

Enter Science

1. Verb - Base Form
2. Adjective

Enter Science

Everyone can relax; science has come to the _____ Verb - Base Form _____. Scientists explained different people saw _____ Adjective _____ colors because of the different ways our brains analyze the information it gets from our eyes.

Matthew A. Smith, a professor of ophthalmology and neuroscience at the University of Pittsburgh, said people think their eyes simply take a photo and post it in the brain, but that is not the case in reality.

"Our brain takes information from the world through our eyes then uses context to try to figure out what's going on," Smith said, noting that he sees the dress as blue and brownish-black. "We don't take a perfect photo. We have limited information and use context to figure out what's going on." Each person analyzes things differently, he said.

When the brain does not have enough information, it interprets the image and makes guesses. The dress took up most of the photo, so there were few details to help the brain. That meant more guesses, and guesses can go either way, Smith said.

John J. Guehl III, chief of ophthalmology at West Penn Hospital, described it as a kind of optical illusion. The brain figures out the important parts of a picture, and factors out and ignores the rest of it. "It decides what's the part that counts and makes changes on how it is perceiving the other parts," he said.

"We are bombarded by so many sensations that if you perceived all of them, you'd go nuts," he said. Our hearing works the same way. A mother can ignore a roomful of noise, but will hear her baby make a sound, Guehl said.