

**THINK!** What smells can you remember from when you were younger? Is there a connection between smells and memory?

HOME ABOUT ARTICLES ARCHIVE CONTACT

## Follow your nose ...



Meet three people whose sense of smell has made a difference to their lives.

**A** Helen Keller was a famous activist for the deaf and blind, and was deaf and blind herself. She had an extraordinary sense of smell, and could identify people's jobs by the odour on their clothes. 'When a person passes,' she said, 'I get a scent impression of where he has been - the kitchen, the garden, or the sickroom.' She also described smell as something 'that transports us across thousands of miles and all the years we have lived.' A smell can remind us of another time and place.



**B** James Bell has worked for a perfume company for over twenty years. He says, 'You start with a superior sense of smell, but you must train it, like a concert pianist.' James passed a 'smell test' and the company sent him to study at a perfumery school in France, where he learned to recognize about 2,800 synthetic and 140 natural materials. Since that time he has helped to create some of the world's favourite fragrances.



**C** Journalist Lucy Mangan has never smelled the fragrance of a rose. She has never tried different perfumes in a shop. Lucy is anosmic, which means she can't smell anything. She has been anosmic since birth. As 75-95% of the flavour of food comes from its smell, meals have never had much flavour. She can feel the different textures of lasagne, steak or fish, but for her they're all quite tasteless.

**1** Read the article. Then complete the headings for paragraphs A-C with the words in the box.

distance food memory nose smell

- A Scent and \_\_\_\_\_  
B Training a \_\_\_\_\_  
C Life without \_\_\_\_\_

**2** **1.15** Read and listen to the article again and write *true* or *false*. Correct the false sentences.

- 1 Helen Keller had a good sense of smell.
- 2 She says there's a connection between smells and memory.
- 3 A person with a normal sense of smell can become a professional perfumer.
- 4 James Bell failed his first 'smell test' at the perfume company.
- 5 Lucy had a sense of smell when she was a baby.
- 6 Anosmic people can't taste anything.

**3** Find synonyms in the text for the words below.

- |              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1 incredible | 4 identify   |
| 2 excellent  | 5 artificial |
| 3 educate    | 6 organic    |

**4** **VOCABULARY PLUS** Use a dictionary to check the meaning of the words in blue in the text. For more practice go to page 20 in the Workbook.

**5** **USE IT!** Talk about which objects and places smell best to you. Which of them bring back memories?

I love the smell of fresh bread. It really reminds me of my grandma's house. It brings back memories of visiting her house when I was little.



### Sensations

# 2 SENSATIONS

## VOCABULARY • Senses

1 ★ Complete the table with the words.

feel hearing hold listen to look at  
see sight smell (x2) taste (x2) touch (x2)

Body part	Sense	Verb(s)
mouth	taste	taste
hands	1 _____	2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____
ears	5 _____	6 _____
nose	7 _____	8 _____
eyes	9 _____	10 _____ 11 _____

2 ★★ Complete the café review with the words.

asked feels hear listen looks see  
senses tastes



What makes a café an exciting place to visit? We asked café manager Richard Moore. 'Our food **tastes** great when you eat it, but it's important that the café **is** attractive, too.'

People use all of their **2** \_\_\_\_\_ when they eat out,' he says. 'They **3** \_\_\_\_\_ the paintings on the walls and **4** \_\_\_\_\_ the music we're playing long before they eat our food. We **5** \_\_\_\_\_ an artist to choose the pictures and the furniture, and a local DJ to recommend the right music for people to **6** \_\_\_\_\_ to while they eat.'

The results are great! Richard's café **7** \_\_\_\_\_ exciting and different. I really enjoyed my visit.

3 ★★ Choose the correct words.

Don't **touch** / feel / sound that pan. It's hot!

- 1 He can't sing well. He has got colour-blindness / tone-deafness / a 'good ear'.
- 2 To be a good cook, you need a strong sense of touch / smell / sight.
- 3 I need to listen / ask / watch my mum for help with my homework.
- 4 There's a lot of salt in this soup. It feels / looks / tastes terrible!
- 5 Listen to the sight / sound / hearing of the birds singing.
- 6 It's very cold. I'm losing sensation / touch / smell in my toes.
- 7 It's noisy outside. You can hear / listen / sound cars and people in the street.
- 8 See / Watch / Look at our holiday photos.

4 ★★★ Answer the questions. Write complete sentences that are true for you.

Which tastes are typical of the traditional food in your region?

Sweet fruit cakes, salty seafood and fresh water are tastes from Wales.

- 1 Think of a normal day. How and when would colour-blindness be a problem?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Are you tone-deaf, or have you got a 'good ear' for music? Explain your answer.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Which sounds and smells remind you of a your childhood?  
a summertime?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Who in your family do you look like and how?  
\_\_\_\_\_