

The Zeta understanding of qualia

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Summary. *The “felt quality” of sensations such as taste or colour (qualia) is beyond the reach of our science to explore. It is a very personal subjective phenomenon and appears to be a property of consciousness itself. The Zeta beings speaking through a medium were asked to explain what it means to experience qualia. In their view, a standardized process normalizes the trace of a sensation created in consciousness to produce a “felt quality” common to beings at all levels of consciousness.*

A difficult issue for human science is the subject of qualia – the experienced qualities of sensations like colour, taste, smell, and pain. The “felt quality” of these sensations has physical correlates, but is not at all described by them. The [Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy](#) remarks that, “*From the standpoint of introspection, the existence of qualia seems indisputable. It has, however, proved remarkably difficult to accommodate qualia within a physicalist account of the mind. Many philosophers have argued that qualia cannot be identified with or reduced to anything physical, and that any attempted explanation of the world in solely physicalist terms would leave qualia out.*”

The view of reality expressed by the Zetas holds that consciousness is fundamental, and that the intention of a being is the stimulus that drives creation. In this interview, a Zeta was asked about qualia and how it is that we experience the sensations we do.

Interviewer: There is an issue that psychologists and philosophers have tried to deal with for a long time now. When one perceives something like a colour, the colour that is perceived is correlated with the frequency of the electromagnetic radiation that hits the eye. However, they have never been able to explain where this particular experience of the colour comes from. Why do I see the colour red, for example? Is there some mechanism deep within my consciousness that somehow gives me the experience of red?

Zeta: *If you were taught that red was blue all your life, you would name it blue.*

Interviewer: Yes, but again that is just a word that correlates with an experience. What I want to know is, where does redness come from when I perceive that particular colour of red.

Zeta: *I don't have a proper understanding of your nuanced physiology, but it would be based on your genetic structure so that each of you is able to perceive certain frequencies, or what word would you use?*

Interviewer: The same question applies to taste. We taste something because of a kind of lock and key mechanism in the particular ...

Zeta: *... to get a reaction.*

Interviewer: Yes, but why do we taste something sweet or taste something sour, where do these sensations come from? I'm not looking for correlations with physical variables. What I'd like to understand is where these sensations arise.

Zeta: *That is not something that I can answer.*

Interviewer: No? Ok.

Zeta: *Have you not your medical doctors able to ...*

Interviewer: Some of it, but like I said, human science doesn't understand this.

Zeta: *And you do not understand yourself.*

Interviewer: Yes, that may well be, and that's why I'm looking for an answer.

Zeta: *But we do not dissect you.*

Interviewer: No, but the experience of the colour red is just in consciousness somehow.

Zeta: *Yes, of course, what if you asked a spirit person, what colour is their clothes. They may answer you and tell you that they are red.*

Interviewer: Right, why does their consciousness experience the colour red? Sure, they can tell me what it is, but I would like to know why they experience it. It must have something to do with the nature of consciousness.

Zeta: *An interesting question, my friend, something I have not pondered before. But it will be a perception from my point of consciousness that there is a standardized process within consciousness for a trace that allows you to have a perception of what is bound to your physical reality. So the hologram (that you state) is correlated by in making this a bridge allows you to all experience the same thing. If I was to eat, which I do not, something which was, as you say, sweet, I'm sure that my consciousness would perceive it differently than your consciousness. It may taste bland.*

Interviewer: Yes, these sensations are very personal, so you are right, what you experience may not be the same as what I experience ... to the same stimulus.

Zeta: *Has not your science worked on this?*

Interviewer: Philosophers mostly have tried to deal with this question. Again, scientists correlate the sensation with physical parameters, but they don't understand where the actual experience comes from. It's left to philosophers to talk about.

Zeta: *And so when you die and you no longer exist in your physical body, would you know what red is?*

Interviewer: I think I would because people who have returned from death have talked about experiencing colours.

Zeta: *Does John Collins [the medium's spirit control] know that his boots are black?*

Interviewer: That's a good point, because he doesn't experience the same physical stimulus that we do. So he has created the colour. He starts with the sensation and ends with the perception.

Zeta: *It is consciousness at work then. There must be some structure well defined in the universe that gives understanding to what is within the structure.*

Interviewer: That's probably as far as we can go to an understanding, would you say that was true? There is some mechanism within a structure...

Initially, the Zeta thought the interviewer's questions were concerned with the physical correlate of a sensation. But when the perception of colour by a spirit person was addressed, the discussion began to focus properly on the "felt quality" of a sensation. He said, "*It will be a perception from my point of consciousness that there is a standardized process within consciousness for a trace that allows you to have a perception of what is bound to your physical reality. So the hologram (that you state) is correlated by in making this a bridge allows you to all experience the same thing.*" Further, "*It is consciousness at work then. There must be some structure well defined in the universe that gives understanding to what is within the structure.*"

The Zeta's statement is very meaningful in the context of what we have already learned from them about the creative process. The chapter on "Creation and consciousness" in the book entitled "[A primer of the Zeta race](#)" is particularly relevant. He said there is "*a trace that allows you to have a perception of what is bound to your physical reality*". We have already learned that the trace is a holographic-like representation in a medium of consciousness called the grid. This trace is formed during the process of creation initiated by the intent of a particular thought in a being's consciousness. The properties of this trace reflect the content of the thought, sometimes but not always precipitated by a physical stimulus.

According to the Zeta, the created trace is interpreted by a standardized process in consciousness which produces a common experience of the “felt quality” of the trace. The process is standardized in that the same “felt quality” is aroused from traces created by beings operating at different levels of consciousness. This standardized process ensures that the experience of a particular sensation is independent of the level of consciousness of the being. As he said, the standardized process “*allows you to all experience the same thing.*”

In our physical realm, a particular physical stimulus generates a neural representation that corresponds to the stimulus. The neural representation places a thought in consciousness and a trace is created in the grid. This means that perception in the physical realm arises from a creative process in the energetic realm. Each time a physical stimulus like a colour is perceived, a new trace is created.

For a being in the energetic realm, the process is slightly different since no physical stimuli exist. The trace for a particular sensation is created by the being's consciousness. But an already existing trace may be decoded and experienced any number of times by beings operating at a level of consciousness the same as or higher than that used to create it.

For entities in both the physical and energetic realms, the trace is normalized by the standardized process so that different levels of consciousness may experience the correct “felt quality” of the trace. Nevertheless, it is possible for the “felt quality” to differ from the norm. Colour vision, for example, can be totally absent due to a genetic anomaly (Nordby, 1996), and is called “*hereditary achromatopsia totalis*”. The neural correlates for colour are absent in a person with such an affliction, and the associated trace in consciousness would not be what the standardized process needs to generate the experience of colour.

On the other hand, there are reports of very enhanced colour perception from people who have approached death and returned to tell us about it. An example is the experience described by neurosurgeon, Eban Alexander, while he was in a coma. As described in his book entitled “[Proof of Heaven](#)”, he emerged into another world that was “*brilliant, vibrant, ecstatic, stunning.*” The colour of people's clothes “*had the same kind of living warmth as the trees and the flowers*”. The colours of a girl's outfit had an “*overwhelming super-vivid aliveness*”. He found himself riding on the wing of a butterfly, “*alive with indescribable and vivid colours*”. In this energetic realm, he was able to perceive truly unusual colours.

The traces representing the colours seen by Alexander must have contained information not normally generated from our neural processes. He tells of a girl he encountered who looked at him with a love that was “*beyond all the different types of love we have down here on earth. It was something higher, holding all those other kinds of love within itself while at the same time being more genuine and pure than all of them.*” This tells us that the environment was created by beings with a very loving nature. Beings with that level of consciousness appear able to create and perceive traces of colour that are not generated from the electromagnetic spectrum in the physical realm. For Alexander to be able to experience the environment, he would have resonated with this loving being to share her higher level of consciousness.

To summarize, a sensation created by a being at a particular level of consciousness is normalized by a standardized process to produce a “felt quality” common to beings at all levels of consciousness.