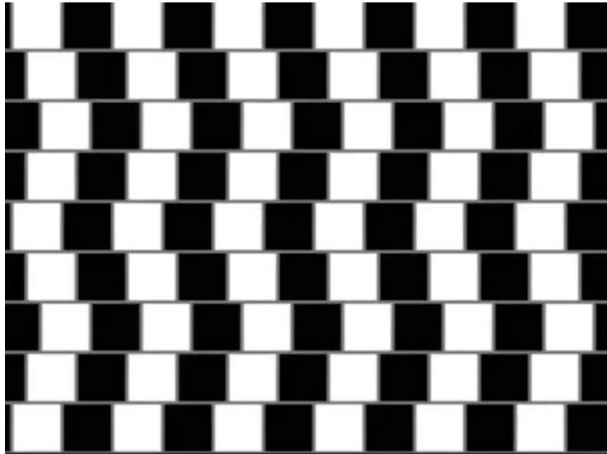


Optical illusions - how brains can trick us

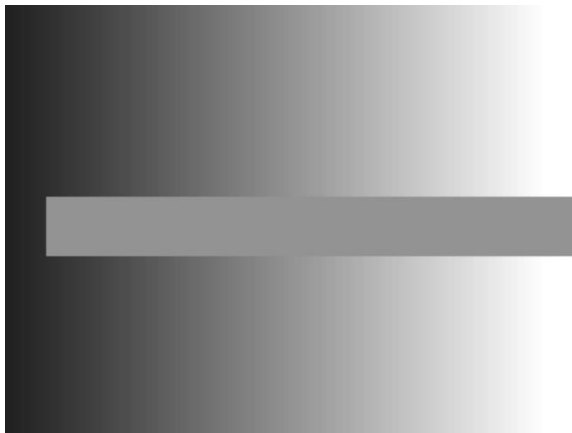
Even when our sensory nervous system is working really well, our brain makes sense of it in a certain way and doesn't always get it right



Horizontal lines illusion

Are the horizontal lines running from left to right sloping or straight?

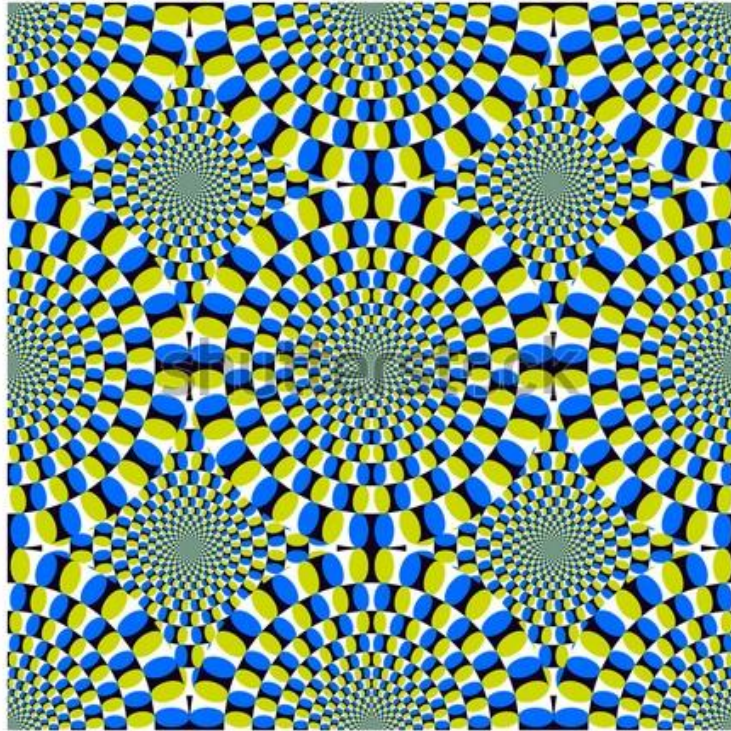
Answer: All of the lines are straight. The black and white blocks are not stacked up perfectly in a straight line and so they fool your brain into thinking that the horizontal lines are sloping.



Gradient illusion

Which side of bar in the middle is darker?

Answer: They are both the same shade! The background in this illusion goes from black (left) to white (right). The left side of the bar looks like it's lighter than the right side, because it's surrounded by darker colours. The right side of the bar looks darker than it really is because it's surrounded by the lighter colour.



Moiré (mwa-ray) illusion

Are the pinwheels moving?

Answer. No, the wheels are not turning The Moiré illusion can produce interesting and beautiful geometric patterns.



Face illusion

Do you see faces or do you see a vase?

Answer. The two faces are in white. The vase is in black