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Perspective of Gestalt Theory and Art Education

[1]Ahmet Göktuğ Kılıç*, [2]Umit Parsıl
Corresponding Author: * ahmetgoktugkilic34@gmail.com
[1] Inonu University, Institute of Educational Sciences, Malatya, Turkey
[2] Adıyaman University, Faculty of Fine Arts, Adıyaman, Turkey

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ABSTRACT

The perspective of art education is discussed in the context of Gestalt perception theory, and its necessity is emphasized. Undeniably, the Gestalt principle of perceptual organization and the concepts of perceptual illusion play an active role in forming motor skills and representing different points of view by activating perceptual processes such as creative and multidimensional thinking in art. Gestalt theory occupies an essential place in educational research. The Gestalt theory of perception supports holistic learning. In this sense, the goals to be achieved in art education are also crucial for the student. In visual perception, the cognitive orientation of the individual towards stimuli may vary from person to person. Approaching the same inspiration from a different angle can lead to misinterpretations of the trigger and affect learning. Although the reflections of Gestalt theory influence this view, it is considered the acceptance on which cognitive approaches are based. The basic understanding of thinking that underlies Gestalt learning theory accepts this fact and supports this fact with its underlying features. Cognitive thinking activities and perceptual orientations have an indirect effect on Gestalt theory. At the same time, the Gestalt theory and the resulting psycho-perceptual intuition have been evaluated and applied by many scientists and thinkers. Developed and presented theoretically by Max Wertheimer, Kurt Kofka, and Wolfgang Köhler, Gestalt theory led to the emergence of a new vision of visual perception in art education. Perceptual psychology, especially in the theories of Wertheimer, Kofka, and Köhler, offers a different perspective when approaching visual perception through illusion. In addition, the fact that Gestalt theory supports the learning and teaching process with a holistic learning approach has led to the openings from the perspective of art education and didactic in the context of visual perception

because repeated learning in art education gains a new meaning and can develop positively if it is supported by holistic learning what you understand usually more meaningful and lasting. Finally, the research aims to explore the perspective of art education by highlighting the basic principles of Gestalt theory.

Keywords
Art Education
Gestalt Theory
Kurt Kofka
Max Wertheimer
Wofgang Köhler

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Introduction

Gestalt theory of perception is an approach to holistic learning. Given the theoretical and conceptual context in which it is based, the possibility of repeated learning is unambiguous. The cognitive impact and experiential learning on which it is based are indisputable facts. The perception of Gestalt, a type of learning theory in this sense, has led to various approaches and methods in many areas of education. In this sense, this scientific theory is considered a theory that can be studied in many areas of education. From this point of view, artistic education is one of the few disciplines that supports holistic learning and in which it is possible to study the global variables of affective, cognitive, and psychological learning. Art is a means of expression, which has different meanings when considered within the framework of other theories. Art is also a form of knowledge, and art education is a valuable discipline for people whose knowledge has the same value as the world of science or philosophy. When we compare this situation with other types of knowledge, the existence of different methods and theories in this sense will be more justified and valuable in learning.

Literature review

A. Gestalt Theory

Many scientists in the world of education have developed various theories of learning. Learning theory is an explanation of how learning takes place. It is the way students process or create information. These theories Support children's education according to their developmental stages. It also aims to shape children according to the needs of the environment. One of them is the Gestalt theory. Gestalt theory explains the process of perception through its organization. An element that shares a relationship, model, or similarity within the same unit. Gestalt theory is incompatible with the theory of structuralism. Gestalt theory attempts to reduce the division of the sense into smaller parts [1].

Gestalt theory is a theory that emerged from thinking about the foundations of perception. It is a generally perceived whole, while its components comprise parts. That iThe can have a different meaning than the sum of its parts. In this sense, the person who perceives a whole perceives it as a whole rather than dividing it into pieces. Proponenpieces this theory argue that the perceiver adds something of himself to external experiences and thus transforms perception, that is, his own experience [2].

Gestalt: Its development began in the 1940s by Fritz Perls, Lavra Perls, and Paul Goodman. Although there was some ambiguity about the name initially, psychologists such as Wertheimer, Koffka, and Köhler thought so. In German, Gestalt means form, model, or configuration. In this sense, Koffka states: "In addition to the sensory elements of the perceived object, there is an additional element, albeit in a sense derived from it." The organization of standard sensory elements, an element for oneself. As Koffka said in the Gestalt: "When you hear a melody, you hear the notes, and beyond that, you hear something that unites them in the melody." Therefore, the melody is perceived as a whole [3]. This is the reason on which the Gestalt theory is based. It emphasizes the main point. The cognitive psychologists mentioned above have been influential in Gestalt terminology. Gestalt generally means "form, complementary, integration."

Perception is used in Gestalt therapy, contributing to the integrity of the individual and eliminating its deficiencies. According to Gestalt theory, The whole is something other than the sum of its parts. The individual perceives the existing whole as a whole instead of dividing it into parts. This is a kind of awareness. On the other hand, perception varies according to gender, education level, age, environment, expectations, and culture. It is perceived that the senses of the objective world are transferred to subjective consciousness through memory and transformed into communication. Perception occurs when meaning is added to sensation. The first thing psychologists interested in cognition learn is that perception is a form of organization. The importance purposed through organization becomes meaningful through coming together and making connections. Gestalt is a theory developed based on cognitive psychology. According to this theory, observation is as much a cognitive process as thinking and guessing [4].

There are styles in science as there are in art. Gestalt theory is a very new style of science. The downside was seen as an objection to what is now known as the atomic approach. On the positive side, the unique nature in Germany evokes with intense emotion the feeling of the miraculous secrets of the body and the creative power of the forces of nature; it appeared as a scientific expression of philosophy and the romantic wave. Culture frees the brain for life's vitality and basic tasks. The harmful effects of rationalism are his most outstanding

achievement. Gestalt theory has connections with many poets and thinkers of the past; One of the most important is Goethe. However, the Gestalt theory got its name primarily from Max Wertheimer, Wolfgang Köhler, and Kurt Koffka in visual perception. Gestalt theory was initially formed around four central elements: psychology, physics, biology, sociology, etc.

As a method in the field, the use of the structural features of the system and the entire feature description have been provided. They were natural things or phenomena whose nature and function of any part of it were determined by the general situation. But it must be understood that this approach stems from a much more fundamental attitude than respecting the simple, powerful, and spontaneous reactions of children, humans, and primitive animals. Man's spiritual and cultural development must be protected at all levels. To r.fuse to divide synthesis not into the higher faculties of the human mind but into the powers of formation and environmental sensory processes is an attitude that emphasizes visual and auditory intelligence, so attitude has a deep sympathy for the artist and art. Because the artist, with his eyes and ears, directly captures the whole meaning of the creation of nature and resolves harmony or conflict by arranging the activities according to the "Pragnanz," the law of unity, "separation, and balance [5].

When discussing the nature of the Gestalt, Wertheimer believes that the distinction between idealism and materialism implies a difference between the noble and evil. What is so disgusting about materialism and mechanics? What makes an idealist so attractive? Regarding certain specifics, you'll quickly notice how much physical activity shows no signs of separation between body and mind. It can often be shown that the physiological symptoms of a shy, anxious, energetic, happy, or sad person are the same as their mental processes [6]. This characterizes the primary on which the Gestalt theory is based. Wertheimer also sought to understand what creative thinking is, or problem-solving thinking. Creative thinking, or problem-solving, became a topic of interest to psychologists at the turn of the century. Creative thinking is the key to development as humanity discovers new research areas. He sought to define what active problem-solving thinking is and how it manifests itself [7].

The approach model, which was born in response to behavioral education approaches and emerged under the guidance of a group of German psychologists, has taken a new step. Among them, Wertheimer, Kofka, and Köhler were essential pioneers. Kurt Lewin, who also integrates all kinds of individual living spaces into the components, also researchers cognitive innovations in the Gestalt theory of perception. The Gestalt theory of perception, pioneered by Kofka, Köhler, and Wertheimer, has been used as a Gestalt learning theory. However, many words in dictionaries mean sector form. In this sense, Gestalt psychologists have drawn attention to the nature of learning as a perception born of wholeness. Gestalt psychologists and beliefs based on holistic learning suggest that many of the dominant tasks in learning have

their roots in whole education. They believe that the parts that make up the essential understanding of the entire relationship. Still, their ability to make sense of the whole rather than the parts of the brain suggests no evidence to support creating distinct patterns.

According to Gestalt psychologists, the perception of an object or part depends on its relationship with other factors. In this sense, people perceive events according to specific organizational trends. For example, what is seen in a picture is defined as the subject's, and the rest is defined as the ground. From this point of view, learning is a change in the relationship between form and matter. Willingness to look at their surroundings in an orderly way also supports this view. This is because people can care to achieve performance through organized learning.

Behavior is the ability to be aware of a person's situation and to be able to use it for their purposes. They are involved in these changes in perception and interpretation. In this respect, people are aware of events and situations outside themselves and themselves. And indicative of learning.

Some Gestalt psychologists tend to express the perception of the environment and the world in terms such as the cognitive field. Learning is a change in the perception or interpretation of a situation. A hunch or perception may be different from or related to behavior. The elements of any condition or problem are interrelated, each with general significance. The whole is different from the sum of its parts. When we consider the factors of a topic separately, we risk seeing the whole or missing vital elements [8].

B. Visual Perception

Gestalt psychologists see the visual dynamics of objects as a physiological process. They take this as a conscious reaction. According to this theory, visible movement is random. There is no insignificant correlation between imaginary associations and stimuli; Shapes and astonishing results form the transformative force of which the observer was partially conscious before the geometric model. In this sense, physical visual perception is the stimulation of the eye by light rays from objects in the external world. The results are based on the formation of images in the retinal layer. It is transmitted to the brain through the nerve endings of the retina, and vision occurs. In this respect, visual psychology is needed to study visual perception. Although the Gestalt theory seems to be a psychological theory, its work aims to explain how visual perception is formed, what is effective in this cognitive process, and what will still be affected from the inside and out. Methodologically examines explanations of how a person sees something and what it means to him [9]. Hegel studies and interprets its etymology using the German word "perception." For Hegel, direct certainty does not grasp truth since its inner truth is general. He wants to take control; on the other hand, perception

accepts it as an objective entity. But because of weak objectivity, this universality does not represent actual "infinity " through the mind's activity; the number must be sought further until it appears. Perception is the set of activities that allow us to understand the notifications that the sense organs can receive additional activities that make cognition possible. The recognition and classification of the perceived object are observable. However, it is now assumed that internal cognitive activities are always involved and perception is an active process. Once a visual, auditory, olfactory, and tactile notification has been received, many methods are implemented to process it through rejection, operations addition, transformation, and interpretation of notification. As a result of this processing, an inner idea of the stimulus and the object is revealed. At the same time, perception is the realization of the image of the external world in consciousness, which is accompanied by the senses. It affects the objective sense organs. This effect is transferred to consciousness. But perception differs from sensation in that the bee requires mental function. For example, Our vision shows two different planes before our eyes. Two pictures of this tree are integrated with mental processes. This combined image is due to old perceptions that accumulate in memory. When these are eliminated through association, the perception of the tree occurs. It is to form concepts and thoughts that are perceived through special sight, hearing, and touch in extraordinary consciousness, ss. Rationalists are merely the product of reason; another argument is in the same direction. But perception is a sensory-mental function. According to the German philosopher Lebriz, perception is an unconscious function. Perception is in itself that which is outside the subject. But about mental behavioral behavior, psychologists have also talked about inner awareness instead of the term perceptual, which has three meanings. These are Cognitive power, cognitive function, and cognitive phenomena [10].

In art education, aesthetics, ethics, nature, nature, and purpose are harmonious. In addition to developing the perception of taste and aesthetics, it indirectly forms higher qualities, such as imagination. Establishing the concept of perception has an important place in art education. Perception is organizing and understanding what one can receive, find, and experience. In other words, perception is when all attention is directed to something and grasps it or gains consciousness by perceiving it. Perception is called reasoning and understanding. Perceptions, perceptions, and perspectives differ between societies and according to individual characteristics. This difference is real and is derived from the concept [11]. Art education helps the individual to learn holistically. In this sense, artistic education should be understood as a part of general education. If we take originality and creativity into account, it is necessary to accept the existence of our own rules and requirements in art education. In this sense, the importance of art education in the education system should be fully defined. He defined the processes of creative art education, which included formal and non-formal education from the

beginning of the XX century to the present day and covered many different areas. He covered. More precisely, it covers other areas, especially art education in schools. Since a generalization is made in this sense, it should be understood that art education refers only to the educational processes in the field of fine arts. However, in both cases, art education is seen as an educational process aimed at individuals in the developmental stage, not adults. However, research on art education shows that art education is controversial. Actively controversial art education, the definition interpreting art education, defining in art education visual and tactile senses visual and tactile. These abilities, of course, lead to certain perceptions in which individual differences are at the forefront. Perception: It is a dynamic, multifaceted, and highly sensational phenomenon. In this respect, it is closely related to art. Freelance artists use what they perceive according to their perceptions in creation. For this reason, movements such as Renaissance, English Romanticism, Impressionism, New Impressionism, Fauvism, Expressionism, Futurism, and Dadaism have their uses. They use different colors, studying shapes, making contours, and hardware applications. Monet does not resemble Matisse, and Seraut's view is close to Turner's influence. These examples give us a precise definition of "visual perception." These are the descriptive values that the brain obtains by combining past effects with accumulated information about objects and emotions at the time of observation. Just as perception cannot be one-sided, intuitive perception does not evaluate results from a single angle. It also analyzes by activating other cognitive mechanisms that it needs. The emotion formed from this analysis will translate into the individual's behavior. With his creative function, the artist represents red trees and blue leaves. In his works, he tries to confuse public perception and look for different dimensions using illusion [13].

The Gestalt theory of visual perception is based on the principle that "the whole is more important than the sum of its parts." Gestalt theory has five basic tenets: visual relation, proximity, similarity, completion, continuity, and simplicity. Considering every direction of Gestalt theory, The drawing is the part that focuses the individual's attention on the observed stimulus. At the same time, the floor is the part that is not noticed behind the picture and does not enter the cognitive field. The forces felt when looking at visual objects can be seen as the psychological equivalent or equivalent of the physiological forces operating in the brain's optical center. Although these processes physiologically occur in the brain, psychologically, they are experienced as if they were properties of perceived objects [14].

In the shape ground principle, two different foreground colors separating the foreground and background of the image mean that viewers perceive other things from the same thing. You can see the vase if our focal (foreground) color is black. The background is black; two faces are visible.

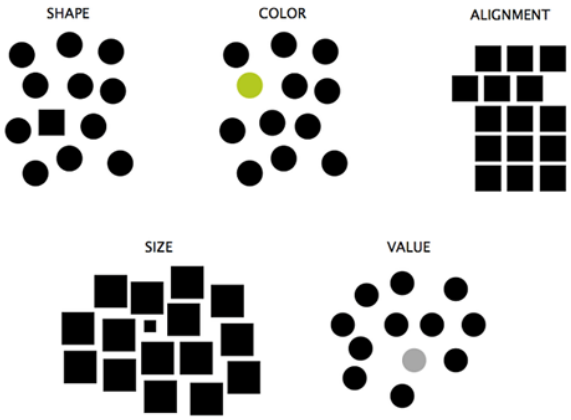
Perception occurs through the focus of perceptual attention. This is called a "figure". It is one of the mainframes that attracts attention and refers to what remains in the background. Form is an element that exists in a structure. Then, the space or "space" comes to the forefront. The context is as follows: The field contains the corresponding item. He is not the center of attention. Shows the shape-ground relationship. However, it is the shape that attracts attention. That doesn't mean there's a character who doesn't have a background to back him up. More than one separate background character can appear at the same time [15].



Source: https://mavink.com/explore/Gestalt-Psychology-Art

Fig. 1. Shape-Ground Relationship

The proximity principle states that objects close in time and space tend to be identified through clustering. The same principle is based on shape, color, texture, and gender. Completion focuses on completing incomplete/incomplete activities, forms, and sounds.



Source: https://psikolog.info.tr/gestalt-kurami/

Fig. 2. Proximity Relationship

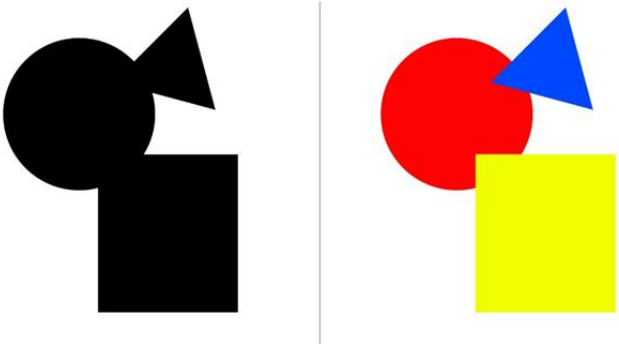
The principle of continuity states that points, lines, and stimuli pointing in the same direction tend to be grouped and perceived. Following something is the instinctive action of the eye, but at the same time, every visual presentation needs a focal point. This focal point grabs the viewer's attention and convinces him. The graphic follows the message but also shows what an object with a different shape looks like, distinguishing it from other elements [16].



Source: https://www.yandex.com.tr/gorsel/search?family=yes&from=tabbar&text=gestalt%20s%C3%BCreklilik%20ili%C5%9Fkisi

Fig. 3. Continuity Policy

The principle of simplicity explains that stimuli are usually perceived in their simplest form. Gestalt theory greatly influences contemporary visual design activities in the context of the identified characteristics. It can be observed in many different areas to ensure the effectiveness of graphic design perception. Based on the evaluations of Cognitive Gestalt theory regarding the design environment, the essential elements are the quality of the overall design effect in the context of the foreground-background relationship, the relationship between order and arrangement, arrangement, and design features [17].



Source: https://mavink.com/explore/Visual-Gestalt

Fig. 4. The Principle of Simplicity

Visual perception is a sensory distinction: differences in images, contexts, and details. The goal is to understand the optical properties of an object. For many people, a work of art contains artistic elements. But we can see it as a whole. For the individual to perceive the work of art in its entirety and to allow visual perception, he must be willing to look psychologically but to see the truth. When applying visual perception, it depends on what the individual sees and what he needs to see. It depends on what the individual sees, how he perceives it, whether he perceives it with his senses, and the meaning he attaches to it; it is his knowledge and life experience. Perception is a voluntary choice between what we first see and what follows. In this sense, it is directly related to the conscious content that the aware content controls.

Therefore, visual representation focuses on the phenomenon of orientation that goes beyond the individual [18].

Methods

Gestalt theory of perception was developed in psychology and the 19th-century school of thought, in contrast to behavioral and structuralist approaches that claimed that object sensations and conditioned reflexes influence the process of visual perception. Unlike the fragmented attitudes of behaviorists and structuralists, everything reveals its principle. Research on the theory of Gestalt perception focuses on the psychology of visual perception. Visual perception was defined and developed by Max Wertheimer, one of the founders of Gestalt Psychology. Kurt Kofka and Wolfgang Köhler also played an essential role in developing his theory. At the same time, the perception of Gestalt is supported by many concepts. These are concepts of visual perception, such as similarity, closeness, completeness, and orientation. These theories are based on sensory perceptions of color, shape, light, and texture from the visual world. In this sense, the holistic structure of art education and its methodological design based on visual perception allow this theory to be investigated interdisciplinarily. In this sense, this theoretical approach is suitable for regulating notifications. In this way, the basic assumptions of the Gestalt theory of perception are mainly discussed in the research, and the methodological perspectives of the philosophers who developed and influenced the development process are discussed. Also, the theoretical framework is examined theoretically. The philosophy of art education is reviewed in the next section, and the primary point on which art education is based according to the Gestalt theory of perception is formulated. The research conducted for this purpose is a review based on the qualitative research method. Scientific articles were taken as a basis for the study, and the research scope was expanded by supporting the literature review method.

Results and Discussion

The theory of gestalt cognition arose in opposition to behaviorist and structuralist approaches, which proposed that the sensations and reflections of objects affect the process of visual perception of the soul. The 19th-century school of thought opposed the behaviorists' piecemeal approach and the whole principle. Research on Cognitive Gestalt theory focuses on the psychology of visual perception. Visual perception was defined and developed by Max Wertheimer, one of the founders of Gestalt psychology. Kurt Kofka and Wolfgang Köhler also played an essential role in developing this theory. From this point of view, artistic education seems to be one of the few disciplines that support holistic learning and in which the global variables of affective, cognitive, and psychological learning can be considered. The simplest

and most widely accepted definition of art education is the pursuit of beautiful forms. These forms caress our sense of beauty, and the caress of our understanding of beauty reveals the unity and harmony of the formal relations between our emotions. Art is a means of expression, which has different meanings according to the theory. Art is also a form of knowledge, and art education is helpful for those who value learning in science or philosophy. If we follow it in parallel with other forms of perception, different methods and theories in this direction will be more valuable in learning.

Conflict of Interest

The authors have no conflict of interest.

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Authors



Ahmet Göktuğ Kılıç completed her specialty training at İnönü University, Institute of Educational Sciences, Department of Painting-Business Teaching. He has expertise in Educational Sciences, Art Education, Visual Arts Education, and Painting. His work has been published in many international congresses, symposiums, exhibitions, and magazines. At the same time, his work continues. (email: ahmetgoktugkilic34@gmail.com).



Umit Parsıl was born in Kahramanmaraş in 1978 and completed his primary, secondary, and high school education in Kahramanmaraş. He has published two books, "Visual Perception" and "Creativity in Art," has published 287 articles, including art articles and essays, related to his field, and has written ten book chapters. To date, he has edited six books. He has been a jury member in painting competitions ten times, 8 of which are national and 2 of which are international. He participated in 6 solo and 387 group exhibitions and curated four exhibitions, both group and personal. He writes art articles in local/general newspapers and magazines, is the Head of the Department of Design at Adıyaman University Vocational School of Technical Sciences, and continues to work as a lecturer at Adıyaman University, Faculty of Fine Arts, Department of Painting. (email: umitparsil@adiyaman.edu.tr).