

Psychology Computer Lab
PsychSim

Name _____
Section _____
Date _____

Visual Illusions

This module demonstrates and explains four well-known visual illusions. Try each illusion. As you go along, answer the following questions. Keep in mind that you will not be evaluated on your degree of susceptibility to these illusions, so make your decisions on the basis of your true perceptions.

The Müller-Lyer Illusion

1. Did knowing that you are susceptible to this illusion help you overcome the effect of it on your second trial? Explain why or why not.

The Ponzo Illusion

2. Did knowing the cause of this illusion help you overcome your susceptibility to it on your second trial? Explain why or why not.

The Horizontal-Vertical Illusion

3. Considering the explanation for this illusion given in the module, would you expect this illusion to be affected by culture? Explain your answer.

Visual Illusions

The Poggendorf Illusion

4. Suggest an explanation for this illusion other than the one given in the module.

5. Which of the illusions seemed the most powerful to you?