

Week 3 Assignment

In Lecture 6.2, we analyzed a biologically contradictory phenomenon — contrastive valence — in depth and proposed a few plausible explanations for this seemingly counterintuitive puzzle. What do you think about it? What's your perspective on this ubiquitous mechanism among humankind of drawing pleasure from surprise? In your opinion, what's the most likely reason for this phenomenon to occur?

Please answer the above questions, drawing evidence from the lectures and readings of this week, and also combining your own experience and unique understanding of the materials. Please detail **one or two** instances, either from the readings or your own experience, to help illustrate your opinions in a more convincing manner.

Be sure to illustrate your examples with vivid descriptions and extensive details to fully address how it's situated in the explanations of contrastive valence. Please avoid listing a series of examples without in-depth discussions of how they assist in answering the questions in the above prompt.

Instructions

1. Respond to the prompt (*5 points*)

Please fully address all aspects of the prompt with sufficient details and adequate illustrations, **250-300 words** required.

Please make coherent statements with well-organized language to the best of your ability. The use of AI generative tools is forbidden.

2. Reply to **two** other classmates' posts (*2 points; each reply for 1 point*)

Take a look at the other replies in this thread and respond to any of your classmates with your thoughts. Responses should be substantial and contribute to the conversation and your classmates' understanding of the material. Examples include:

- Clarifying or extending their ideas
- Adding more detail and explanation
- Pointing out connections to other course material
- Pointing out connections to real-world events
- Asking follow-up questions, answering a question posed, etc.

- Expressing appreciation to someone's contribution and connecting it to personal experiences

Be sure to follow the Online Communication Guidelines. Keep all replies civil and remember the person behind the screen.