

Read the following stories about perception. Complete the comment after each one. There are two possible answers for each item. Discuss your answers with a partner.

1. My grandma just colored her own hair. She did it herself because she doesn't like the color when the salon does it for her. But now her hair is a little purple!! She says it's not, but I can see it is a little purple.

She can't see what you see because of _____.

- a. her eye **anatomy**
- b. the yellow lenses in her eyes
- c. her not **paying attention**

2. I just started studying Arabic. There are three different "k" sounds in Arabic! I am having trouble hearing the difference. Why is it so hard? Will I ever be able to hear the difference?

You will be able to **perceive** the difference. It's difficult at first because _____.

- a. you aren't used to paying attention to these sounds in English
- b. in English, we only have one "k" sound.
- c. English speakers have a different anatomy

3. Last Monday night, I arrived at Miami Airport very late and picked up my gray rental car. I parked it at my hotel, and the next morning, I thought it was stolen. When I clicked the key to find the car, a green car in my parking space flashed its lights. I was so confused! It was my rental car. Why did I think the car was gray?

Your perception changed because _____.

- a. the light was low when you picked up the car at night, and light can affect how we see colors
- b. the light was different
- c. you didn't pay attention to the color at night

4. I was in Seoul, South Korea, last month, and I visited an **optical illusion** museum. My favorite part was the bridge. It was only a painting on the ground, but it looked so much like a very high bridge over the water. I got scared thinking about walking across it, even though I knew it wasn't real. Why was I so scared?

You were scared because _____.

- a. your brain **expects** a bridge to be high up
- b. optical illusions always trick people
- c. the surrounding space made it seem real

5. I had an awful ear infection last week, so I went to the doctor and got some strong medicine for it. I have to take the medicine for one week. I am feeling a little better now, but suddenly everything I eat tastes like metal. I can't taste my food!

You probably have trouble tasting your food because of _____.

- a. the medicine. It changes how your sense of taste works
- b. how the medicine affects your sense of taste
- c. the food you're eating. Try eating something with better flavor.