

MIRROR REALITY-the performer begins by conversing a little about how mirrors reflect images. You show a few words openly and then reveal how they appear flipped when looking at the mirror image of the word.

Performer mentions that viewing certain colors, even for a few moments, can affect visual acuity. He pulls out a five inch red circle and has the volunteer stare at it for a few seconds.

Performer displays some words printed in red colored fonts. When viewing the mirror image, the words are NOT flipped, they appear normal ?. You can put the black words side by side the red words and move the mirror left to right.

Phase two of this experiment-performer displays some additional words which have been printed with mirror fonts. When viewed openly, these words may be difficult to read but when looking at the mirror reflection, the words appear normal ?.

The performer states how the mirror flips the imagine of the word, making it easy to read and when their attention is redirected to the actual word, it now is NORMAL and the mirror image is flipped ?.

SETUP- print out the list of words below (black and red), cut them out, laminate if you wish. **Phase two**-print out the mirror font words and paste them back to back with the normal words. Print out the red circle and you will also need a small mirror, I use a mirrored phone cover.

SECRET- phase one utilizes the fact that certain CAPITAL letters (B,C,D,E,H,I,K,O,X) appear the same when oriented upside down. We can exploit this little quirk by displaying words that contain those special features in a mirror.

A mirror “flips” images when viewing the reflection, but when we use words containing those special letters, they appear normal in a mirror.

The red circle is used for a little misdirection in phase one, you can mention something about how rods and cones within the eye are affected by certain color exposure.

PHASE TWO- you introduce words that have been pre-flipped and see if they can read what the word is. Next, you would show the word next to the mirror to reveal how the word appears correctly oriented. Have them stare at the red circle for a few seconds.

You then move the word back from the mirror, while their focus is still on the image and discreetly turn over the word so that the normal word now appears between your fingers. Pause for a moment and then slowly move the word towards the mirror again.

Mention that the image is now mixed and the actual word is now normal, they somehow traded places. **Justification for the mixed words-the worlds first auto-correct (before computers)**

Note: you will have to practice your angles so that the back of the mirrored words are not flashed, when showing the reflections. Experiment with holding the words vertical and horizontal, notice how the orientation changes in the mirror.



I have included two blue colored words: SWIMS is a ambigram and RACECAR is a palindrome. Also included is a little license plate comprised of the special letters/numbers.

COOKIE

CHOICE

CARBON

DIOXIDE

ICEBOX

DECODE

SMOKE

DOOBIE

JOGGING

KICKBOX

CAUGHT

HOOKED

PEPSI

COKE

SHANIA

DIXIE CHIC

SWIMS

RACECAR

GAMBΓEB

GAMBLER

EBIDGE

FRIDGE

MYSTEBY

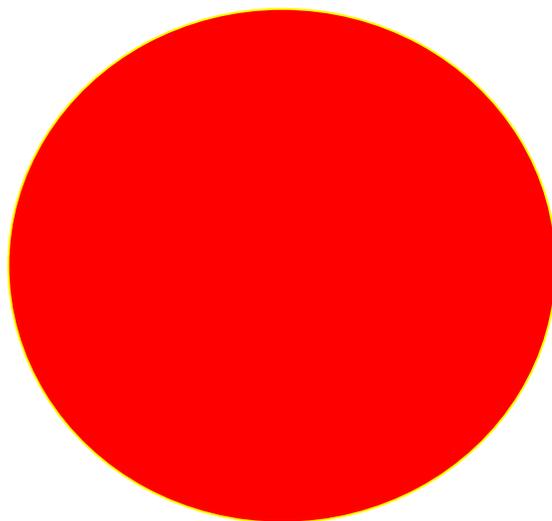
MYSTERY

OATMEAT

OATMEAL

YTIΛUQ

QUALITY



E18-DH0