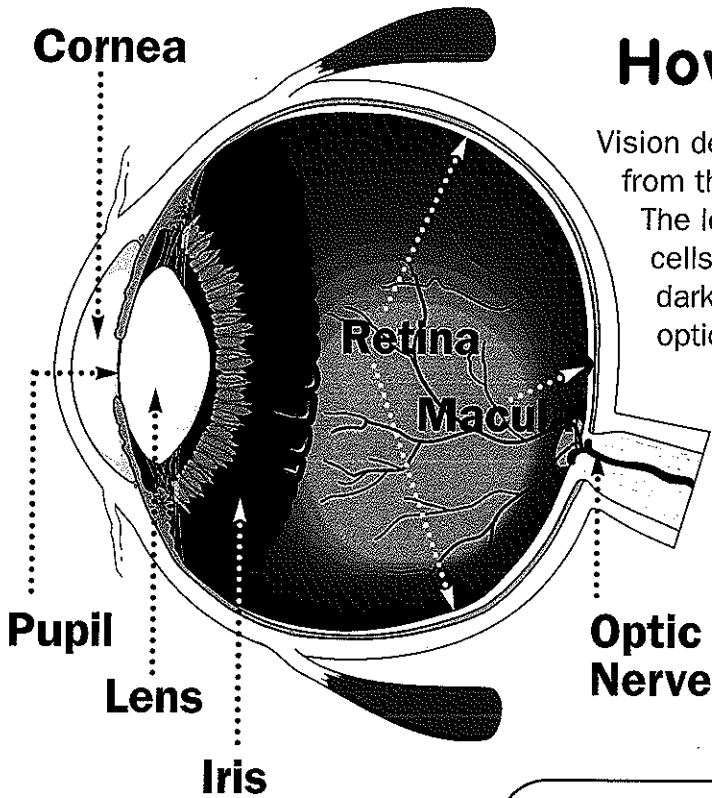


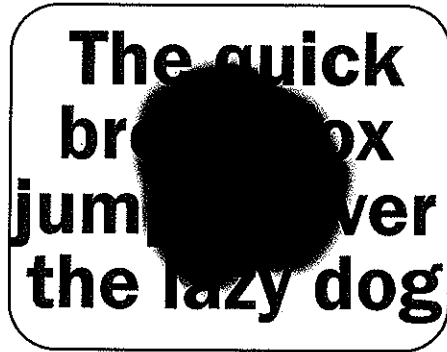
How we see

Vision depends on light. A healthy eye receives light, reflected from the surface of objects, through the transparent cornea. The lens then precisely focuses it on a layer of light-sensitive cells called the retina. The image — a pattern of light and dark — is converted into electrical impulses sent along the optic nerve to the brain, where “seeing” actually takes place.



Visual impairment and blindness is usually the result of disease, injury to the eye, or an inherited or congenital condition.

Blindness isn't always total blackness. More often it's peripheral, tunnel or blurred/spotted vision.



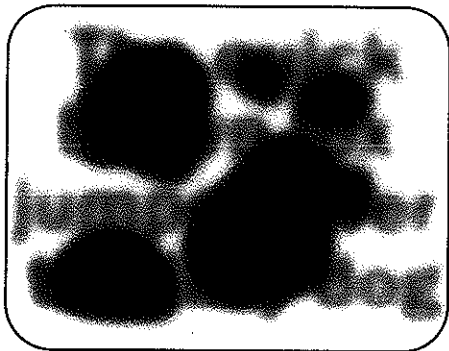
Peripheral Vision:

Loss of central vision is caused by damage to the macula (a tiny and extremely light-sensitive part of the retina that provides color and fine detail). **Macular degeneration** is one of the leading causes of this type of blindness.



Spotted/Blurred Vision:

Various conditions (**diabetic retinopathy, detached retinas, injuries, retinopathy of prematurity, etc.**) can affect the entire field of vision, producing spotted, blurred or double vision.



Tunnel Vision:

Diseases or injuries affecting the retina will obstruct the peripheral field of vision. **glaucoma** and **retinitis pigmentosa** are two common diseases that can result in tunnel vision.

