Teacher Answer Key

Case Study

1. Kant describes the mind as an active participant. Instead of taking sensory data in unchanged, the mind organizes and interprets it -- the same active role this reading gives perception when it separates perception from the passive reception of sensory stimuli.

2. Top-down processing. The reading says top-down processing is driven by our expectations and prior knowledge, so what a person ends up perceiving depends on what that person already knows and believes. That is also why the reading warns that top-down processing can lead to perceptual errors. A direct copy of the world could not change from one viewer to the next, so the copy picture cannot account for those errors and Kant's construction of the mind can. Bottom-up processing, driven by the sensory information itself, is the closer match to a copy.

Multiple Choice

1. C
2. A
3. D

Matching

1-D, 2-C, 3-A, 4-B

Fill-in-the-Blank

1) top-down, bottom-up, 2) proximity, 3) attention

Short Answer (Sample Responses)

Q1: Top-down processing is driven by our expectations and prior knowledge, while bottom-up processing is driven by the sensory information itself. Top-down processing allows us to use our existing knowledge to interpret sensory information, while bottom-up processing involves processing sensory stimuli in a piecemeal fashion without relying on prior knowledge.

Q2: Attention plays a crucial role in perception by allowing us to focus on specific sensory information while ignoring other stimuli. Attention can be influenced by a number of factors, including our goals, interests, and emotional state. When we attend to a particular stimulus, we are more likely to perceive it accurately and remember it later.

Q3: The Gestalt principle of similarity states that we tend to group objects together that are similar in appearance or characteristics. For example, we may group together objects that are the same color or shape. This principle demonstrates how our brains actively organize and interpret sensory information to create meaningful perceptions.