

# "Why we see faces everywhere"

## GAP FILL

If you have ever imagined a face in an (1) inanimate object, your brain is engaged in a (2) process called pareidolia. This is the tendency to see a (3) pattern or meaning in something, where actually there is nothing there. Seeing faces in everyday objects is a (4) common experience. Many of us perceive a smiley face in the clouds, in the (5) froth of a cappuccino, or in an object as mundane as an electrical plug socket. Scientists from the University of Sydney in Australia conducted a study to (6) investigate whether our brain processes these illusory faces in the same (7) way it does with real human faces. Their research suggests there are some similarities in how we recognise both human and "(8) false" faces.

*inanimate*  
*pattern*  
*investigate*  
*process*  
*false*  
*froth*  
*way*  
*common*

In the study, 17 volunteers looked at a (9) series of illusory and human faces. They had to rate the (10) strength of emotional attachment they felt upon seeing each one. The researchers' conclusion was that the same (11) neural circuitry was involved in determining what was or wasn't a real face. Psychologist David Alais said: "We know these objects are not (12) truly faces, yet the perception of a face lingers." He added: "We end up with...a (13) parallel experience that the object is both a compelling face and an object." Mr Alais said the brain sees two things at (14) once, and that we focus more on the image of a face than the (15) fact it is an object. He added: "The first impression of a face does not give (16) way to the second perception of an object."

*neural*  
*parallel*  
*way*  
*series*  
*fact*  
*truly*  
*strength*  
*once*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

# GRAMMAR WORKSHEET 1

## COMMONLY CONFUSED WORDS



- Use the correct words to complete the sentences.

<b>accept</b> (v.) to receive; to get	<b>except</b> not a part of; not including (conjunction)
<b>affect</b> (v.) to make a change in something	<b>effect</b> (n.) a change in something
<b>borrow</b> (v.) to take something for a short time and then return it	<b>lend</b> (v.) to give something for a short time before getting it back
<b>desert</b> (n.) a dry, sandy area	<b>dessert</b> (n.) sweet food eaten after a meal
<b>its</b> belonging to something (pos.pronoun)	<b>it's</b> contraction of <b>it + is</b> (contraction)
<b>your</b> belonging to you (pos.adj.)	<b>you're</b> contraction of <b>you + are</b> (contraction)

- I don't have enough money. I need to (**borrow / lend**) borrow ten dollars.
- Would you like some (**desert / dessert**) dessert after dinner?
- A: What time is it? B: (**Its / It's**) It's almost eight o'clock.
- I saw (**your / you're**) your brother at the shopping mall yesterday.
- The Sahara (**desert / dessert**) desert is a very hot and dry place.
- (**Your / You're**) You're late. What happened?
- If you need more money, I can (**borrow / lend**) lend you ten dollars.
- I ate all the food (**accept / except**) except the broccoli.
- The new rules had a big (**affect / effect**) effect on the company workers.
- My cat ate (**its / it's**) its food and then fell asleep.
- You should say "Thank you" when you (**accept / except**) accept a gift.
- Will the rainy weather (**affect / effect**) affect your travel plans?

# Key:

- I- Fill in the gaps with one of the linking words on the right. Some can be repeated.
- 1- She does her best at work, **whereas** most of her workmates are very lazy.
  - 2- **As/since** her salary was so high, she bought a new car every year.
  - 3- **Not only** does telework increase productivity, **but** it **also** cuts the costs of commuting every day.
  - 4- **Although** the position you applied for has been filled, we are going to keep your CV for future reference.
  - 5- Some professionals post their work on the Net, **so that** people all over the world can have access to it.
  - 6- **Even if** I had a lot of money, I wouldn't invest in this country now.
  - 7- **Unless** she starts coming on time, she will be fired.
  - 8- She wanted to apply for a job in Australia, **therefore** she studied English hard.
  - 9- **Although** he was very tired, he stayed in his office till late to finish his work.
  - 10- Applicants for this job should speak at least two other European languages **besides** German.
  - 11- She refused the job **as/since** the payment wasn't satisfactory.
  - 12- She arrives early every day, **in order to** help her coworkers.
  - 13- **Despite** being late, he was able to finish his work in time.
  - 14- **Due to** the rise of unemployment, families have worse living conditions.
  - 15- Some employers believe in incentive schemes, **because** they want their employees to be more productive.
  - 16- Our company is doing well. **Nonetheless** we aren't going to expand, **because of** the economic crisis we are facing.
  - 17- Taxes have gone up every year, **whereas** our salaries have gone down.
  - 18- **Since/as** our company is expanding we have to hire more workers.
  - 19- We are interested **both** in costs **and** in the competition.
  - 20- You can have a day off, **as long as** you finish all the work you have to do this week.
  - 21- **If** Michael arrives late for a meeting, his boss will be angry.
  - 22- Take my car to work, **in case** there is a strike on public transport.
  - 23- He **neither** studies **nor** looks for a job. He wants to go on living on his parents' expenses.



4. Elephants are heavier than pigs. X

5. Bears are more rare than snakes. X

### Comparative adjectives.

1. I am \_\_\_\_\_ (tall) my sister. taller than
2. My mum thinks that cats are \_\_\_\_\_ (good) pets than dogs. better
3. Cycling is one of \_\_\_\_\_ (dangerous) sports. most dangerous
4. I want to have \_\_\_\_\_ (big) car. a bigger
5. A blue whale is \_\_\_\_\_ (heavy) twenty-five elephants. heavier than
6. You look \_\_\_\_\_ (thin) last month. Have you lost weight? thinner than
7. Bicycles are \_\_\_\_\_ (slow) cars. slower than
8. She is \_\_\_\_\_ (nice) person I know. the nicest
9. What is \_\_\_\_\_ (good) film you've seen? the best
10. Computers are \_\_\_\_\_ (cheap) mobile phones. cheaper than
11. Is your brother \_\_\_\_\_ (tall) you? taller than
12. I think Spanish is \_\_\_\_\_ (easy) Japanese. easier than
13. Our dog is \_\_\_\_\_ (nice) your dog. nicer than
14. Glass bottles are \_\_\_\_\_ (good) plastic bottles. better than
15. I think Rafael Nadal is \_\_\_\_\_ (good) tennis player in Spain. the best
16. Sharks are \_\_\_\_\_ (dangerous) other fish. more dangerous than