Organizing the Perceptual World

Photography Assignment
Figure ground

“Figure” of an image has meaning (focus of the image). “Ground” is the background (less relevant).
Figure Ground
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Figure Ground
Proximity

The closer objects are to one another, the more likely they are to be perceived as belonging together.
Proximity
Proximity
Proximity
Similarity

Similar elements are perceived to be part of a group.
Similarity
Similarity
Similarity
Continuity

Sensations that appear to create a similar form are perceived as belonging together.
Continuity
Continuity
Continuity
Continuity
Closure

Filling in missing contours to form a complete object.
Closure
Common Fate

Objects moving in the same direction at the same speed are perceived together.
Common Fate
Simplicity

Organize stimulus elements in a way that gives us the simplest possible perception.
Simplicity
Connectedness

Elements that are connected by other elements tend to be grouped together.
Connectedness
Connectedness
Relative Size

*Depth Cue*: Larger objects are perceived as closer than smaller ones.
Relative Size
Relative Size
Relative Size
Relative Height

*Depth Cue:* Objects higher in the visual field are perceived as more distant.
Relative Height
Relative Height
Relative Motion (Motion Parallax)

*Depth Cue*: Difference in apparent rate of movement of different objects provides info about the distance of the objects.
Relative Motion
**Linear Perspective**

*Depth Cue:* Objects closer to the point at which two lines appear to converge are perceived as being at a greater distance.
Linear Perspective
Linear Perspective
Texture Gradient

A graduated change in the texture, or grain, of the visual field, whereby objects with finer, less detailed textures are perceived as more distant.
Texture Gradient
Texture Gradient
Texture Gradient
Texture Gradient
Interposition

*Depth Cue*: Closer objects block one's view of things farther away.
Interposition
Interposition
Interposition
Interposition
Size Constancy

Size of objects appear to remain the same size, no matter what changes occur in the size of their retinal image.
Size Constancy
Shape Constancy

Shape of objects appear to remain the same shape, no matter what changes occur in the shape of their retinal image.
Shape Constancy
Shape Constancy
Shape Constancy
Color Constancy/Brightness Constancy (Contrast)

Color/brightness of objects appear to remain the same color/brightness, no matter what changes occur in the color/brightness of their retinal image.
Color Constancy
Brightness Contrast
Phi Phenomenon

As lights that flash on and off (in just the right sequence), we experience a single light “jumping” back and forth.
Phi Phenomenon
Muller-Lyer Illusion

Tendency to see two-dimensional figures as three-dimensional. Most length illusions occur because we perceive them as being far away.
Muller Lyer