

WHAT EVERYONE NEEDS TO KNOW



Join Us: Irlen Awareness Week (October)

While the disorder is more common than autism, heart disease, and asthma, it often goes undiagnosed, or gets misdiagnosed as other disorders such as dyslexia, behavioral or psychiatric problems, and ADHD. Failure to treat Irlen Syndrome leads to academic and workplace failure, ongoing physical and emotional symptoms, and increased likelihood to enter the criminal justice system. The syndrome is easy to identify and treat, and treatment through the use of non-invasive Spectral Filters worn as glasses leads to immediate and dramatic improvements.

Join Us To Raise Awareness: The 3rd Week in October

Web: http://irlen.com/isaw
Facebook: Irlen Awareness Week

Twitter: @seeirlen #isaw





3 Key Takeaways

01

IDENTIFY THE PROBLEM

Be able to identify the signs and symptoms of Irlen Syndrome

02

UNDERSTAND THE IMPACT

Understand how the syndrome manifests itself in different populations and the mind-body-learning connection



FAMILIARITY WITH THE SOLUTION

Learn about the Irlen Method and other modifications and accommodations you can use to help your students

What is a Perceptual Processing Difficulty

- A hindered ability to make sense of information taken in through the eyes
- Different from problems involving sight or sharpness of vision
- Affect how visual information is interpreted, or processed by the brain



Irlen Discovery

- Research based
- US Federal research grant
- Single study research design with 1,500 adults
- Conducted between 1980-1983 by Helen Irlen
- Helen Irlen presented at American Psychological Association Conference (APA) 1983



Main Facts

- Over 10,000 educators trained
- Over 100,000 wear Irlen Spectral Filters
- Millions use Irlen colored overlays
- Recognized as a standard low tech assistive technology for testing
- Recognized by Recordings for the Blind, Voc Rehabs, Dept. of Rehabs, SAT, ACT, LSAT



Global Impact



171 Irlen Centers in 47 countries

A Visual-Perceptual Disorder

Problem with the brain, not the eye





Hereditary

Problem with the brain, not the eye

- Genetic predisposition, runs in families
- Affects males and females equally
- Can also be acquired via injury, illness, medical procedures





A Spectrum Disorder

Falls on a continuum



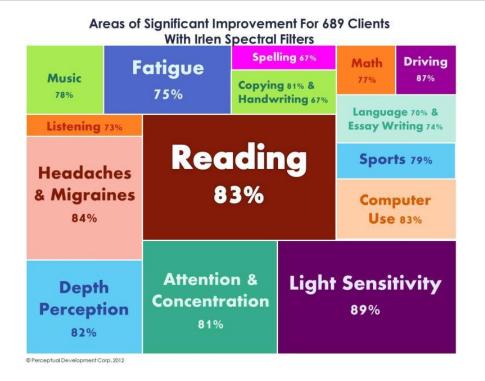


A Variety of Symptoms

- Light Sensitivity
- Inefficient Reading
- Slow Reading Rate
- Attention Deficit
- Strain or Fatigue
- Poor Depth Perception



Areas Impacted



Triggered by Environment

Lighting

Glare

Bright Colors

High Contrast

Patterns and Stripes

Details

Print Size, Style, and Format

Demands For Sustained Attention

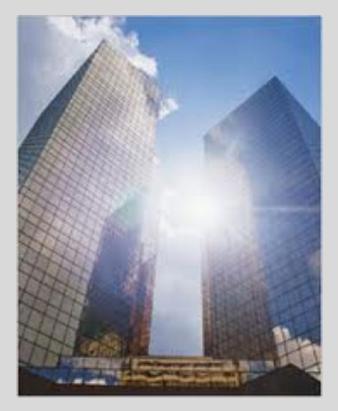
Lighting

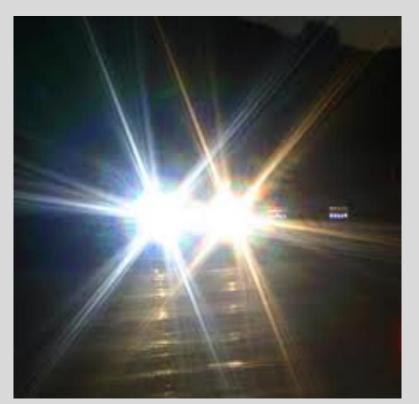
Bright and Flourescent Lighting



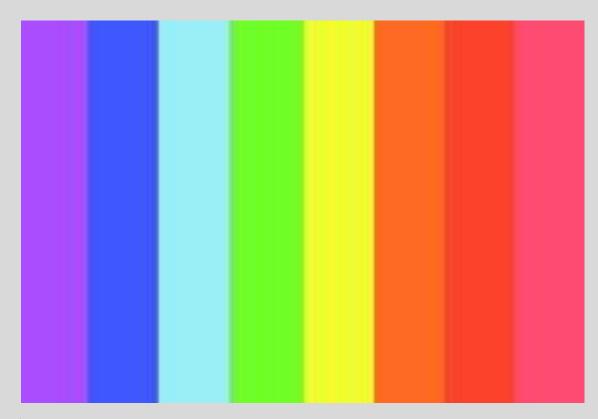


Glare



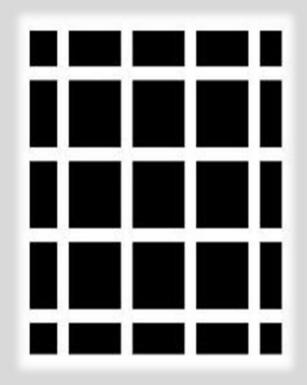


Bright Colors





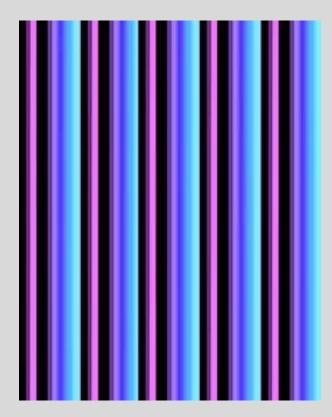
High Contrast

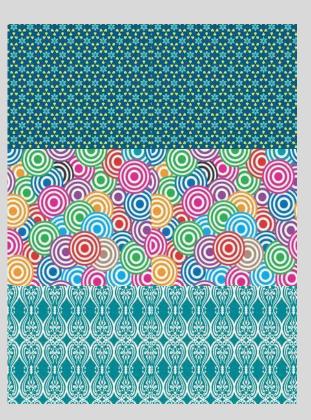






Patterns and Stripes







Details







Amount of Print On Page





Print Size, Style and Format

Font and layout can make a difference

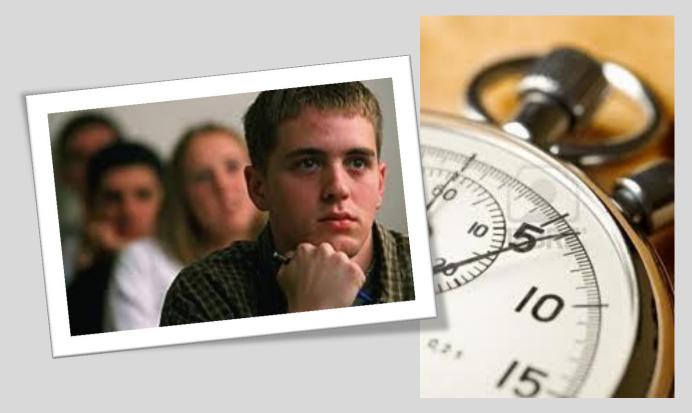
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Sustained Attention and Continued Performance



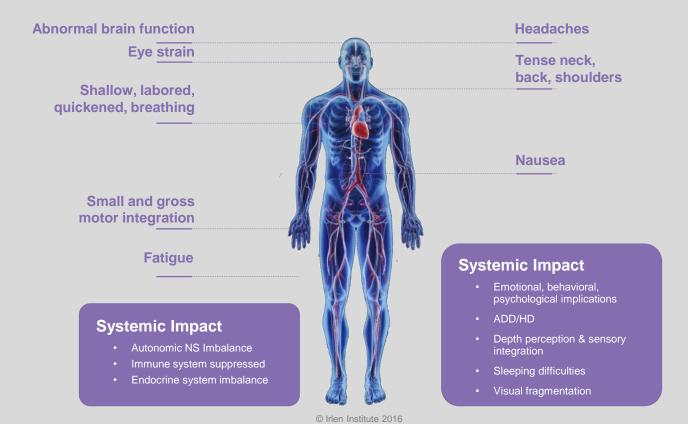
Activities as Stressors

- Looking, Listening
- Reading, Math
- Writing, Copying
- Scantron Answer Sheets
- Computer, TV, Movies
- Other Visually-Intensive Activities





Impacts the Entire Body





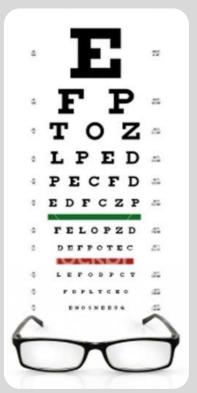


Not Identified By Current Tests

- Educational
- Medical
- Ophthalmological

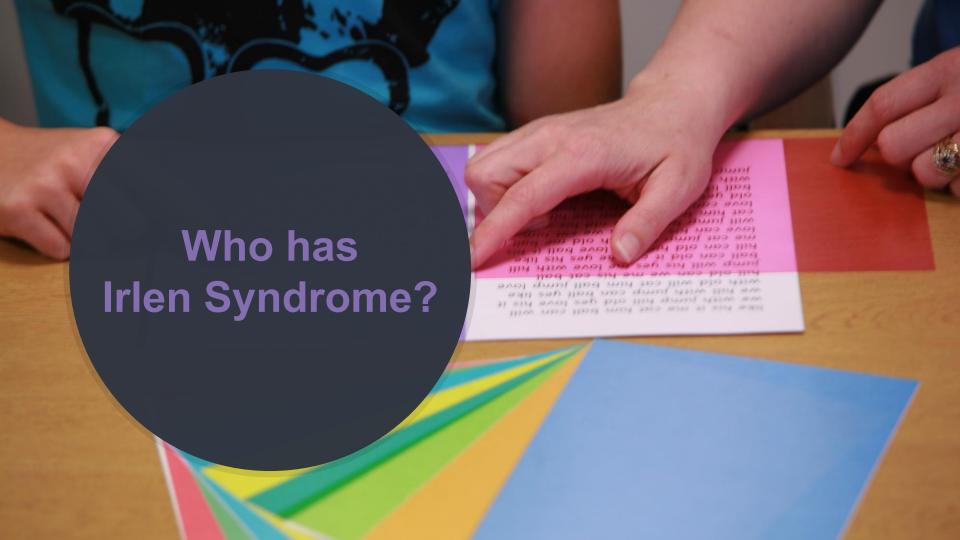






Not a Method of Instruction





Identifying the Population





Learning disabilities, reading problems



Autism



Head injury, concussion, or whip lash



AD/HD, Dyslexia, behavior problems



General population, gifted, good readers

Different Manifestations

Gifted

- Longer to complete work
- Strain, fatigue, headaches
- Avoids reading for pleasure
- Does poorly on timed tests
- Unable to keep up

Average Student

- "Could do better if tried harder"
- ADHD
- Behavior problem
- Grades do not reflect effort
- Strain, fatigue, headaches

Emotional Problems

- Anxiety
- Behavior disorder

Learning Problems

- Inefficient reading
- Strain, fatigue, headaches
- Good verbal skills



Other Populations



Medical

- Headaches/Migraines
- Dizziness, Stomachaches
- AD/HD
- Autism/Asperger
- Light-Induced Epilepsy
- Depression, Anxiety, OCD
- TBI, Concussion, Whip Lash
- Stroke Victims



Visual & **Co-morbidity**

- Diseases/Impairments
- Astigmatism
- Low Vision



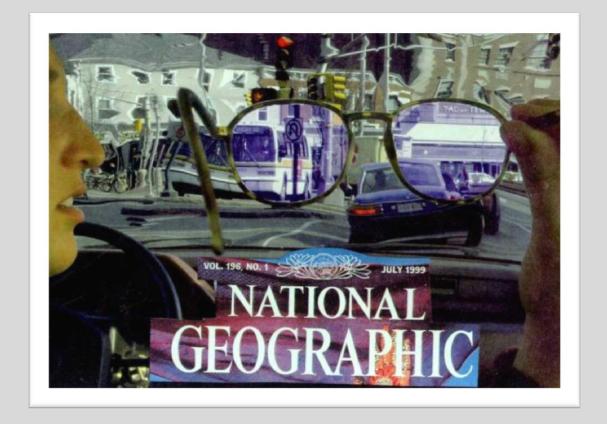
Diseases & **Co-morbidity**

- Auto Immune
- CFS
- Diabetes
- Multiple Sclerosis
- Cerebral Palsy
- Spina Bifida
- Parkinson's Disease
- Fibromyalgia
- Viral Illnesses
- Hydrocephalus
- Myasthenia Gravis





Environmental Distortions



Print Distortions



Rivers

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Washout

CHILLYATTONS:

Inther is a friendly, tellective boy who specked in a rather loud voice. He impressed the committee as a nervous, high strong years than. He was resident, frequently terring his fingers on the table and often out of his cost, yet be continued to work starding by the table. Arther seemed to be raking a good effort on all the took items, but he united rapidly and had difficulty containing his attention for any length of time. Come implies and implicative word rather appeared to resist academic tests, reserting to make printite behavior which included diverting commensation, making convers, and varied falled committee which included diverting commensation. Arther expended contilination commy avoiding a job rather than according the responsibility for one. He was quite amican concerning his performance, and he frequently requested reassurance on to the commany of his responses. It was important to his to do well, and he become increasingly tense and nervous when he was threatened with failure. Arther did not give up that challenged, but he sensitions moded to be encouraged or reminded that tests avoidance between would not be effective in this situation.

CONTRY AID RECONTRAFIONS:

Who current perchantric data suggests that Arthur is functioning in the high swareto very superior range of intelligence. Commiderable coatter une noted on the mittable secres of the WISC. Arthur had the greatest difficulty with these take requiring calcontration and impediate auditory rote among and arithmetic reasoning ability. Fig. strengths were consentrated in the non-verbal skills. He descriptioned a remaining offitude in the analysis and formation of abstract designs and in the averages of course and effect and time seguines; Arthur reached the scaled score coiling in both of theme state. The exeminer feels that the results of the verbal section of the WICC may remained a minimal evaluation of Arthur's potential in these skills. The universess of him trademines seems to reflect, in part, his irregular school attendance and alou accounts wrong ammiety, and some perceptual impaturation. Dercarline deficiencies on the entitiony The constitution was provided by the contract of the contract vers noted, and these ventiments were also indicated by Arthur's performance on the VICE He has difficulty sustaining his attention, and he seems to have a dischility furnitudent the military perceptual codality, the extent of this suditory problem is checurred to to the Corres of armiety present and the Limited exposure to the development of listering cially acquired in the regular elements cotting. Evidence of a coloyed visual-autor perceptual development was also noted and the primary difficulty appeared to be see of poor fine motor control; Arthur has trouble with handwriting and some to min namerical curreive forms, suggesting some confusion and a need for individualized instruction in the

Blurry

BY ANDREW L SOSTEX AND RICHARD L WYATT

A sany parent, grandparent, or A holy-sitter knows, some babies are adaptable, placid, and regular in their babies, while others are difficult and suppredictable. Differences in temperaturent show up from the first day of life: some industs skeep very lattle, arthurs skeep a lot some infants are highly smoother and cranky, arthurs are guist and sometyponovire.

Since meadures have not been expassed in the wash for long, environmental lances beyond the wash's can hardly accused for such differences in temperatures. Rather, the differences must be largely a sessifi of gemotic influences. The three knee been been if any, attempts to relate diffeent limiting and symbol means at high to meadernot, beliancies.

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In the brain, resourchers believe that NWO influences behavior by brashing down the obstrainal mouratransmitters that carry musages between resources. By presenting neurotransmitters from builting up. NWO quiets the brain oaths that would otherwise be activated. Low levels (NWO) the construction of the in-might around.—in the brain.

We have that some of our callleagues and withholds restly found a comment on the weet levels of which smill adult the havior. Dermin Murphy and his amount to that found that many soft roughten is and degreessives had lower-than-normal amounts of MAO in their blood. In a study of normal adults. Monte Buchshaum and his associates uncered an association between low MAO and a variety of distinctive personality traits. including gregariousness, a tendency to drink and experiment with drugs, an active, variety like, and a preference for activities such as motors; per inling.

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Miritanti approximatify the same variation in the range of \$6.00 housis among our 28 infants as among the 680 artists seamment in provious studies. The refeo house were also similar regardless of the type of delibere, more, amoter, liveth weight or medication given the mather during thit were, Premium research has shown that the Housis of 18020 fraint in the Whorld of different people failure, and is a server of the state of the Whorld of different people failure, people is lower firm countyle, ithen-

tical (same-egg) twins have very similar amounts and people in the same family generally have quite similar amounts. Thus, we assume that the MAO levels found in the blood at birth are biologically fixed.

To measure behavioral differences among our sample, we gave the Neonatal Bahavior Assessment Scale (NBAS) to the 22 infants on their secand day of life. The NHAS secures infants' (westlens to a range of sights and sounds and provides an evaluation of their motor functioning and stousal patterns. In one group of items, for example, the examiner rings a bell, shakes a rattle, and shines a flashlight at sleeping newborns to assess their sbillty to screen out stimuli; infants who wake easily or cannot stop responding are either more arousable or have less efficient information-processing skill.

To see how MAO related to the inlants' NBAS scores, we compared the infants who had the most MAO. The most notable difference was in not notable difference was in atomicality. During the 30 minutes of teating, bran-thAO newborns were mack more active and assity attended, they cried more often, looklonger to comoole, and required more bridding and procking to quest down. They also displayed better muscular constitutions.

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Halo

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We see words in groups or phrases.

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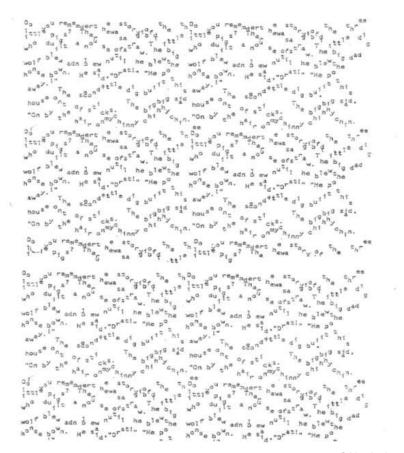
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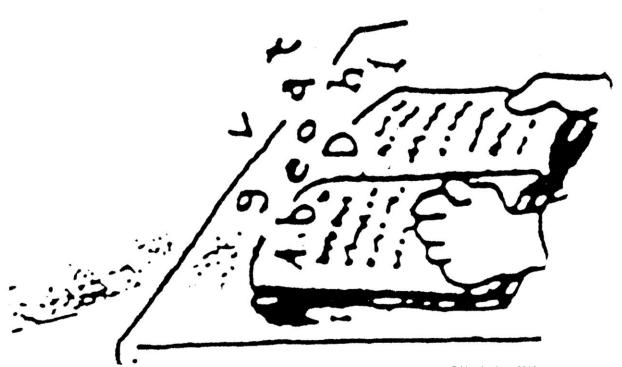


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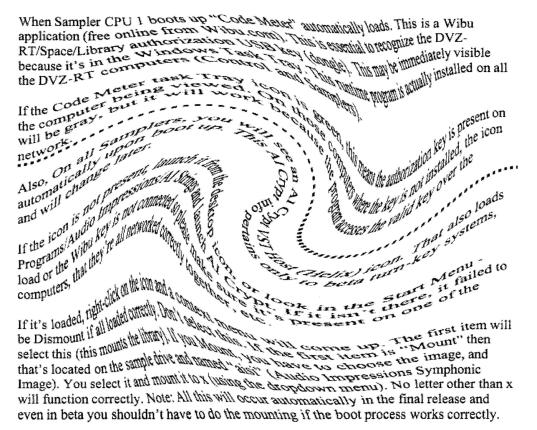
A state of the sta

Floating



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Wavy



Ripple

When Sampler CPU I boots up "Code Meter" automatically loads. This is a Wibu application (free online from Wibu.com). This is essential to recognize the DVZ-RT/Space/Library authorization USB key (dongle). This may be immediately visible because it's in the Windows Task Tray. This runtime program is actually installed on all the DVZ-RT computers (Control and Samplers).

If the Code Meter task Tray icon is green, this means the authorization key is present on the computer being viewed. On those computers where the key is not installed, the icon will be gray, but it will work because the program accesses the valid key over the network.

Also, On all Samplers, you will see an Al Crypt VST Host (Helix) icon. That also loads automatically upon boot up. This Al Crypt info pertains only to beta turn-key systems, and will change later.

If the icon is not present, launch it from the desktop icon, or look in the Start Menu-Programs/Audio Impressions/Al Strings and launch Al Crypt. If it isn't there, it failed to load or the Wibu key is not connected so please make sure it's present on one of the computers, that they're all networked correctly together, etc.

If it's loaded, right-click on the icon and a context menu will come up. The first item will be Dismount if all loaded correctly. Don't select this. If the first item is "Mount" then select this (this mounts the library). If you Mount, you have to choose the image, and that's located on the sample drive and named "aisi" (Audio Impressions Symphonic Image). You select it and mount it to x (using the dropdown menu). No letter other than x will function correctly. Note: All this will occur automatically in the final release and even in beta you shouldn't have to do the mounting if the boot process works correctly.

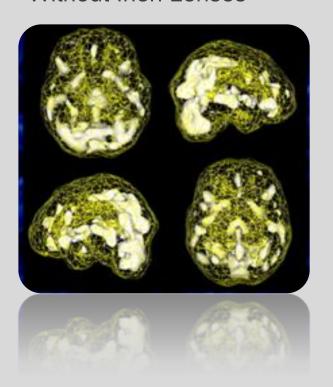


The Irlen Method

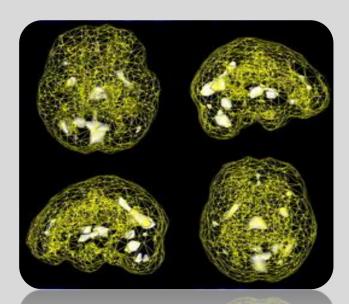


The Result: A Calmer Brain

Without Irlen Lenses



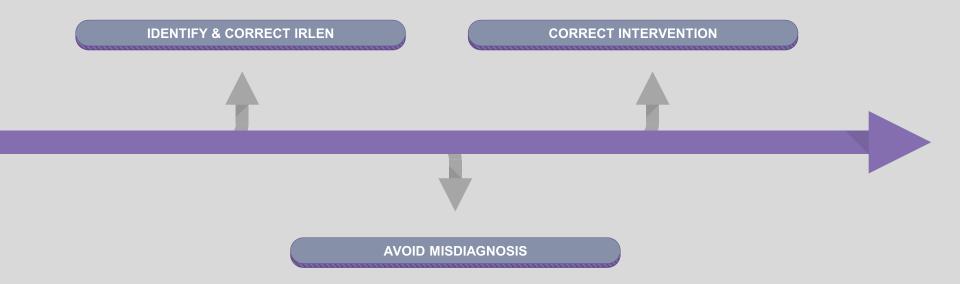
With Irlen Lenses



SPECT Scans Courtesy of Daniel Amen, M.D., Amen Clinic



Identify Irlen First





Irlen Students With Risk Factors

Irlen Reading Strategies Questionnaire

READING DIFFICULTIES

- Skip words or lines
- Lose place
- Repeat lines
- Misread words
- Reading slow or choppy
- Reading deteriorates
- Rereads for comprehension

DISCOMFORT

- Eyes: hurt, ache, burn
- Eyes: dry, sandy, scratchy, itchy, heavy
- Sleepy
- Headache, dizzy, nauseous
- More difficult to read with bright or fluorescent lights



Become an Irlen Screener

Trained to:

- Identify
- Severity
- Language
- Educate
- Counseling
- Determine overlay color(s)



Overlay Tips

- Self selection doesn't work
- Colors can be worse than white
- Colors can be better than white
- One color or colors that make the most difference



Classroom/At Home Modifications

CONTRAST

- No bright or fluorescent colors
- No stripes, plaids, or polka dots
- No large or glittery jewelry or buttons

LIGHTING

- Reduce lighting
- Incandescent or indirect natural lighting
- Gels over fluorescent http://www.rosco.com/us/filters/cinegel.asp
- Visor or brimmed hat

Classroom Modifications

WHITEBOARDS

- Gray or brown
- Colored marker/chalk (red and yellow are hard to see)
- Write in columns

COMPUTER/OVERHEAD PROJECTOR

Use colored overlays

PAPER

- Recycled, off-white, non-glare
- Different colors for different people

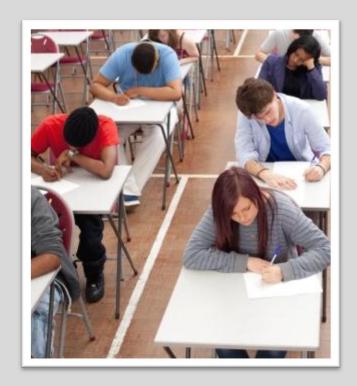
Reading Modifications

- Irlen Spectral Filters
- Colored overlays
- Magnifying bar
- Visor/brimmed hat
- Bookstand
- Markers(above, below, to the side of the line)
- Avoid fluorescent lighting
- Dim lighting
- Incandescent lighting



Testing Modifications

- Tests duplicated on colored paper
- Colored plastic overlays
- Scantron answer sheets
- Use a ruler
- Natural lighting



For More Information

- Email: irleninstitute@irlen.com
- Reading by the Colors by Helen Irlen
- The Irlen Revolution by Helen Irlen
- You Tube Videos:
 - Irlen Syndrome:
 A Teen's Summary
 http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9N5qbMFtKQ4
 - ABC World News with Peter Jennings
 http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=91WOnEepH0A

www.irlen.com www.irlensyndrome.org

