

An illusion is a sensation caused by an external stimulus, but modified so as to lead to an erroneous perception, *e.g.*, the noise of guns may be mistaken for thunder, a post may be mistaken for a person, the shaking of a building from passing traffic may be mistaken for an earthquake.

A hallucination is the perception of objects which have no reality, or of sensations which have no external cause, *e.g.*, thunder may be heard when there is no sound, a person may be seen when there is no external object, earthquakes may be felt when there is no shaking.

By appealing to reason the subjects of illusions or hallucinations, can always be persuaded of the fallacy of their perceptions. If they cannot then, the illusions and hallucinations become delusions, or false beliefs.