Unit 3: Sensation and Perception; Motivation and Emotion Copied from: AP Psychology , Copied on: 06/14/21

Content Area: **Social Studies**
Course(s): **AP Psychology**
Time Period: **November**
Length: **4 weeks**
Status: **Published**

Transfer Skills

Sensation and Perception, Motivation and Emotion: Perceiving and thriving in our world.

Enduring Understandings

Sensation is the process by which stimuli are detected and identified, while perception is the interpretation of the information received.

The “basic five” descriptions of human sensory processes include vision, audition, smell, taste, and touch which receive external stimuli while equilibrium and kinesthesis sense internal states.

Motivation initiates, guides, and maintains behavior.

Emotion is a state characterized by a heightened state of arousal, personal feelings, and expression of what is being experienced.

Essential Questions

What is the relationship between the real world and our perception of it?

If a tree falls in the forest and no one hears it does it make a sound?

How does stimulation become sensation?

How do culture, experience, and learning influence perception?

Are emotions genetic, evolutionary, or environmental?

What effects do culture, gender, and/or environment have on motivation?

Content

Vocabulary Perception, Sensation, Gestalt, Grouping, Weber's Law, Absolute Threshold, Difference Threshold, Rods, Cones, Forvea, Trichromatic Theory, Opponent Process Theory, Bottom Up Processing, Top Down Processing, Frequency Theory, Volley Principle, Selective Attention, Perceptual Set, Proximity, Motivation, Motives, Instinct Theory, Drive Theory, Need, Drive, Arousal Theory, Yerkes-Dodson Law, Incentives, Cognitive Dissonance, Extrinsic Motivation, Intrinsic Motivation, Incentive Theory, Achievement Motivation, Avoidance Motivation.

People

Abraham Maslow, Clark Hull, Leon Festinger, Walter Cannon, William James, Carl Georg Lang, Daniel Goleman

Skills

Define and apply the basic principles of sensation: thresholds, signal detection, sensory adaptation, and selective attention.

Explain how receptors in the eye work to detect light waves, how structures in the ear work to detect sound waves, and how cells in the nose, tongue, and skin work to sense smells, tastes, and touch.

Explain why we can see in three dimensions.

Apply Gestalt principles to visual perception.

Define the types of visual constancy and apply them to visual perception.

Define intrinsic and extrinsic motivation.

Discuss how Maslow's hierarchy of needs and Murray's achievement motivation theory describe motivation.

Resources

Standards

V. Sensation and Perception

AP students in psychology should be able to do the following:

- Discuss basic principles of sensory transduction, including absolute threshold, difference threshold, signal detection, and sensory adaptation.
- Describe sensory processes (e.g., hearing, vision, touch, taste, smell, vestibular, kinesthesis, pain), including the specific nature of energy transduction, relevant anatomical structures, and specialized pathways in the brain for each of the senses.
- Explain common sensory disorders (e.g., visual and hearing impairments).
- Describe general principles of organizing and integrating sensation to promote stable awareness of the external world (e.g., Gestalt principles, depth perception).
- Discuss how experience and culture can influence perceptual processes (e.g., perceptual set, context effects).
- Explain the role of top-down processing in producing vulnerability to illusion.
- Discuss the role of attention in behavior.
- Challenge common beliefs in parapsychological phenomena.
- Identify the major historical figures in sensation and perception (e.g., Gustav Fechner, David Hubel, Ernst Weber, Torsten Wiesel).

SCI.9-12.B.2	Sensation and Perception
SCI.9-12.B.2.1	The processes of sensation and perception
SCI.9-12.B.2.1.1	Discuss processes of sensation and perception and how they interact
SCI.9-12.B.2.1.2	Explain the concepts of threshold and adaptation
SCI.9-12.B.2.2	The capabilities and limitations of sensory processes
SCI.9-12.B.2.2.1	List forms of physical energy for which humans and non-human animals do and do not have sensory receptors

SCI.9-12.B.2.2.3	Describe the auditory sensory system
SCI.9-12.B.2.2.4	Describe other sensory systems, such as olfaction, gustation, and somesthesis (e.g., skin senses, kinesthesis, and vestibular sense)
SCI.9-12.B.2.3	Interaction of the person and the environment in determining perception
SOC.6.1.12	U.S. History: America in the World: All students will acquire the knowledge and skills to think analytically about how past and present interactions of people, cultures, and the environment shape the American heritage. Such knowledge and skills enable students to make informed decisions that reflect fundamental rights and core democratic values as productive citizens in local, national, and global communities.
9-12.HS-LS1	From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes
9-12.HS-LS1-1.6	Structure and function.