn't seem that _____ so Holderness did not answer it right away. But at the end of the day, she saw that the **image** had 5,000 Tumblr notes and was getting 14,000 views per second—more than she _____ ever seen.

Had – worked - answer – important

Holderness showed the picture to her co-workers so that they could respond to the question. Instead of answering the question, though, they began arguing about the color among themselves. Meanwhile, on Twitter, 4.4 million tweets about the dress were sent within 24 hours. The company that sold the dress had over 3.5 million visits to its website, and within a few days, 150 news channels all over the world were talking about the dress. It started as a simple message, and now the whole world seemed to be arguing about it.

Answer The following:

1. How much time did it take twitter to reach 4.4 million tweets?
2. How high did the company that sold the dress get visits?
3. How did all this start?
4. How popular was the dress?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

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About 57 percent of people who look at the photograph see a blue and black dress, while 30 percent see white and gold. People in both groups think that people from the other group are crazy, or that they have serious vision problems. The actual dress is blue and black. So why do so many people see white and gold when they look at it? Vision scientists explain that it depends on how our brains **interpret** the light. Is it daytime or nighttime? Is the dress in shadow or not? These answers are not clear in the photo. So our brains make decisions about all of these factors, and decide which colors we see.

Write some important notes from the paragraph:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Speaking Part:

1. How do people see the dress differently?
2. How does the brain see the photo?
3. Why do people disagree about the dress's colors?
4. What does this teach us about perception and our senses?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

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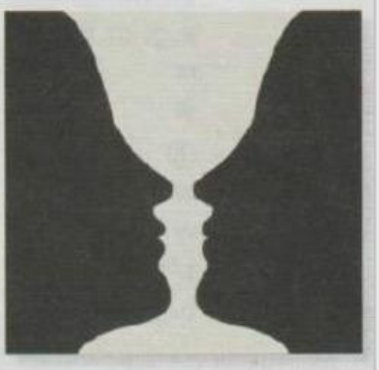
Humans love optical illusions[1]. "What do you see?" children excitedly ask each other when they first discover the faces / vase image. They are always amazed when they can see both two faces and a vase.



Later, they may discover MC Escher, or other artists who draw pictures of impossible circles of stairs that only go up. When they look carefully, they can see that it is only lines on paper that make the illusion. Students of psychology may experience another illusion when their professor shows them a short video of people throwing balls. The video asks viewers to count the number of times the people throw the balls, but at the end of the video, the question on the screen is "Who saw the dancing gorilla?" Usually, very few people notice the gorilla the first time they see the video, but everyone sees it when they watch the video again and look for it. They can't believe they did not see it the first time. The lesson is that we often only see things that we pay attention to.

Write:

1. Three adjectives used in the paragraph: _____, _____,_____
2. Two adverbs of manner "ly": _____, _____.
3. What is the paragraph trying to tell you?
   a. _____.
4. Without using a dictionary, what is the closest meaning to *"**Illusion**"*?
   a. Wrong perception.
   b. Wrong attention.
   c. Different.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

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There can be _____ for other senses, as well. An old **joke** that children sometimes play on each other is to have a friend _____ these separate syllables: *owa ta goo siam*. Once the speaker can say them, he or she repeats them faster. The surrounding sounds blend together, and soon everyone hears, "Oh, what a goose I am!"

In all of the examples, our first _____ changes when we get an **explanation**. The explanation helps us _____ our perceptions and we say, "Oh! Now I get it!" We are delighted at being able to _____ things from many points of view.

Illusion – see – perception – repeat - reorganize

But somehow, the dress illusion does not work that way. Only 10 percent of people can see both blue / black and white / gold. All of the explanations in the world do not help the other 90 percent to see the other colors in the dress, and this is deeply troubling to us. Taylor Swift, a famous American singer, even tweeted about the dress, "I'm confused and scared." The dress does seem scary to us, and that is exactly why we continue to be **fascinated** by this photo. If so many people cannot see the dress from another perspective, what else are we all seeing differently?

1. **Only 10 percent of people can see both blue / black and white / gold versions of the dress after they _____**
   a. see some background color in the photograph
   b. are given an explanation of the photograph

LIVEWORKSHEETS