

## CHAPTER 15 THE SENSES

**CHAPTER OVERVIEW:** This chapter discusses sensation, perception, and the structures and processes associated with sensation. Rather than being treated in isolation, the special senses are included as examples of particular types of sensory receptors with highly modified associated structures. The neuronal pathways and cortical destinations of particular types of sensory information are also discussed.

**OUTLINE** (two or three fifty-min. lectures):  
Seeley, A&P, 5/e

<b>Chapt. Object.</b>	<b>Topic Outline, Chapter 15</b>	<b>Figures &amp; Tables</b>	<b>Transparency Acetates</b>
1	I. Classification of the Senses, p. 462  A. Types of Senses 1. General Senses a. Somatic b. Visceral 2. Special Senses 3. Sense Modalities	Table 15.1, p. 462	
2	B. Types of Sensory Receptors 1. Mechanoreceptors 2. Chemoreceptors 3. Photoreceptors 4. Thermoreceptors 5. Nociceptors	Table 15.1, p.462	
1	II. Sensation, p. 462 A. Perception as Conscious Awareness B. Result of Multi-Step Cause and Effect Chain 1. Stimulus Present 2. Receptor Capable of Detecting Stimulus 3. Conduction of Action Potentials to CNS 4. Translation of Action Potentials into Sensory Information within CNS 5. CNS Processing of Sensory Information to Achieve Conscious Awareness of Stimulus C. Phenomenon of Projection D. Accommodation 1. Tonic Receptors Accommodate Slowly 2. Phasic Receptors Accommodate Rapidly	Clinical Note, p.463 Predict Quest. 1	
2	III. Types of Afferent Nerve Endings, p. 463  A. Visceroreceptors Mostly Free Nerve Endings 1. Pain 2. Temperature a. Cold Receptors	Table 15.2, p. 464 Fig. 15.1, p.464	TA-300

	b. Warm Receptors		
	c. Pain Receptors	Predict Quest. 2	
	3. Itch and Movement		
	B. Exteroreceptors (Cutaneous Receptors)	Fig. 15.1, p.464	
	1. Free Nerve Endings		
	2. Merkel's Disks		
	3. Hair Follicle Receptors		
	4. Pacinian Corpuscles		
	5. Meissner's Corpuscles		
	6. Ruffini's End Organs		
	C. Proprioceptors	Fig. 15.2, p.465	
	1. Golgi Tendon Organs	Fig. 15.2a, p.465	TA-301
	2. Muscle Spindles	Fig. 15.2b, p.465	TA-301
	IV. Olfaction, p. 466		
3	1. Olfactory Recess	Fig. 15.3, p.466	TA-302
	A. Olfactory Epithelium and Bulb		
	1. Olfactory Neurons	Fig. 15.4, p.467	TA-303
		Predict Quest. 3	
	a. Bipolar Neurons in Olfactory Epithelium		
	b. Axons Project Through Cribriform Plate to Olfactory Bulb		
	c. Dendrites Enlarged into Olfactory Vesicles		
	d. Olfactory Hairs (Cilia) Extend into Mucus Interface with Inspired Air		
	2. Chemoreceptors are Membrane Receptor Molecules		
	3. Detectable Primary Odors ( $7 < N < 50$ )		
	4. Threshold for Detection	Clinical Note, p.466	
	5. Regeneration Through Proliferation of Basal Cells	Clinical Note, p.467	
	B. Neuronal Pathways for Olfaction	Fig. 15.4, p.467	TA-303
		Predict Quest. 4	
3	1. Structure of Olfactory Bulb		
	a. Mitral (Tufted) Cells		
	b. Association Neurons		
	2. Olfactory Tract Directly to Cortex		
4,5	3. Olfactory Cortex		
	a. Lateral Olfactory Area - Conscious Perception		
	b. Medial Olfactory Area - Visceral & Emotional Reactions to Smell		
	c. Intermediate Olfactory Area - Modulation of Sensory Info. in Olfactory Bulb		
	V. Taste (Gustation), p.468	Fig. 15.5, p.469	TA-304
	1. Sensory Structures are Taste Buds		

- 2. Location in Papillae
  - a. Circumvallate
  - b. Fungiform
  - c. Foliate
  - d. Filiform
- 6 A. Histology of Taste Buds
  - a. Taste Pore
  - b. Gustatory Cells and Hairs
  - c. Supporting Cells
  - d. Nerve Fibers
- B. Function of Taste
  - 1. Four Primary Tastes (Sweet, Salt, Sour, Bitter)
  - 2. Regions of Tongue Sensitivity Fig. 15.6, p.470
  - 3. Interactions with Olfaction
  - 4. Thresholds for Tastes
    - a. Bitter Lowest Threshold
    - b. Salt and Sweet Highest Threshold
- 7 C. Neuronal Pathways for Taste Fig. 15.7, p.471 TA-305
  - 1. Cranial Nerves to Medulla
    - a. Chorda Tympani Branch of Facial Nerve (VII) - Anterior 2/3 of Tongue
    - b. Glossopharyngeal Nerve (IX) - Posterior 1/3 of Tongue & Upper Pharynx
    - c. Vagus Nerve (X) - Epiglottis
  - 2. Nucleus of Tractus Solitarius of Medulla Oblongata to Thalamus Fig. 15.7, p.471
  - 3. Thalamus to Taste Area of Cortex - Extreme Inferior end of Postcentral Gyrus
- VI. Visual System, p. 470
- 8 A. Accessory Structures Fig. 15.8, p.471 TA-306  
Fig. 15.9, p.472
  - 1. Eyebrows
  - 2. Eyelids (Palpebrae) & Eyelashes
    - a. Palpebral Fissure
    - b. Canthi
    - c. Caruncle
    - d. Five Tissue Layers
      - 1). Thin Integument
      - 2). Areolar Connective Tissue
      - 3). Skeletal Muscle
        - a). Orbicularis Oculi
        - b). Levator Palpebrae Superioris
      - 4). Tarsal Plate - Dense Connective Tissue
      - 5). Palpebral Conjunctiva
    - e. Ciliary Glands and Stys
    - f. Meibomian Glands and Chalazions

- or Meibomian Cysts
3. Conjunctiva Fig. 15.9, p.472 TA-306  
Clinical Note,  
p.471
- a. Mucous Membrane
- b. Regions
- 1). Palpebral - Inner Eyelid
- 2). Bulbar - Anterior Eye
- 3). Fornices - Points of Connection
4. Lacrimal Apparatus Fig. 15.10, p.473 TA-307  
Clinical Note,  
p.472
- a. Lacrimal Gland
- 1). Parasympathetic Innervation, Facial Nerve (VII)
- 2). Superolateral Corner of Orbit
- b. Nasolacrimal Duct System Predict Quest. 5
- 1). Inferomedial Corner of Orbit
- 2). Parts
- a). Lacrimal Canaliculi
- b). Punctum
- c). Lacrimal Papilla
- d). Lacrimal Sac
- e). Nasolacrimal Duct
5. Extrinsic Muscles of the Eye Fig. 15.11, p.473  
Fig. 15.12, p.474
- a. Rectus Muscles
1. Superior (Oculomotor III)
2. Inferior (Abducens VI)
3. Medial (Oculomotor III)
4. Lateral (Oculomotor III)
- b. Oblique Muscles
1. Superior (Trochlear IV)
2. Inferior (Oculomotor III)
- c. "H" Test
- 9 B. Anatomy of the Eye Fig. 15.13, p.474 TA-308
1. Fibrous Tunic
- a. Sclera
- b. Cornea
- 1). Transparent
- 2). Avascular
2. Vascular Tunic Fig. 15.14, p.475 TA-309
- a. Blood Supply = Branches off Ophthalmic Artery
- b. Posterior Portion is Choroid Containing Dark Pigment
- c. Anterior Portion
- Predict Quest. 6  
& Clinical Note,  
p.474

- 10 1). Ciliary Body  
a). Ciliary Ring  
b). Ciliary Processes & Aqueous Humor  
c). Suspensory Ligaments to Lens  
d). Ciliary Muscles - Outer/ Radial & Inner/ Circular Smooth Muscle
- 10 2). Iris  
a). Pupil Clinical Note, p.476  
b). Circular Sphincter Pupillae Smooth Muscle  
c). Radial Dilator Pupillae Smooth Muscle
3. Retina Fig. 15.13, p.474 TA-308  
a. Histology  
1). Pigmented Retina - Cuboidal Epithelium  
2). Sensory Retina
- 10 b. Ophthalmoscopic View Fig. 15.15, p.476  
Clinical Note, p.476  
1). Macula Lutea  
2). Fovea Centralis  
3). Optic Disc is Blind Spot
- 11 4. Compartments of the Eye Fig. 15.14, p.475 TA-309  
a. Anterior Compartment  
1). Anterior Chamber  
2). Posterior Chamber  
3). Aqueous Humor  
a). Produced by Ciliary Processes  
b). Returned at Canal of Schlemm  
c). Build-up and Glaucoma
5. Lens  
a. Specialized Cells = Lens Fibers  
b. Crystallines Collect Intracellularly  
c. Held in Place by Suspensory Ligaments from Ciliary Body
- C. Functions of the Complete Eye Clinical Focus, pp.487-489
- 12 1. Light  
a. Visible Light (Wavelengths of 400 to 700 nm) Fig. 15.16, p.477

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. Different Colors Correspond to Different Wavelengths</li> </ul>		
	2. Light Refraction and Reflection		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. Light Can be Bent or Refracted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1). Concave Surfaces Cause Divergence of Light Rays</li> <li>2). Convex Surfaces Cause Convergence of Light Rays; Focal Point</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Fig. 15.17, p.478	TA-310
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>d. Light Reflects off of Non-Transparent Objects</li> </ul>		
	3. Focusing of Images on the Retina		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Cornea has Fixed Effect</li> <li>b. Crystalline Lens has Variable Effect <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1). Lens Shape Changed by Contraction and Relaxation of Ciliary Muscles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a). Relaxed Muscles = Flat Lens</li> <li>b). Contracted Muscles = Rounded Lens</li> </ul> </li> <li>2). Distance to Retina is Fixed</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
	c. Image Formed on Retina is Inverted	Fig. 15.17, p.478	
		Clinical Note, p.478	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>d. Emmetropia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1). Normal Resting Condition</li> <li>2). Distant Objects (20+ Ft.) in Focus on Retina</li> <li>3). Lens Flattened</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
	e. Adjustments for Focussing on Near Objects	Predict Quest. 7	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1). Lens Accommodation</li> <li>2). Pupil Constriction</li> <li>3). Convergence</li> </ul>	Clinical Note, p.479	
13	D. Structure and Function of the Retina	Fig. 15.18, p.480	TA-311
	1. Rods	Table 15.3, p.481	
		Fig. 15.19a, p.481	TA-312
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Bipolar Receptor Cells - Cylindrical Photosensitive Area</li> <li>b. Vision in Reduced Light</li> <li>c. Contain Rhodopsin</li> </ul>	Fig. 15.19d, p.481	TA-312
14	2. Function of Rhodopsin		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Cycle of Activity in Response to Light</li> <li>b. Bleaching</li> <li>c. Light and Dark Adaptation</li> </ul>	Fig. 15.20, p.482	TA-313
		Predict Quest. 8	

	3. Cones	Table 15.3, p.481 Fig. 15.19b, TA-302 p.481
	a. Bipolar Receptor Cells - Conical Photosensitive Area	
	b. Color Vision and Visual Acuity	Fig. 15.21, p.483 Clinical Note, p.484
	c. Contain Iodopsin - Different Opsins Sensitive to Different Wavelengths of Light	
	4. Distribution of Rods and Cones in the Retina	Predict Quest. 9
	5. Inner Layers of the Retina	Fig. 15.18, p.480 TA-311
	a. Photoreceptors	
	b. Bipolar Cells	
	c. Ganglion Cells - Axons Form Optic Nerve	Clinical Note, p.484
	d. Association Neurons	
	1). Horizontal Cells	
	2). Amacrine Cells	
	3). Interplexiform Cells	
15	D. Neuronal Pathways for Vision	Fig. 15.22, p.485 TA-314
	1. Optic Nerves (II)	
	2. Optic Chiasma	Clinical Note, p.486
	a. Crossing Over of Some Ganglion Cell Axons	
	b. Cells from Nasal (Medial) Retina Cross	
	c. Cells from Temporal (Lateral) Retina Do Not Cross	
	3. Optic Tracts	Fig. 15.22, p.485 TA-314
	a. Most Axons Terminate at Lateral Geniculate Nucleus of Thalamus	
	b. Remaining Axons Terminate in the Superior Colliculi	
	4. Optic Radiations from Lateral Geniculate Bodies to Visual Cortex of Occipital Lobes	
15	5. Binocular Vision and Depth Perception Functions of Overlapping of Visual Fields from Each Eye	Predict Quest. 10
	VII. Hearing and Balance, p. 486	
	A. Auditory Structures and Their Functions	Fig. 15.23, p.490 TA-315 Clinical Note, p.490
16	1. External Ear (Sound Collection and Defense Against Injury)	
	a. Auricle	Fig. 15.24, p.490

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- b. External Auditory Meatus
    - 1). Hairs
    - 2). Ceruminous Glands  
(Cerumen = Earwax)
  - c. Tympanic Membrane - Separation between External & Middle Ear
- Clinical Note, p.491  
Fig. 15.23, p.490 TA-315
2. Middle Ear (Amplification of Sound Waves)
- a. Air Passages for Pressure Equilibration
    - 1). To Mastoid Air Cells
    - 2). Auditory (Eustachian) Tube to Pharynx
  - b. Auditory Ossicles
    - 1). Malleus
    - 2). Incus
    - 3). Stapes
  - c. Membrane-Covered Openings to Inner Ear
    - 1). Oval Window - Under Annular Ligament and Foot-Plate of Stapes
    - 2). Round Window
3. Inner Ear (Location of Sensory Receptors)
- a. Bony Labyrinth and Perilymph
  - b. Membranous Labyrinth and Endolymph
  - c. Semicircular Canals
  - d. Vestibule
  - e. Cochlea
    - 1). Membranes and Compartments
      - a). Oval Window
      - b). Scala Vestibuli
      - c). Helicotrema
      - d). Scala Tympani
      - e). Round Window
      - f). Vestibular Membrane
      - g). Basilar Membrane
        - 1). Spiral Lamina
        - 2). Spiral Ligament
      - h). Scala Media (Cochlear Duct)
      - c). Organ of Corti (Spiral Organ)
- Fig. 15.25, p.491  
Fig. 15.26a, TA-316  
p.492  
Fig. 15.26b,c, TA-316  
p.492  
Fig. 15.26d, TA-316  
p.492 Fig. 15.27, p.493
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- 1). Hair Cells -  
Sensory  
Receptors
- 2). Nerve  
Endings
- 3). Cochlear  
Ganglion

	<b>B. Auditory Function</b>	Table 15.4, p.495 Clinical Note, p.491
	1. Properties of Sound Waves	Fig. 15.28, p.494 TA-317
	a. Amplitude and Volume	
	b. Frequency and Pitch	
	c. Resonance and Timbre	Fig. 15.29, p.496 TA-318
	2. External Ear (Collection and Direction)	
	3. Middle Ear (Conduction, Modulation & Amplification)	
18	a. Sound Attenuation Reflex	
	b. Tensor Tympani and Stapedius Muscles	Fig. 15.30, p.496 Predict Quest. 11
	4. Inner Ear (Sensory Reception)	Fig. 15.29, p.496 TA-318 Clinical Note, p.497
	a. Movements of Perilymph and Endolymph	
	b. Vibration of Basilar Membrane	Fig. 15.31, p.497
	c. Stimulation of Hair Cells and Endocochlear Potential	Predict Quest. 12-13
18	<b>C. Neuronal Pathways for Hearing</b>	
	1. From Neurons Synapsing on Hair cells of Cochlea to Cochlear Ganglion	Fig. 15.32, p.498 TA-319
	2. From Cochlear Ganglion Through Cochlear Portion of Vestibulocochlear Nerve (VIII) to Cochlear Nucleus in Superior Medulla Oblongata	
	3. From Cochlear Nucleus to Superior Olivary Nucleus	
	4. From Superior Olivary Nucleus	Clinical Focus, p.499
	a. to Pathways Returning to Cochlea and Middle Ear	
	1). Modulation of Pitch Perception	
	2). Sound Attenuation Reflex	
	b. to Ascending Pathways in Lateral Meniscus which synapse in Inferior Colliculi	
	5. From Inferior Colliculi	
	a. to Superior Colliculus - Leading to Reflexive Head and Eye Movements	
	b. to Medial Geniculate Nucleus of	



**IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS:** If this material is to be covered in two lectures one logical split is between the generalized senses and the special senses. There is enough to discuss about the special senses that this section can easily fill two lecture periods.

Another way to organize the material would be to talk about all the examples of two or three of the classes of receptors in each session, so balance and hearing could be discussed with other mechanoreceptors such as Pacinian Corpuscles and Golgi Tendon Organs. This second arrangement has more power to help students focus on the principles of sensory reception rather than getting stuck in the details of the accessory structures of the ear and eye.

**SEE INSTRUCTOR'S MANUAL AND COURSE SOLUTIONS MANUAL FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES.**