Example of visual geometrical illusions essay

Psychology

http://www. youtube. com/watch? v= tBNHPk-Lnkk

This video exhibits a simple optical illusion, but an extremely impressive one. It tricks our mind at the moment when we are pretty sure of our cognitive capabilities. Our mind, being a highly sophisticated machine, records history and past experiences within the neural circuits of our visual system. This learning, embedded in our minds, helps us to interpret what we see. We usually interpret any three dimensional object based on the simplified prototypes or models that exists in our neural library. When images are carried from our eye to our brain, it undergoes a complex system of processing the information received and develops meaningful perceptions. Sometimes this makes us see a virtual reality. These geometric illusions shown in the video are an example of how our brain tries to find the most likely representation of an ambiguous image. This illusion is a result of our visual system trying to create what we expect to see.

The designer of this illusion has used a technique called ‘ anamorphosis’, which is basically a term used for images that are deformed from the original shape of the object (intended to be drawn), but when viewed from a specific angle or as a reflection from a specific type of mirror (curved, concave or convex) the object appears in its perfect form. The creator has come up with distorted projections of the objects selected (a Rubik cube, a canvas shoe and a blue tape roll) and sketched it as a 2D illustration. This projection makes the brain perceive depth even on a 2D canvas and gives a 3D effect.

" Anamorphic" designs are used in road markings to convey the message from a larger distance and also for advertising on the grounds of the stadiums where spectators sit at a defined height and angle from the ground.