

# Verbal representation of the surrounding world by a blinded person

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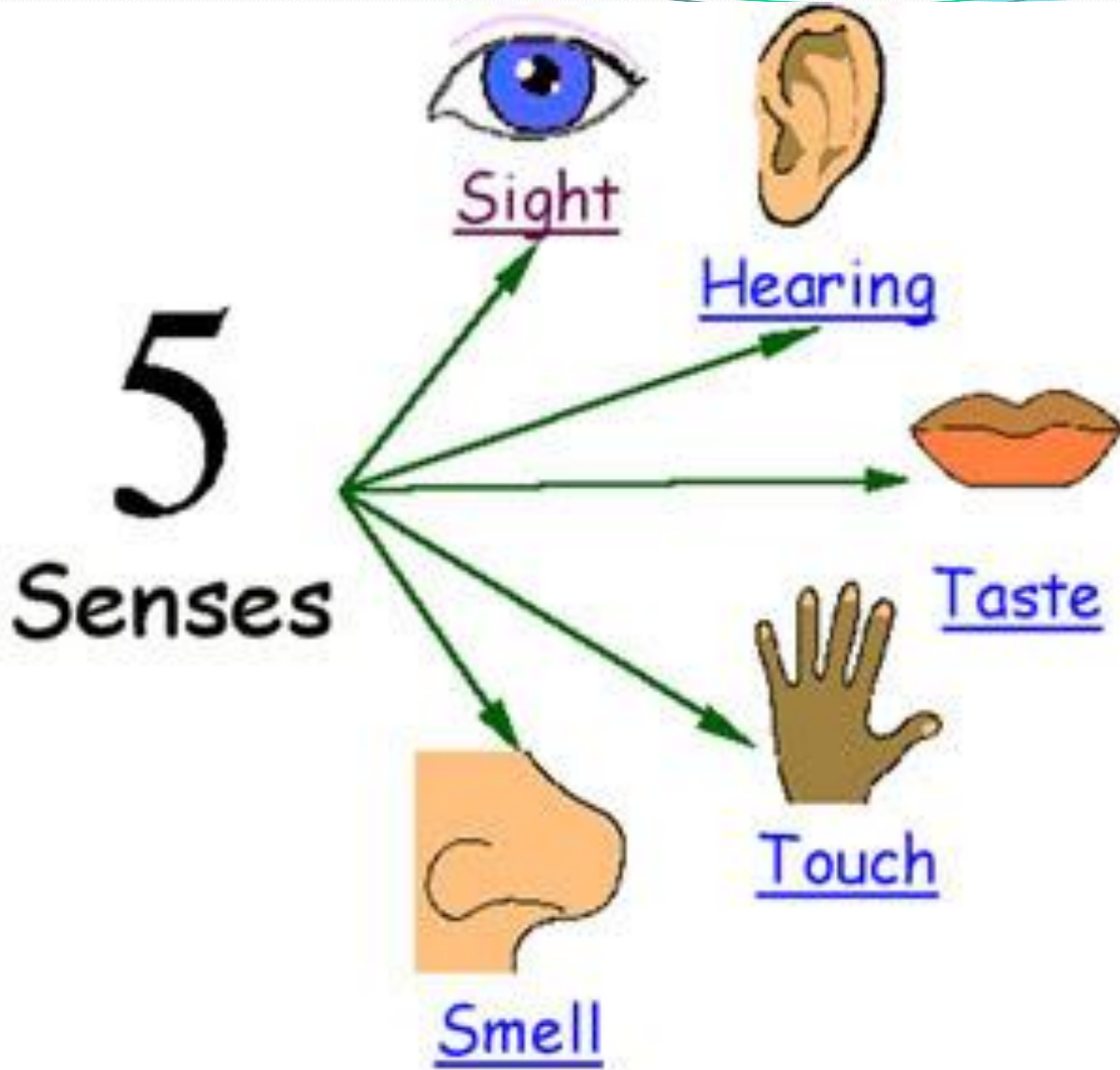
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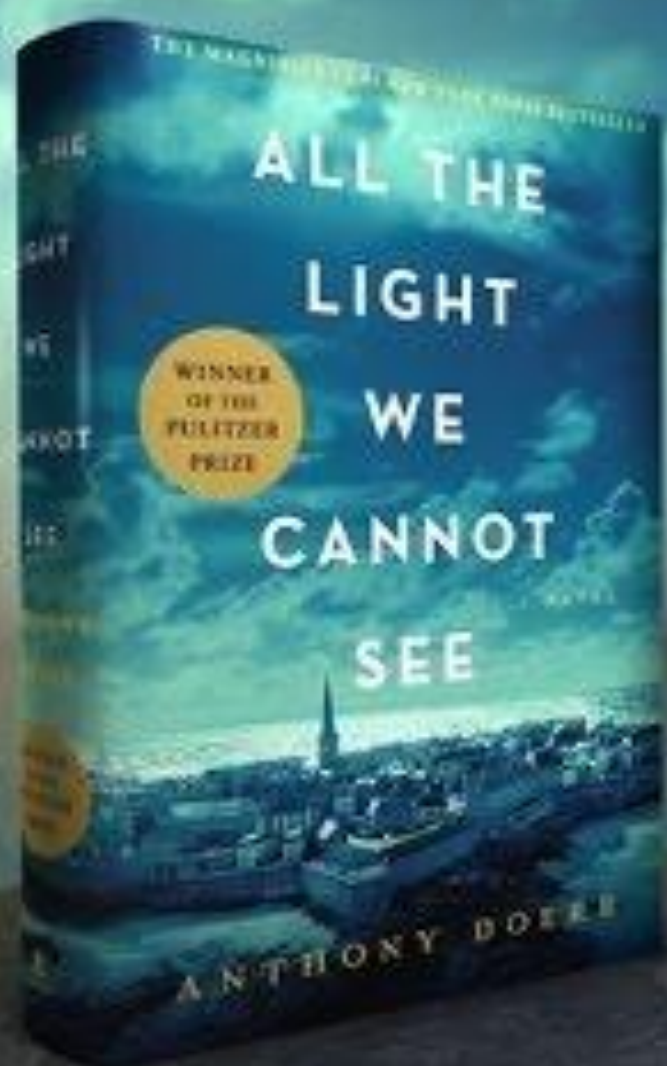
# The aim

- to study the lexical means of representation of the surrounding world by a blinded person in the book “*All the Light We Cannot See*” by Anthony Doerr.

# The tasks

- to explore the genre of English historical novel;
- to identify the means of verbal representation of the world by a blinded person in the historical novel “All the Light We Cannot See” by Anthony Doerr;
- to classify lexical units expressing perception based on various senses;
- to determine the prevailing types of blinded person’s perception drawing on the lexical units used in the text.





**“Gorgeous.”**

— *The San Francisco Chronicle*

**“Incandescent.”**

— *O, The Oprah Magazine*

**“Stunning.”**

— *Entertainment Weekly*

**“Majestic.”**

— *Los Angeles Times*

# Two groups of lexical units

- (1) Lexical units expressing perception based on sight;
- (2) Lexical units expressing synesthetic perception.

# Lexical units expressing visual features of objects

- colour
- shape
- size
- quality

# Lexical units expressing visual features of objects: colour

- **Example 1** : The museum buildings are beige, chestnut, hazel. Church bells send arcs of bronze careening off the windows (*All the Light We Cannot See*, p. 44).
- **Example 2**: Bees are silver; pigeons are ginger and auburn and occasionally golden (*All the Light We Cannot See*, p. 43).



# Lexical units expressing visual features of objects: shape

- **Example 3** : From what she can tell, it's a low grotto, maybe four yards long and half as wide, shaped like a loaf of bread (*All the Light We Cannot See*, p. 168).

# Lexical units expressing visual features of objects: size

- **Example 4** : It's the size of a pigeon's egg (*All the Light We Cannot See*, p. 18).

## Lexical units expressing spatial relations of distance

- **Example 5** : When she declares that she can walk no farther, her father carries her off the road, traveling uphill through mustard flowers until they reach a field a few hundred yards from a small farmhouse (*All the Light We Cannot See*, p. 183).

# Lexical units expressing synesthetic perception

- (1) Lexical units of auditory-visual synesthesia,
- (2) Lexical units expressing olfactory-visual synesthesia.

# Lexical units expressing auditory-visual synesthesia

- **Example 6** : Marie-Laure hears that the diamond is pale green and as big as a coat button. (*All the Light We Cannot See*, p. 183).

# Lexical units expressing olfactory- visual synesthesia

- **Example 7** : They smell of stale bread, of stuffy living rooms crammed with dark titanic Breton furnishings (*All the Light We Cannot See*, p. 161).

# Quantitative analysis

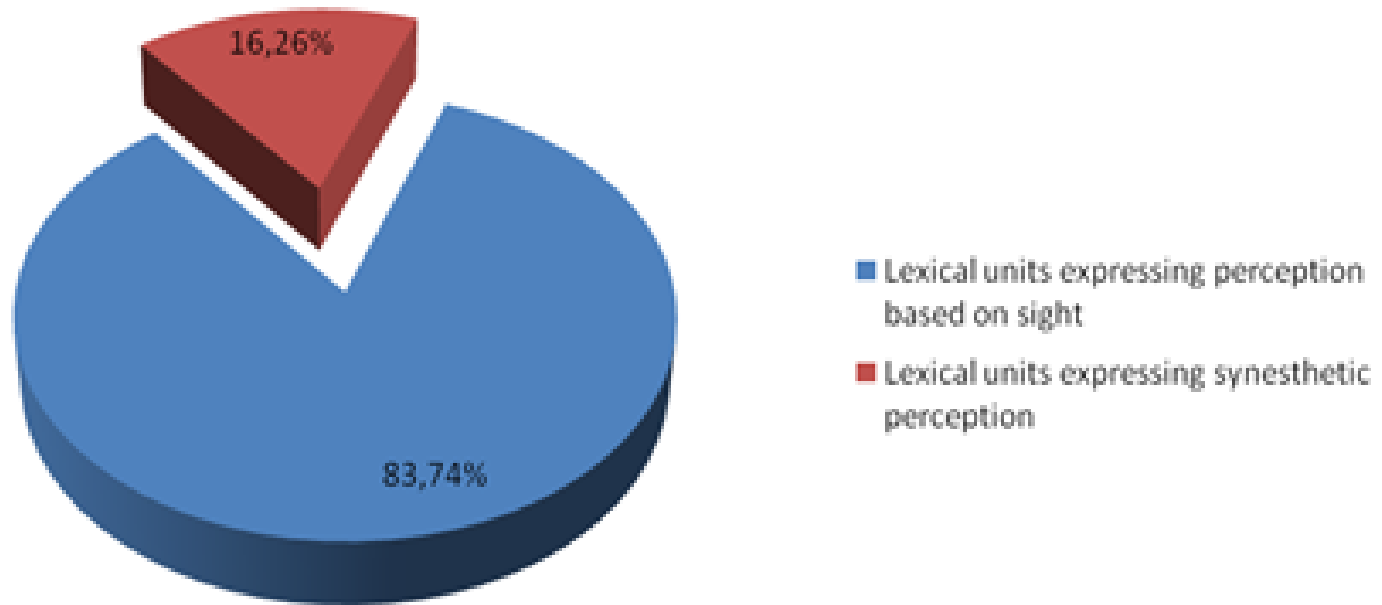


Diagram 1: Percentage of lexical units expressing verbalization of blinded person's perception.

# Quantitative analysis

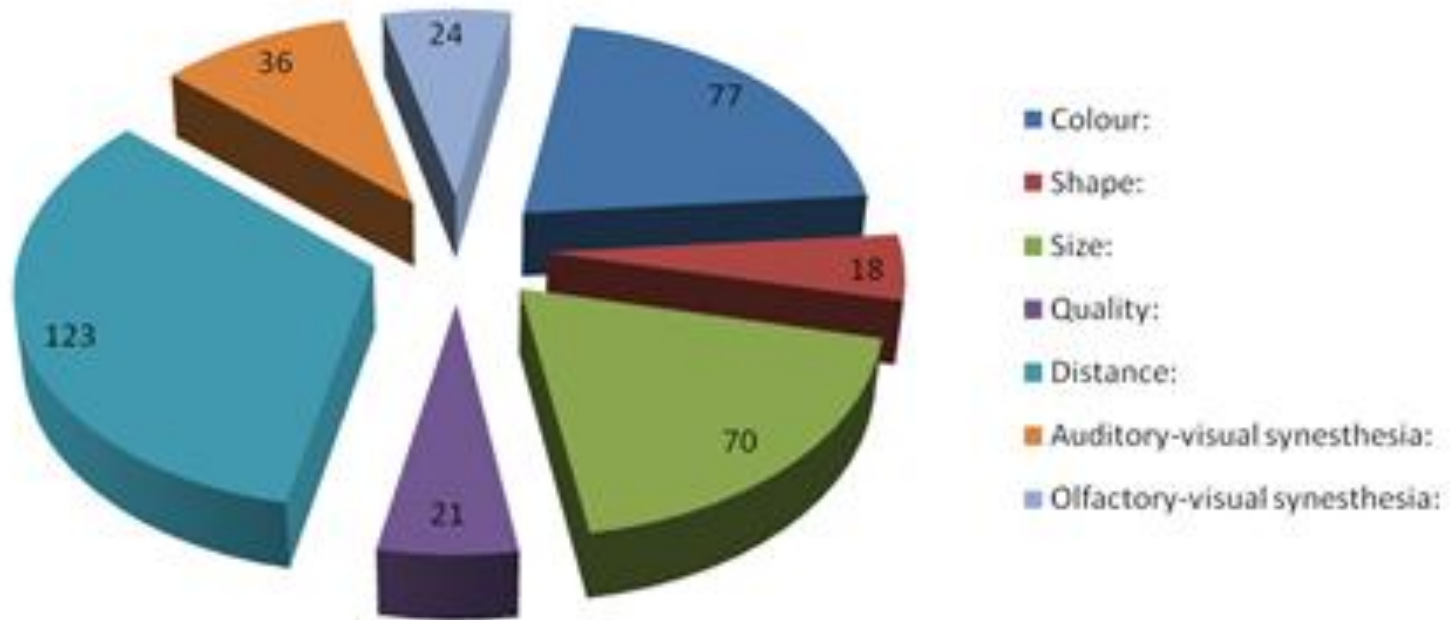


Diagram 2: Numeric representation of lexical units expressing verbalization of blinded person's perception.



**Thank you for your  
attention!**