

## Abstract

Some perceptual cues carry information about the overall gestalt or pattern of an object at hand, whereas some others carry information about distinct parts of the object. Drawing on recent work on culture and cognition, the authors hypothesized that European Americans should be more capable than Asians of utilizing part cues, but Asians should be more capable than European Americans of using gestalt cues. In 2 experiments both Asians and European-Americans were presented with either one of the two types of cues and asked to infer the identity of the original objects. As predicted, in the part cue condition European-Americans performed better than Asians did. Interestingly, however, there was no cultural difference in the gestalt cue condition. Results were interpreted in reference to other related studies that document reliable cross-cultural differences in cognition. (133 words)