A, B, C, D or E?

BY WILL DRURY
Hank is cleaning out his gun for a hunting trip next weekend with his friends. He's loading in the bullets into his revolver. Usually, he fills all six slots with a bullet, but as he's putting the sixth one in, he gets this weird, horrible feeling in his gut, and for some strange reason, doesn't put it in. He finishes cleaning it, and puts it in a drawer.

Later that week, when him and his buddies are gathered, getting ready for their hunting trip, one of Hank's friends loses his mind. He starts going nuts, getting furious over some small argument. In his frustration, he pulls open a drawer and pulls out Hank's gun, which he had put in there earlier that week. He points the gun at one of Hank's other friends. As he's about to pull the trigger, Hank jumps in front of his friend. As he pulls it, the gun fires. After the initial shock of being shot at, Hank realizes he's alive. With a sudden realization, he remembers that when he cleaned his gun, he left the sixth canister open, the same one the gun was loaded on, and the same one his friend shot. Then, he remembers the strange feeling he felt when loading the sixth slot, and how he somehow knew he shouldn't put it in. Was it just an amazing coincidence? Or was it an uncanny sixth sense that made him do what he did?
Introduction

The sixth sense is a mystery that has eluded the minds of many. It has saved lives, caused miracles, and prevented horrible accidents from happening. Whether you want it to happen or not, at some point in your life you will, or have experienced the sixth sense. You may have had it on a math test when you can’t figure out a tough question, when your child is in danger and it alerts you, or if, like Hank, it prevents some awful fate from happening. How it happens is still a mystery, but now we know a little bit about it. In this book I will share with you what the sixth sense is, what I know about why it happens, and answer a few nagging questions, like, what is it, how does it happen, what types of the sixth sense are there, and when does it occur.

In this book, I will share with you three stories about three fictional characters who have experienced the sixth sense. Each person experienced a different type of the sixth sense. The three types they experienced were, what I call, your gut feeling, foretelling the future, and your minds eye.

A seventh grade student named Jim who was stuck on a tricky question on a math test, when all of a sudden he has a sudden urge to choose a certain answer. His mom, Helen, is cooking in the kitchen, when suddenly, she realizes that her baby is in grave danger. Lastly, Jim’s dad, and Helen’s husband, Hank, the man who’s story I shared with you earlier. Also, At the end of the book, I will share some fun facts I found out about optical illusions while doing my research.
Jim is sitting in math class as his teacher passes out a test on quadratics. He studied all last night, but he still can’t shake the feeling that he isn’t ready for this test. His teacher slides a test onto his desk, and tells him to start. He signs his name, date, and hour, and begins.

He cruises through the first couple questions with ease, but as he goes along, the questions get harder. Finally he arrives at one of the last questions, and he hits a road block. He has no idea how to solve it, and has no idea how to answer it. His only hope is to guess. Lucky for him, he has a one in six chance of getting it right. He sits three for a while as he ponders the options. He manages to get rid of two options, but he still can’t decide on an answer. He sits there as the time ticks, when all of a sudden, his teacher announces that he only has two minutes left.

He panics, and tries to come up with a answer. At the last second, he gets a strange sensation, and decides to go with D. He has no idea why, but for some reason, he felt it was right.

The next week, Jim gets his test back from his teacher. He looks over his answers and sees that he got an A. He flips through, not believing he did it, and finds the question. It was marked as correct, and next to his answer his teacher put a little smiley face. He’s stunned on how this happened, or is this was just a coincidence.

But what happened to Jim wasn’t a coincidence. It was his gut feeling driving him toward the right answer, and it wasn’t chance.

In a study conducted in 2012, Prof. Marius Usher or Tel Aviv University’s School of Psychological Sciences, and other researchers conducted a study on intuition, or your gut feeling, and the results showed that participants were able to chose the right answer on a test up to 90% of the time based completely on intuition.
The study showed participants two numbers of each side of the screen in quick succession. Each pair of numbers was a group, and the subjects had to find which set of numbers had the highest average. But the participants didn’t have any time to memorize the numbers, or find the average because they flashed the numbers at super speeds, two per second. They had to guess purely on intuition, and their gut.

When the participants tried to determine an answer, they did worse than when they didn’t. For example, when the subjects were showed six sets of numbers, they chose the right answer 65% of the time, but when showed 24 sets, they chose right 90% of the time.

This happened because your brain is able to take in enormous amounts of information and come up with an overall average in a split second. Although you don't realize it, or control it, your brain is always making decisions, weighing pros and cons, adding numbers, etc.

That’s probably why Jim got the correct answer on his test. While he was trying figure out the answer, silently, his brain was doing the same, and eventually came up with a correct answer.

Although your brain can do amazing things, sometimes it can be tricked. When it looks a set of numbers, sometimes it may jump to the conclusion that higher numbers mean a higher average.

Try to answer the question without thinking. Answer within three seconds.

Which has the higher average, 45, and 55, or 70, and 30?

- A. 45 and 55
- B. 70 and 30
- C. same average
Helen is in the kitchen cooking dinner for the night while her son is out playing in the pool. As she's making dinner, she gets a strange feeling. She blows it off, and continues cooking dinner. Again, later she gets another strange feeling. She has no idea what it is, and she starts to worry as she yet again goes back to cooking. Finally, she gives up and rushes outside for no good reason. She doesn’t know why she’s doing it, but when she gets outside, she knows what it is.

As she arrives at the pool, her seven year old child is on the ground, grabbing onto his leg and screaming in pain. He had slipped and fell on the way to the pool, and his leg was bleeding badly, and stuck in an awkward position. She rushes over and pulls him up, looks at his leg, and see’s him if he’s alright. As she does this, she wonders how she knew that her son was in danger, and what would have happened if she hadn’t felt what she felt.

Yet again, what Helen experienced wasn’t just a coincidence or luck. Subconsciously, Helen was noticing slight details in her surroundings that weren't there, but usually were. She didn’t notice it, but her brain was picking up on missing things, like the absence of splashing from the pool, or the smell of chlorine. So while she was cooking, it was silently reading these messages. It almost waited for a while, making sure that it wasn’t just a one time thing, or that it misread the signs, but once it realized that it knew that something was wrong, it alerted her, and thats when she suddenly knew what had happened.
As for Hank’s sixth sense experience, we have no idea what happened. I, along with many others, have some different theories and thoughts on what happened.

One of the things that might have happened is nothing. It may have been a complete coincidence, an amazing stroke of luck. It may not have been the sixth sense, but just a weird turn of events. We may think that it’s the sixth sense because it’s just so amazing, and the chances are so slim, that it seems like that’s the only option, but it’s not. The amount of times that it doesn’t happen outweigh the times it does happen. But I chose not to believe that theory.

The theory I’ve come up with is this; we’re all like a blind person who can’t see, or comprehend sight. Even though they’re blind, we know that there is such thing as sight. We know it exists, but they just can’t comprehend it. We’re like the blind people when it comes to situations like this. We know that it’s out there, and we know that it’s real, and happens, but we just physically can’t comprehend or understand what, why, or how it happens, and we may never know, because we’re physically incapable.

Whether we understand it or not, I strongly believe that there is a sixth sense out there. It will continue saving lives, and causing merciless, but we will never know how.
Conclusion, and optical illusions.

While doing research, I came across an interesting fact about optical illusions. When you look at an optical illusion, you see only what you want to see. Your eyes aren't the only thing telling you what you're seeing. Your brain is too. A study was conducted that placed participants in a room, and an ordinary room, but they had a machine on their head that showed them images of a pit, and the smell, and taste of a pit. Even though they knew that they were safely in a room, some of the participants jumped back from the pit without even noticing. One person asked one of the subjects why they jumped, and they didn't even remember doing it. It was all an illusion. As I like to say, your eyes tell your brain what to see, but your brain tells your eyes what to show.

You may see on the top right hand of the screen a picture. **Before you answer the picture, think right now; what do you like more, bunnies or ducks?** You'll probably see what you like more.

In truth, we may never know what or how the sixth sense works, but we do know that it exists. It's an amazing thing that can do things like save lives, and make amazing things happen, but we will never know how to control, or understand it. Just know that it's not always bad to go with your gut feeling. Just know that it's probably right.

So next time you're stuck on a math test, and you can't figure out the answer, you know how to find it;


