

THE MYSTERY OF MIRRORS

Mirrors, those (1) surfaces which produce an image of objects placed in front of them, are a (2) image in Western art. Painters seem to have been fascinated by the (3) between the virtual reality which spontaneously appears in a mirror and the one which they artificially create by painting on plaster, paper or canvas. In both cases, the (4) sees something which is not where it seems to be. But in contrast to a painted image, which presupposes that the painted surface can be seen, what we see in a mirror requires that the reflective surface is (5) When mirrors are represented in paintings, the situation becomes complicated in a particularly (6)..... way: the virtual reality of the picture includes a second virtual reality in the form of a painted (7)

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| 1 MAGIC | 5 VISIBLE |
| 2 RECUR | 6 INTRIGUE |
| 3 RETAIL | 7 REFLECT |
| 4 OBSERVE | |

WHY DO ZEBRAS HAVE STRIPES?

Zebras are certainly very attractive to us and they (1) find each other very appealing too, but it is believed their stripes evolved because they help the zebra foil its predators. Zebras have what is termed 'disruptive coloration'. The stripes break up the smooth contours of the animal's body and result in the (2) of the zebra's true shape. When the zebra moves, the pattern may be even more (3) , so a (4) lion may not be sure if this is dinner after all! The ancestors of the zebra were monochrome dark-coloured animals. Through the (5) birth of some foals with lighter coloured stripes the process of (6) was set in motion. Since stripes were a (7) colouring, they were an advantage. Striped animals had a better chance of (8) and went on to have more striped foals.

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| 1 DOUBT | 5 ACCIDENT |
| 2 CONCEAL | 6 EVOLVE |
| 3 CONFUSE | 7 PROTECT |
| 4 THREAT | 8 SURVIVE |