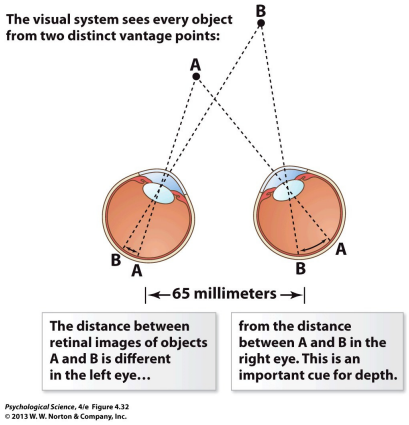
Absolute threshold	The smallest amount of physical stimuli required to detect a sensory input half of the time it is present. (page 182)
Audition	Hearing; the sense of sound perception. (This term is in your book, but not listed as a key term)
Binocular depth cues	Cues of depth perception that are based on input from both eyes together. (page 194)

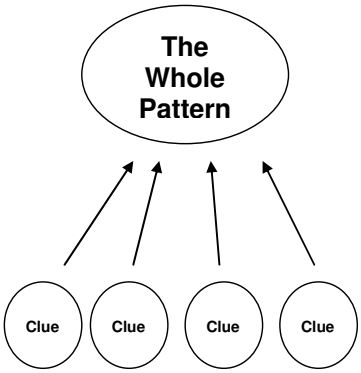
Binocular disparity



A depth cue; because of the distance between the two eyes, each eye receives a slightly different retinal image.

(This term is in your book, but not listed as a key term)

Bottom-up processing



Perception based on the physical features of the stimulus. (page 192)

Cochlea

A coiled, bony, fluid-filled tube in the inner ear that houses the sensory receptors (hair cells). (page 200)

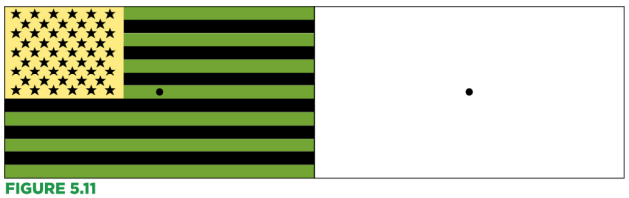
Cold Receptors	Sensory receptors in the skin that detect the temperature of stimuli and transduce it into information processed in the brain as cold. (page 213)
Cones	Sensory receptors in the retina that detect light waves and tranduce them into signals that are processed in the brain as vision; cones respond best to higher levels of illumination and, therefore, they are responsible for seeing color and fine detail. (page 186)
Difference threshold	The minimum difference in physical stimulus required to detect a difference between sensory inputs. (page 183)

Eardrum	A thin membrane that marks the beginning of the middle ear; sound waves cause the eardrum to vibrate. (page 200)
Fast Fibers	Sensory receptors in skin, muscles, organs, and membranes around bones and joints; these myelinated fibers quickly convey intense sensory input to the brain, where it is perceived as sharp, immediate pain. (page 215)
Fovea	The center of the retina, where cones are densely packed. (This term is in your book, but not listed as a key term)

Grouping	The visual system's organization of features and regions to create the perception of a whole, unified object. (page 192)
Gustation	The sense of taste. (This term is in your book, but not listed as a key term)
Hair Cells	Sensory receptors located in the cochlea that detect sound waves and transduce them into signals that ultimately are processed in the brain as sound. (page 200)

Kinesthetic sense	Perception of the positions in space and movements of our bodies and our limbs. (This term is in your book, but not listed as a key term)
lens	The adjustable, transparent structure behind the pupil; together with the cornea, the lens focuses light on the retina, resulting in a crisp visual image. (page 186)
Monocular depth cues	Cues of depth perception that are based on input from one eye alone. (page 194)

Object constancy	Correctly perceiving objects as staying the same in their size, shape, color and brightness across viewing conditions that yield different physical input to the eyes. (page 196)
Olfaction	The sense of smell. (This term is in your book, but not listed as a key term)
Olfactory bulb	A brain structure above the olfactory epithelium in the nasal cavity; from this structure, the olfactory nerve carries information about smell to the brain. (page 210)

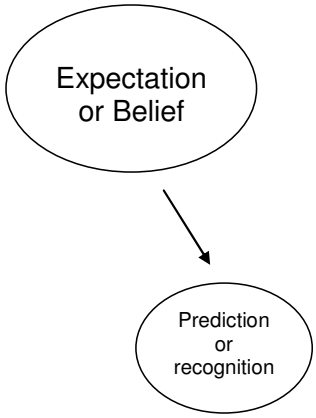
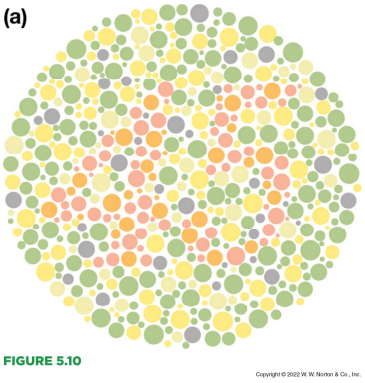
Olfactory epithelium	A thin layer of tissue, deep within the nasal cavity, containing the olfactory receptors; these sensory receptors produce information that is processed in the brain as smell. (page 210)
Opponent-process Theory  FIGURE 5.11 	The idea that ganglion cells in the retina receive excitatory input from one type of cone and inhibitory input from another type of cone creating the perception that some colors are opposites. (page 190)
Papillae	Structures on the tongue that contain taste buds. (page 206)

Perception	The processing, organization, and interpretation of sensory signals in the brain; these processes result in your conscious experience of the world. (page 180)
Perceptual Set	Tendencies to perceive stimuli in specific ways that make sense given prior experiences and expectations. (page 192)
Place coding	The encoding of different frequencies in the auditory system by hair cells in different locations (places) on the basilar membrane. (page 204)

Pressure Receptors	Sensory receptors in the skin that detect tactile stimulation and transduce it into information processed in the brain as different types of pressure on the skin. (page 213)
Retina	The thin inner surface of the back of the eyeball; this surface contains the sensory receptors. (page 186)
Rods	Sensory receptors in the retina that detect light waves and transduce them into signals that are processed in the brain as vision; rods respond best to low levels of illumination and, therefore they do not support color vision or seeing fine detail. (page 186)

Sensation	The sense organs' detection of external physical stimuli and the transmission of information about these stimuli to the brain. (page 180)
Sensory adaptation	A decrease in sensitivity to a constant level of stimulation of sensory receptors. (page 184)
Sensory receptors	Specialized cells in the sense organs that detect physical stimulation from the external world and change that stimulation into information that the brain can use. (page 181)

Slow fibers	Sensory receptors in skin, muscles, organs, and membranes around bones and joints; these unmyelinated fibers slowly convey intense sensory input to the brain, where it is perceived as chronic, dull, steady pain. (page 215)
Sound wave	A pattern of changes in air pressure during a period of time; it produces the percept of a sound. (This term is in your book, but not listed as a key term)
Taste buds	Structures located in papillae on the tongue that contain the taste receptors. (page 206)

Temporal coding	The encoding of relatively low frequencies in the auditory system; sound waves are coded by matching the frequency of the waves with the speed (timing) of the fireing of the auditory nerve. At higher frequencies, temporal coding is maintained by hair cells firing in volleys. (page 203)
Top-down processing 	Perception based on knowledge, expectations, or past experiences. (page 192)
Trichromatic theory 	The idea that three types of cone receptor cells in the retina are responsible for color perception; each type responds optimally to different, but overlapping ranges of wavelengths. (page 188)

Transduction	The process by which sensory receptors change physical stimuli into neural signals that the brain can understand. (page 181)
Vestibular sense	Perception of balance determined by receptors in the inner ear. (This term is in your book, but not listed as a key term)
Warm Receptors	Sensory receptors in the skin that detect the temperature of stimuli and transduce it into information processed in the brain as warmth. (page 213)

 **Warning:** not all of the key ideas are on this list of key terms	