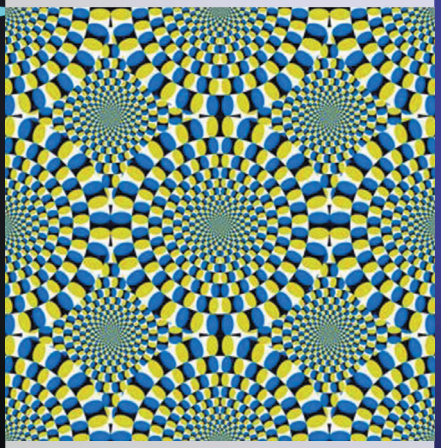
OPTICAL Illusions

What is an Optical Illusion?

Optical Illusions use color, light and patterns to create images that can be deceptive or misleading to our brains. The information gathered by the eye is processed by the brain, creating a perception that, in reality, does not match the true image.

Optical illusions occur because our brain is trying to interpret what we see and make sense of the world around us. Optical illusions simply trick our brains into seeing things which may or may not be real.

MOIRÉ



Are the pinwheels moving?

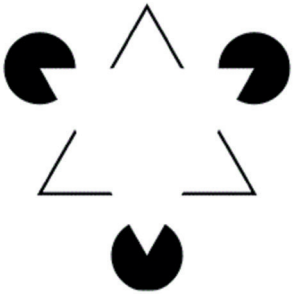
Answer: No, the wheels are not turning. The Moiré effect can produce interesting and beautiful geometric patterns.

LIGHT BULB

Stare closely at this light bulb for 25 seconds. Then immediately stare at a white wall or sheet of paper. What do you see?

Answer: You should see a glowing light bulb!

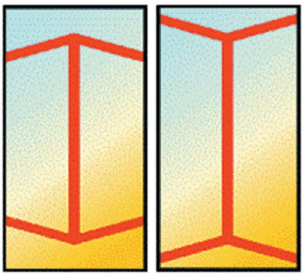
KANIZSA TRIANGLE



How many triangles are present in the image?

Answer: There are no triangles. In reality there are only 3 V shapes and 3 shapes that look like Pac-Men.

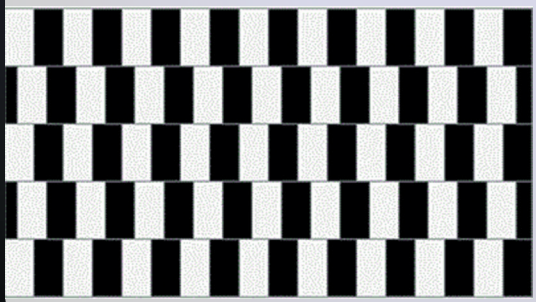
MULLER-LYER ILLUSION



Take a very close look at the 2 vertical lines. Do you think one line is longer than the other?

Answer: They are the same size! Hard to believe; get out your ruler to measure the lines and see for yourself!

HORIZONTAL LINES



Are the horizontal lines sloping or straight?

Answer: All of the lines are straight.

The black and white blocks are not aligned and thus fool your brain into thinking that the lines are sloping.

Learn more about Optics, the science of light, Scan the QR Code to go directly to the webpage.