To add on to the reading’s small chapter on the Geon theory of object recognition, a study by Biederman, Ju, and Clapper done in 1985 was done to test how well complex objects can be detected even with some of the geometric icons missing or incomplete. In Doctor Steve Abel’s article “Biederman’s recognition by components theory”, an example is provided of 2-dimensional drawings easily defined drawings of a wine goblet and a pair of scissors. Following that are a pair of drawings that are missing a few straight lines, and finally shown are a pair of drawings in which the lines that showed the curves, or contour, of the items were omitted. The 1995 tests, during which subjects were shown the pictures for brief flashes of between 50 and 100 milliseconds, ended up showing that object recognition was still 90% effective when only a few of the straight lines were missing, but when the contour lines were removed, the subjects found the items much harder to identify. This confirmed Biederman’s hypothesis that contour is important for object recognition.

<https://www.doctorabel.us/cognitive-psychology/biedermans-recognitionbycomponents-theory.html>

I fond very interesting the notion of colors carrying with them different meanings depending on the viewers’ culture. Matinee.co.uk appear to specialize in work like subtitles, translation, and other types of localization, and their article “The diversity of colour meanings in other cultures” shed some light on how certain colours are viewed and interpreted across the world. Some examples that I found mist interesting included the tendency for the color yellow to be symbolize weakness and betrayal, while being the color of envy in Germany. These countries are extremely close to each other, and it’s amazing that they mean different thing. I personally have never seen yellow as a negative thing, associating it with the sun, caution (I stop at every yellow light, sorry), and sharpie highlighters, but I understand that for a very long time, yellow was an insult here in the United States, and possibly elsewhere.

Red is a divisive color that has a wide-ranging meaning to many different cultures. In Africa, it can be seen to signify death and aggression. In Russia, it has close ties to communism. For me, it’s the color of Target, The Bucs (GO BUCS!), Manchester United, and STOP/DANGER.

The most eye-catching part of the article for me, however, was that Korea is one of the several countries that attach to the color white the connotations of death and mourning. Here in The States and other western countries, we see white as pure, beautiful, and elegant, while we wear black for mourning. This is evidenced by every civilian funeral scene in a western movie you’ve seen. Years ago, however, it wouldn’t be out of place to for people to go “into mourning”, publicly wearing black for long periods of time.

Give the article a read if this is interesting. It’s a short read, and there’s loads of cool info about other colors, and ever some issues that companies had while trying to market themselves and their products to other countries.

https://matinee.co.uk/blog/colours-different-cultures/#:~:text=The%20diversity%20of%20colour%20meanings%20in%20other%20cultures,6%20Orange%20for%20bravery%20and%20safety%20advice%20