Six senses

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

UPPER-INTERMEDIATE | B2

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1 Match each sensory process with its meaning.

1 perception	____	a information gained through physical contact
2 proprioception	____	b minimum intensity needed to notice a stimulus
3 vestibular sense	____	c ability to judge distance and three-dimensional space
4 sensory adaptation	____	d brain's interpretation of sensory information
5 depth perception	____	e awareness of body position and movement
6 auditory localisation	____	f combining information from several senses
7 olfactory cue	____	g reduced response to a constant stimulus
8 tactile feedback	____	h smell that guides recognition or behaviour
9 multisensory integration	____	i ability to identify where a sound originates
10 sensory threshold	____	j information about balance and head movement from the inner ear

2 Complete the sensory-science collocations.

adaptation | cue | feedback | integration | localisation | perception | threshold | vision

1 depth _____

2 sensory _____

3 olfactory _____

4 tactile _____

5 auditory _____

6 multisensory _____

7 sensory _____

8 peripheral _____

3 Choose the most precise term for the context.

1 You know your arm's position with closed eyes: *proprioception / audition*.

2 A smell becomes less noticeable over time: *sensory adaptation / depth perception*.

3 Two ears help identify a sound's source: *auditory localisation / tactile feedback*.

4 The inner ear detects head movement: *vestibular sense / olfactory cue*.

5 Vision and sound create one event: *multisensory integration / sensory threshold*.

6 A barely detectable light reaches the *sensory threshold / proprioception*.

7 Shading helps us judge distance: *depth perception / sensory adaptation*.

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4 Complete the perception review with terms from the box.

auditory localisation | depth perception | multisensory integration | olfactory cue | perception | proprioception | sensory adaptation | sensory threshold | tactile feedback | vestibular sense

Sensation begins when a stimulus exceeds a **1** _____, but **2** _____ depends on interpretation. In a dark room, **3** _____ helps locate a voice, while an **4** _____ may identify familiar food. Reaching safely combines **5** _____ with **6** _____. The **7** _____ stabilises the body during head movement. Repeated stimulation can produce **8** _____. Information from touch provides **9** _____, and the brain's combination of all these signals is **10** _____.

5 Read the text and answer the questions briefly.

When senses disagree

The brain normally combines sight, balance and proprioception into a stable picture of movement. In a stationary train, seeing the train beside you move may briefly create the illusion that your own train is moving. Visual information conflicts with signals from the vestibular system and muscles. The brain must decide which source is most reliable. Similar conflict can contribute to motion sickness when the eyes and inner ear report different patterns of movement.

1 Which three sources create a stable picture of movement? ___

2 What illusion can occur in a stationary train? _____

3 Why does the illusion occur? _____

4 What decision must the brain make? _____

5 What can sensory conflict contribute to? _____

6 Which two systems may report different movement patterns? ___

6 Rewrite using the expression in capitals.

1 The smell gradually became less noticeable. **ADAPTATION** ___

2 She judged how far away the object was. **DEPTH** _____

3 Touch showed him how firmly to hold it. **FEEDBACK** _____

4 She knew where her foot was without looking. **PROPRIOCEPTION** _

OVER TO YOU

Write a **120-150 word** explanation of how several senses cooperate or conflict in one everyday activity.

[ ] Use at least ten target terms. [ ] Distinguish sensation from perception. [ ] Explain the mechanism clearly.

Six senses

ANSWER KEY

1 Sensory processes

1 **d** 2 **e** 3 **j** 4 **g** 5 **c** 6 **i** 7 **h** 8 **a** 9 **f** 10 **b**

2 Sensory-science collocations

1 **perception** 2 **adaptation** 3 **cue** 4 **feedback** 5 **localisation** 6 **integration** 7 **threshold** 8 **vision**

3 Precise terms

1 **proprioception** 2 **sensory adaptation** 3 **auditory localisation** 4 **vestibular sense**
5 **multisensory integration** 6 **sensory threshold** 7 **depth perception**

4 Perception review

1 **sensory threshold** 2 **perception** 3 **auditory localisation** 4 **olfactory cue** 5 **depth perception**
6 **proprioception** 7 **vestibular sense** 8 **sensory adaptation** 9 **tactile feedback** 10 **multisensory integration**

5 Reading - suggested answers

1 Sight, balance and proprioception. 2 Your own train seems to move. 3 Visual and bodily signals conflict.
4 Which source is most reliable. 5 Motion sickness. 6 The eyes and inner ear.

6 Rewriting - possible answers

1 This was sensory **adaptation**. 2 She used **depth perception**. 3 Touch provided tactile **feedback**. 4 She used **proprioception**.

Over to you: Answers will vary. Check conceptual accuracy, integration and clear causal explanation.