



3.10 Look very quickly indeed at the first image and you are quite likely to be able to tell that there are five dots. Look at the second and you have real problems telling that there are nine dots, although of course you can count them slowly one by one. In the third image you know immediately that there are nine dots, since you can rely on your perception of three and use a simple calculation of $3 \times 3 = 9$. This demonstrates that beyond about seven our ability to recognize numbers rapidly diminishes