

Imbar – blind from birth, can see difference between light and shadow and colors under high contrast

Tali – blind from aged 3, no vision at all.

Imbar, 9 hours training:

Q: Has your experience changed since you first started to use the device/since the last time you completed this questionnaire?

“It has become clearer. Details have become easier to determine, finer details. The more you use it the more you can perceive.”

“I never thought about it [a letter] visually before, it was just concept, now I can visualize it.”

“I’m more aware of the fact that shapes can be colored in or just outlined. I never thought about the thickness of outlines before.”

Tali, 11.5 hours training:

Q: Do you feel that using the device has changed your perception of space (e.g., can you sense areas that are farther away than usual)?

“Not at the moment. It gives me a different viewpoint. It helps me experience what it's like to sense your surroundings in 180 degrees as a sighted person rather than 360 degrees as an auditory person.”

Q: Has your experience changed since you first started to use the device/since the last time you completed this questionnaire?

“I am more aware of the things I am not aware of. I think I have a better understanding of what, of the visual impact sighted people live with. I am a little more aware of the quantity of messages they receive every second and the details they gather with their eyes, the richness of it. It has not impacted my way of relating through senses or looking for different alternatives of viewpoints.”

Q: Can you provide any analogies to describe your experience?

“The most ironic and pun intending is 'eye-opening’”

“It gives me the closest experience I can have to sight at the moment.

It's very exciting, it's very fascinating and new and unexpected. I still feel like someone who is learning a foreign language. It's like decoding a cryptic language.”

Q: How would you describe your feelings when using the device? Are there different feelings for different tasks?

“I’m curious, I’m eager to learn. I’m fascinated. Sometimes I’m a little intimidated by it, especially when there are many many details at once. Most of the time it feels like an adventure.”

Imbar, 21.5 hours of training:

Q: Has your idea of distance changed since you started using the device/since you last completed this questionnaire?

“The new concept was the concept of the size of the object that it changes visually. I know now that an object doesn’t look the same for sighted people.”

Q: Has your experience changed since you first started to use the device/since the last time you completed this questionnaire?

“The way I think about visual descriptions has become more detailed, there is more depth to it. I can perceive or imagine, depending on the situation, visual descriptions or concepts more easily.”

Q: How would you describe your feelings when using the device? Are there different feelings for different tasks?

“Yes, mostly there are quite positive, interest, enthusiasm, curiosity. Sometimes there’s frustration and annoyance.”

Tali, 22.5 hours training:

“It’s like learning a new language”

“I feel that it can be almost like to decode something.”

“Sometimes Imbar and I listen to a song or something and we say ‘oh that sounded like white’”

Q: How would you describe your feelings when using the device? Are there different feelings for different tasks?

“Not really, I mostly feel like a kid learning new things, discovering new things. I’m curious I’m excited, I can be a bit apprehensive sometimes. Its a fun experience, an adventure.”

AMEDI LAB

FOR MULTISENSORY RESEARCH

25-11-14, Imbar	"I have a picture in my mind, a physical picture" <i>(When asked how she perceives the location of the objects in the games)</i>
26-11-14, Tali	"it's [EyeMusic] so different from everything I know"
04-12-14, Imbar	"I'm having all kinds of visual moments" "I'm more in tune with visual concepts"
16-12-14, Imbar	"It's [EyeMusic] already changed things in my life, so I believe it will in others"
	"I had a driving dream, I was driving blind but I had more awareness of visual things, the roads, the lanes, they were clearer now. I heard cars, it was at night which was funny, I even saw the fuel indicator light. I've had driving dreams before but not usually this detailed."
	"It lets my brain work in different ways"
17-12-14, Imbar	"I have the feeling that I'm actually seeing this thing, it's a weird feeling, it's very new."
	"Its so wonderful, I can relate to things"
	"It's already helping me know or picture that there are more elements in a picture or visual scene than I was aware of"
	"Now there is a difference between one high forehead and another."