

# Optical Illusions

Are your eyes really seeing what the image is, or are you seeing something else?

Have a look at the following pages and see what you can see.

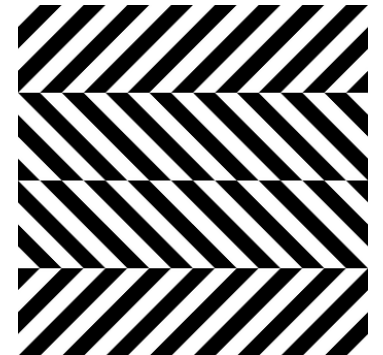
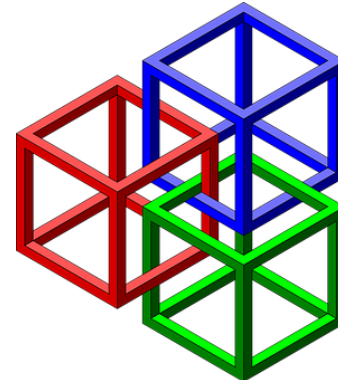
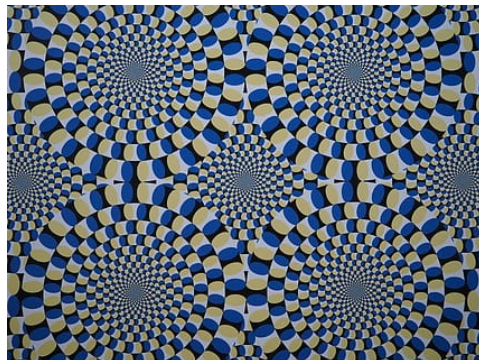
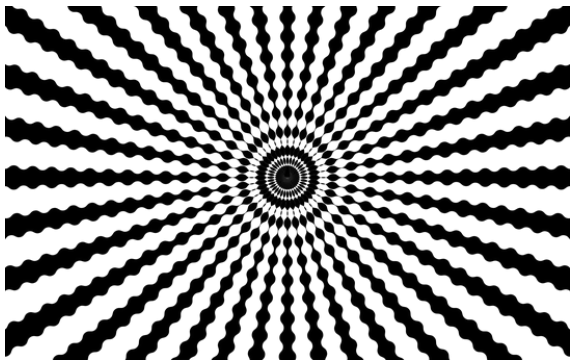


## How does it work?

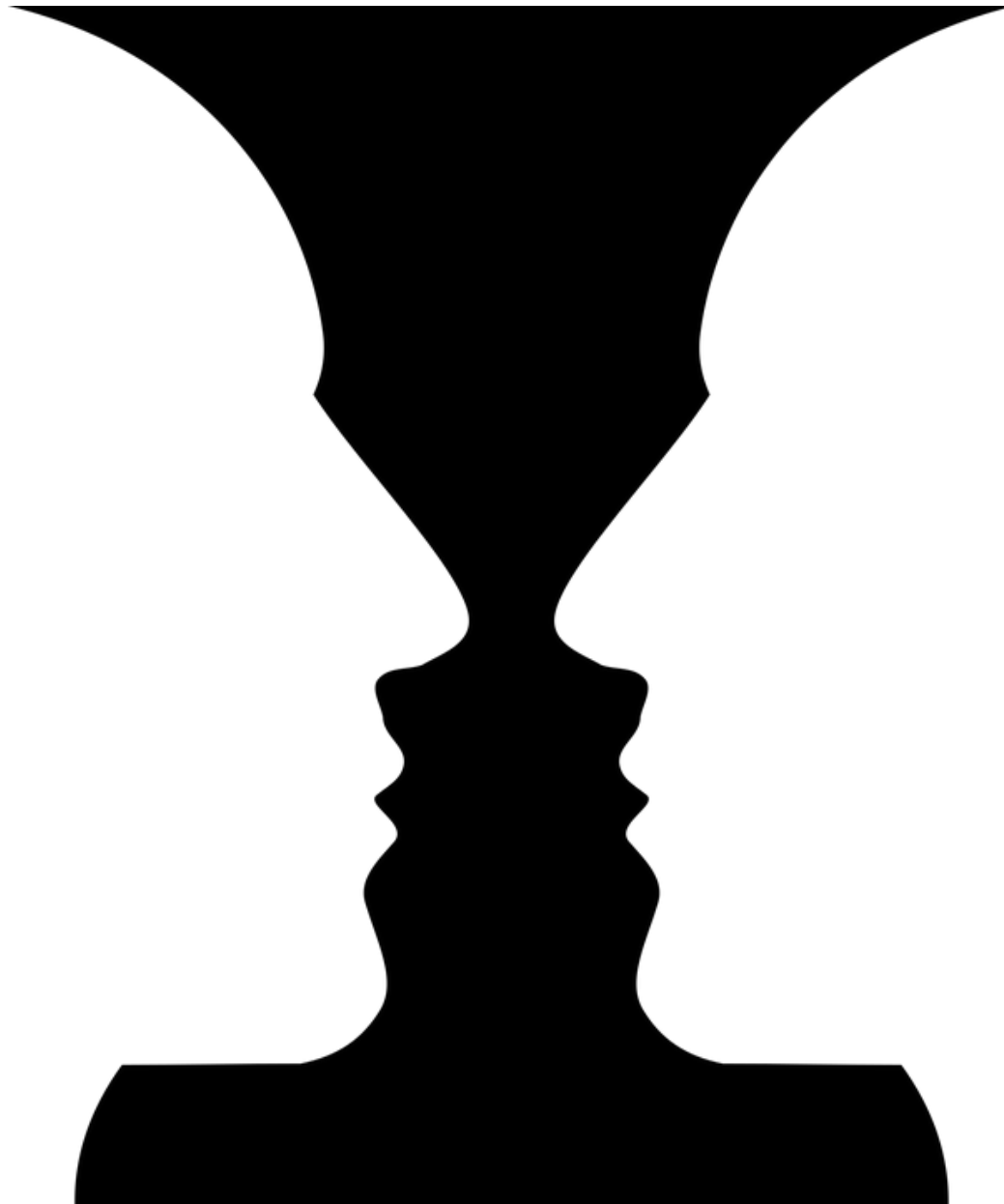
**Optical Illusions** are images that can deceive or trick our brains through the use of colour, light and patterns. The image is observed by the eye and then that information is processed by the brain. During this process, sometimes the images we see and comprehend, are not what is really there at all!

You might like to research “Magic Eye” online and see optical illusions in colour.

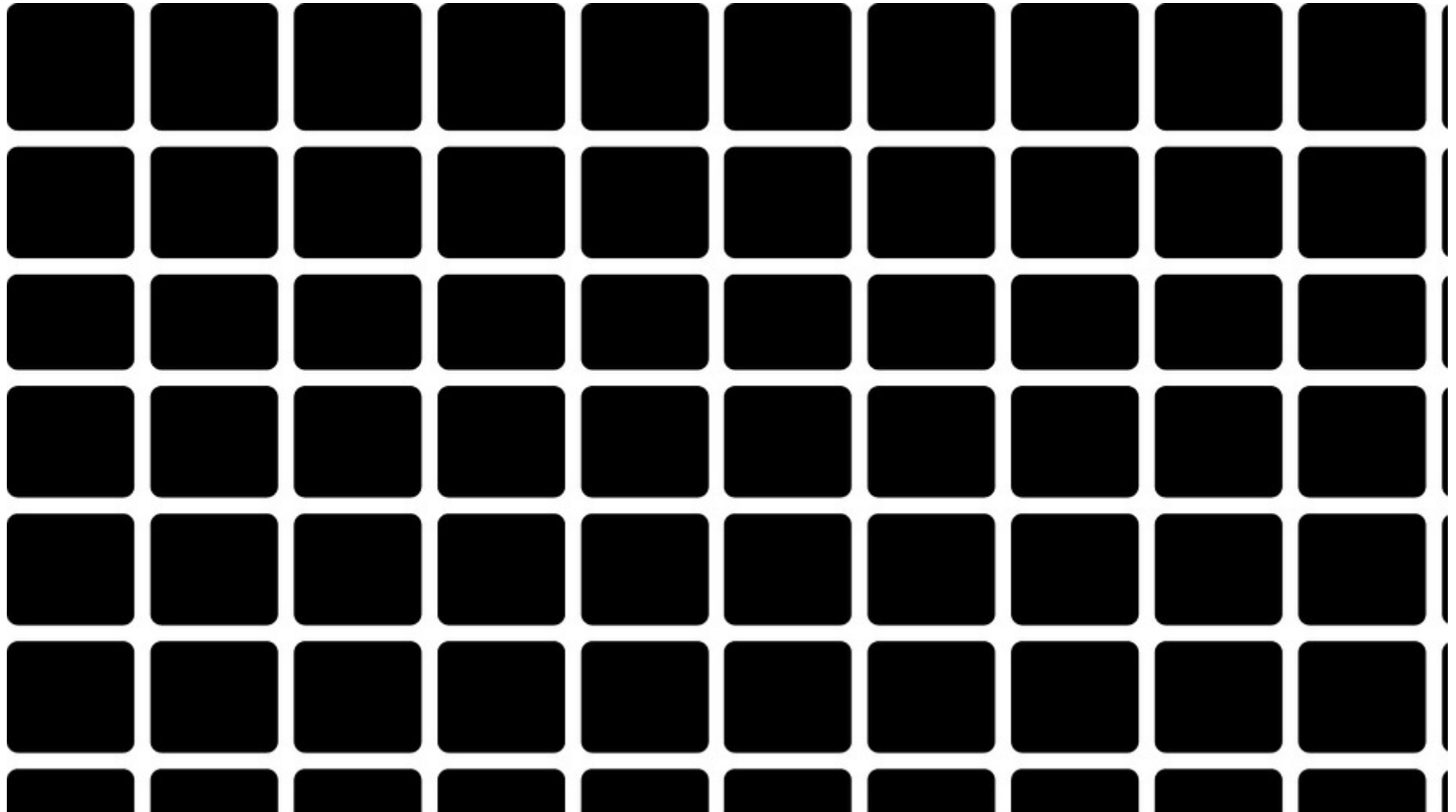
You might like to research “Optical Illusion Drawing” online and create your own mind-boggling drawings.



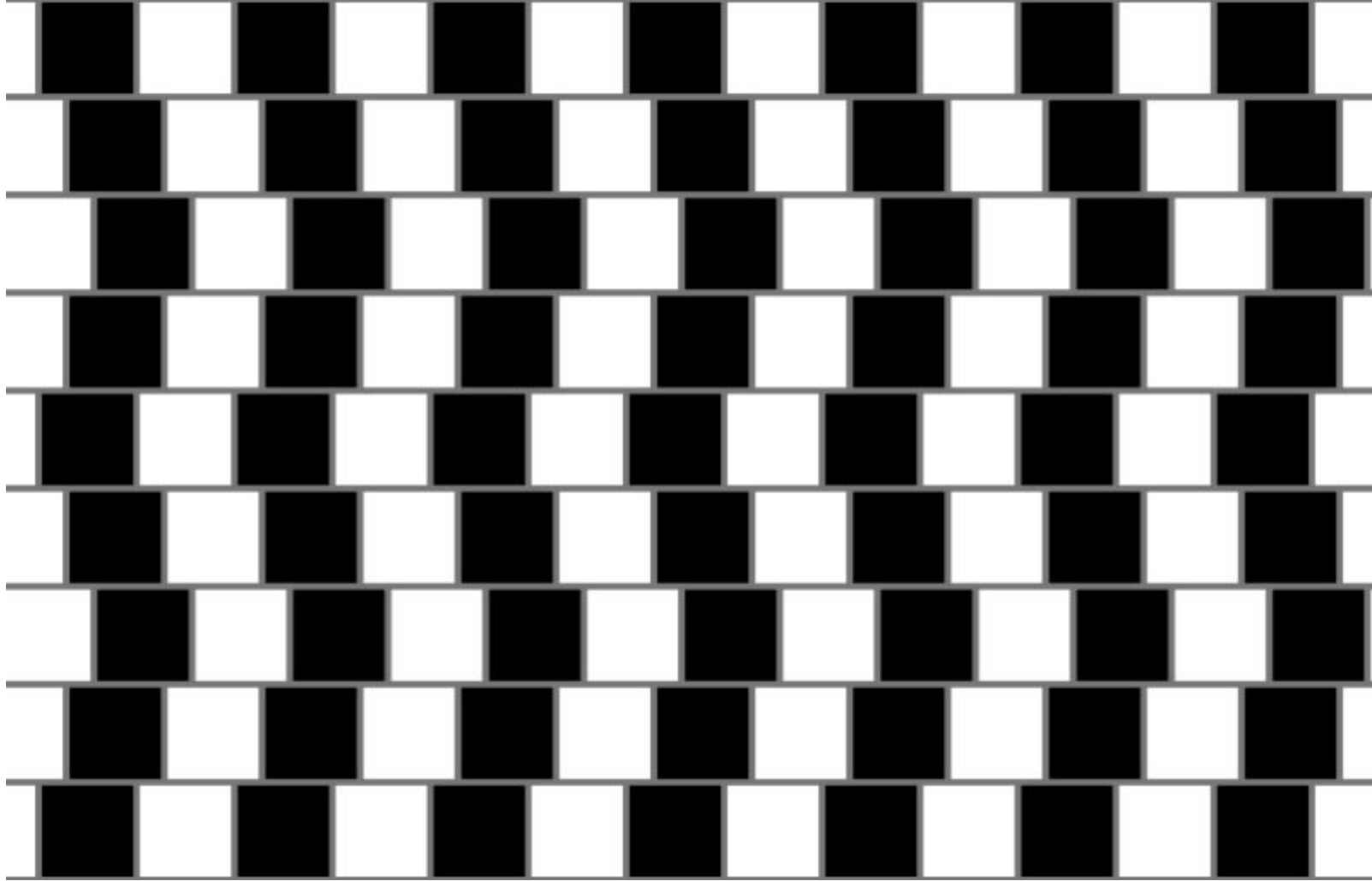
Can you see a black candlestick or can you see two faces?



Count all the black dots you can see. Are they black or are they white? To find out how this works, research the “Hermann Grid Illusion” online.

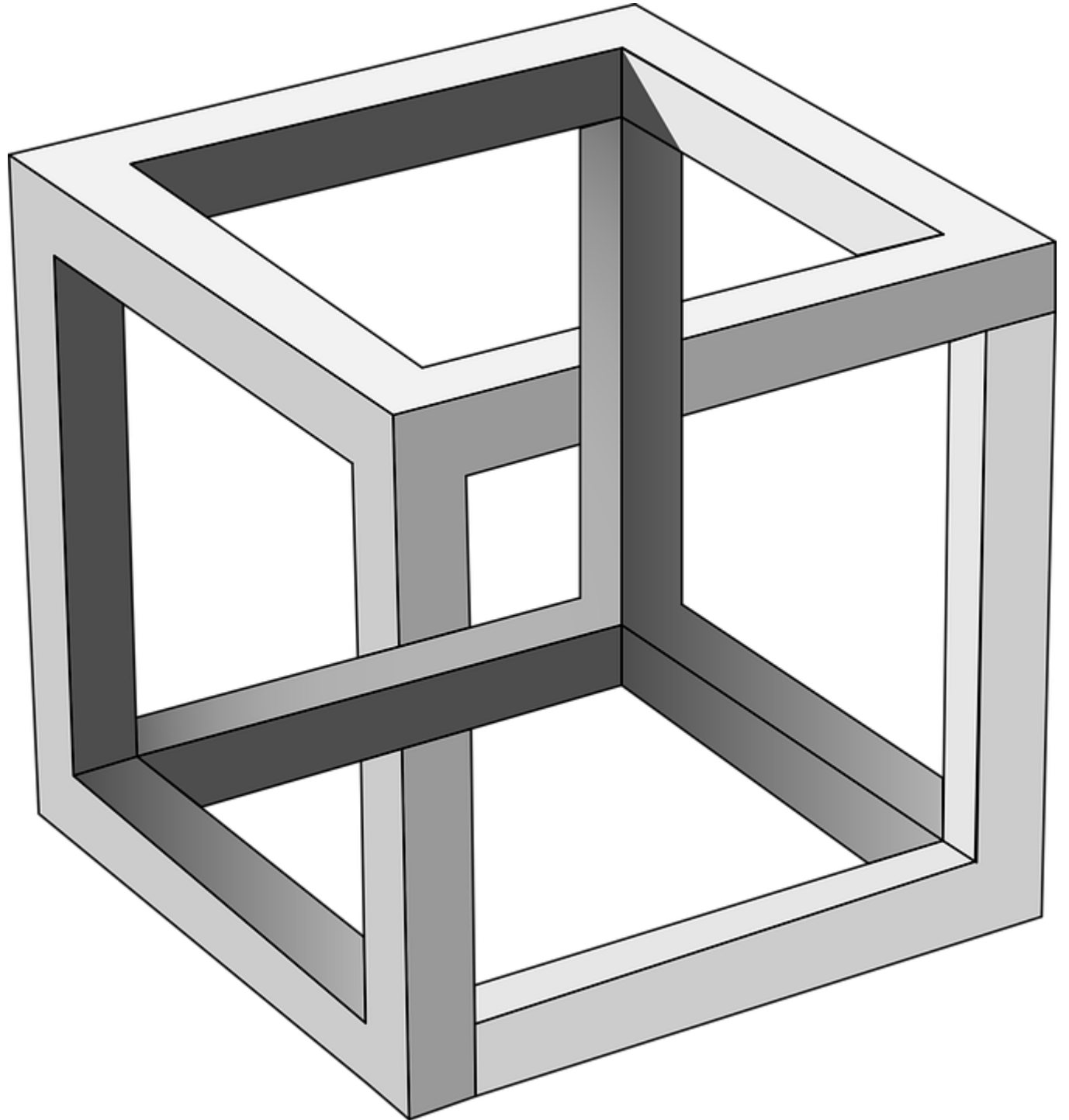


Are the horizontal lines sloping or straight?



As we try to make sense of all the lines, our eyes are drawn to looking at the larger blocks of black and white. Because these blocks are not aligned, it looks as if the thin lines between are sloping or wonky. They are in fact straight, horizontal and evenly spaced.

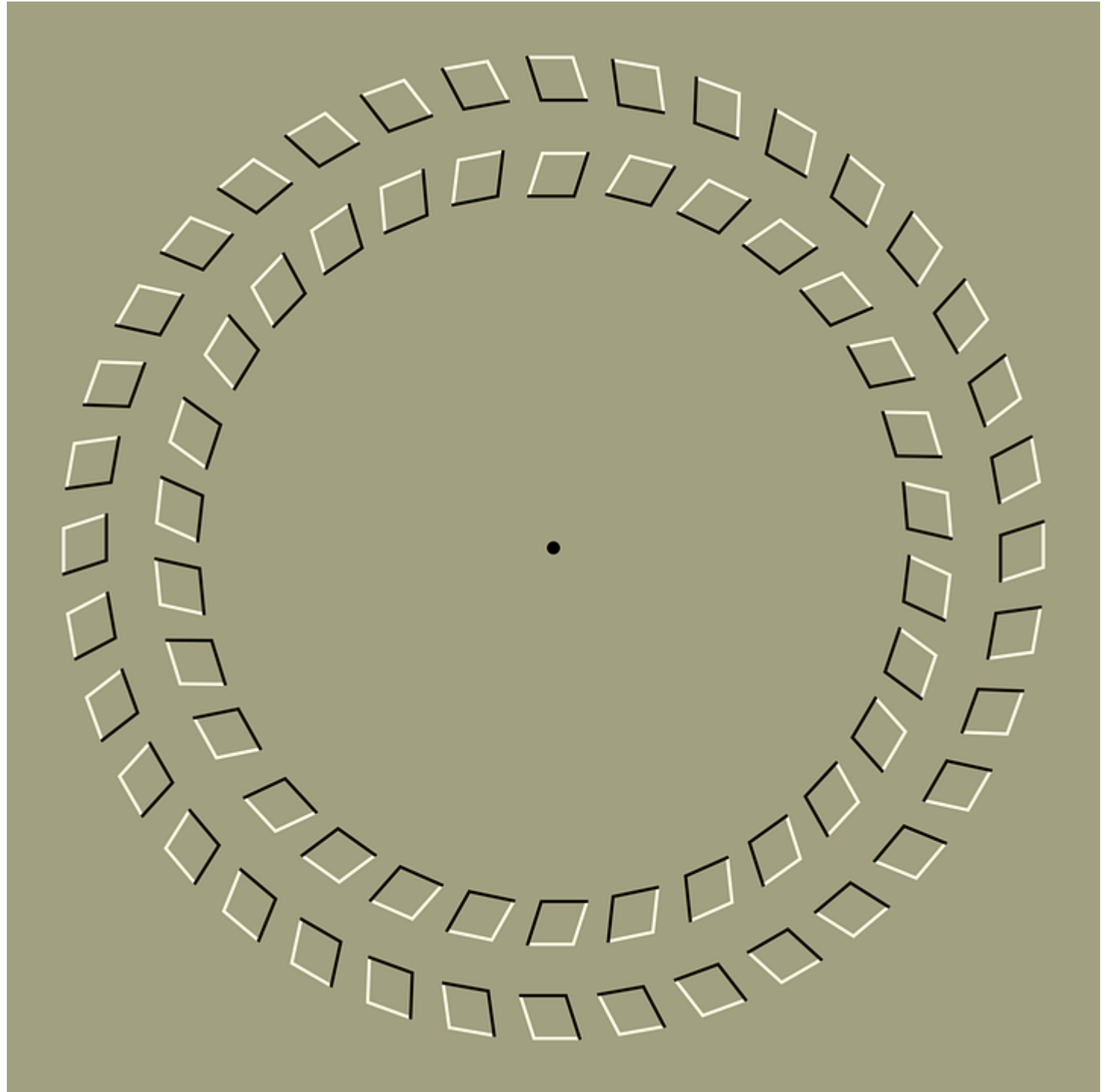
Can you make sense  
of the Escher cube?



Stare at the dot in the middle of the page.  
Move your head backwards and forwards all the time keeping your eye on the dot.

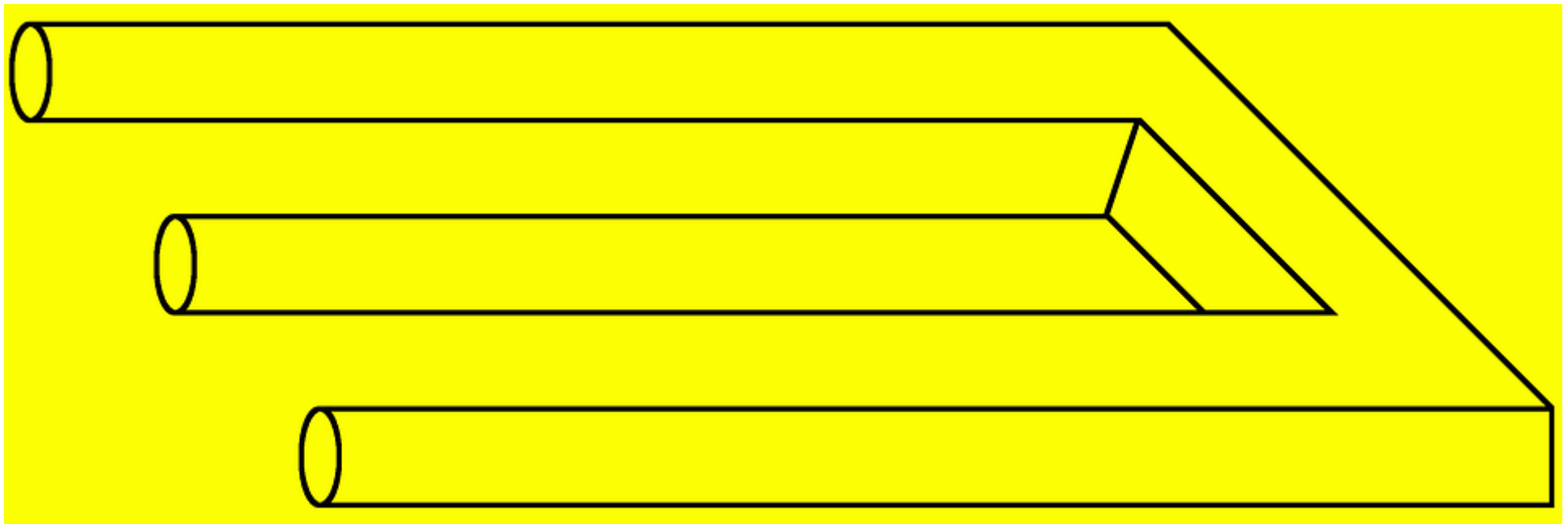
What is going on here?  
Are the circles moving?

To find out more,  
research  
“Pinna-Brelstaff illusion”  
online.

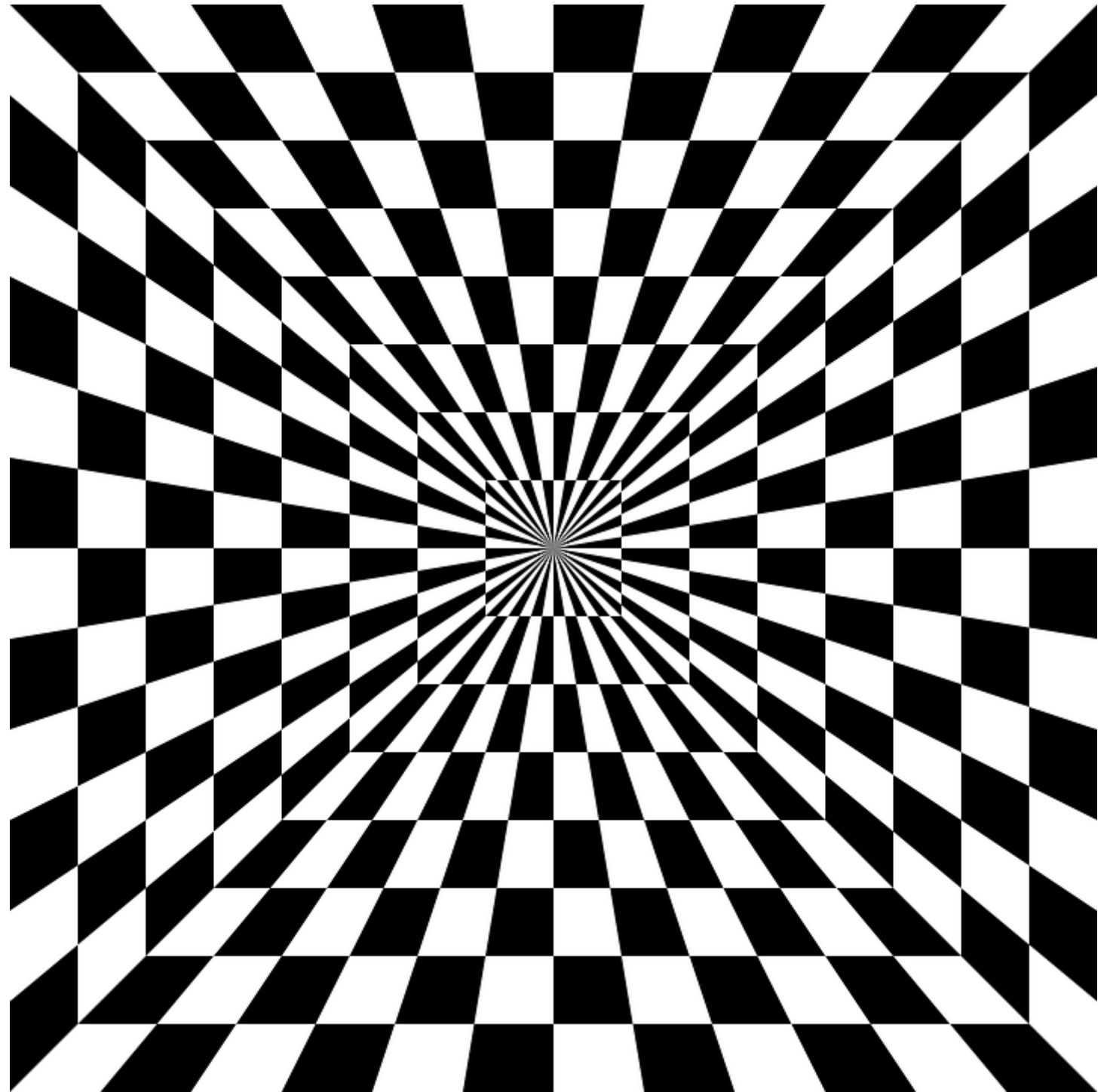


Stare at the Impossible Trident. Can you see two prongs or three?

Research “How to draw the Impossible Trident” and see if you can draw this impossible object yourself.



Is this a flat drawing  
or a square room?





Is this a flat image or are  
some squares further  
forward than others?

