

## LESSON 4 - WHY THINGS ARE SEEN

### A. CONNECT

01104. **Aim.** The aim of the lesson is to introduce visual training and teach why things are seen.

01105. **Timings.** One 40 minute period.

01106. **Method.** A basic instructional outdoor period.

01107. **Stores.**

CEFO	1 set per cadet and instructor
Various items of military equipment	As required
Loud hailer	If required
Signal flag	If required
Demonstrators	As required

01108. **Preparation.**

- a. Reconnoitre the training area and position the equipment in such a way as to *demonstrate* clearly each of the factors ie shape and silhouette. This is best done immediately prior to the lesson so that there is less chance of daylight conditions changing and the demonstration losing effect.
- b. Rehearse the demonstrators.

#### Miscellaneous.

01109. Where possible there should be at least two of each item of equipment, one used at the squad position to explain the factors ie shape and shine, and the other located in the open at a suitable range to demonstrate it.

01110. If using a signal flag to control the demonstrators, rehearse them in the signals and actions before sending them to their demonstration positions.

#### Preliminaries

01111. **Safety Precautions.** Normal.

01112. **Revision.** Nil. Indicate the area to be used for the demonstration.

#### Introduction

01113. *Explain:* Visual training is training to observe, coupled with knowledge of how to conceal. To observe is to see through the enemy's concealment; to conceal is to defeat their observation. Once trained in both, the cadet can locate the enemy without being seen.

## B. DEVELOPMENT

### Why Things Are Seen

01114. *Explain and demonstrate* each in turn: Whether an object is easy or difficult to see depends upon several factors, the chief of which are:

a. **Shape** (see [Fig 1-10](#)). Some things can be recognised instantly by their shape, particularly if they contrast with their surroundings. Three easily distinguished shapes which require disguise for concealment are:

- (1) The clear cut shape of a person's outline.
- (2) The smooth even shape of a mess tin.
- (3) The hard line of a shelter.

b. **Silhouette** (see [Fig 1-10](#)). Any object silhouetted against a contrasting background is clearly visible. Smooth flat backgrounds such as water, a field, or worst of all the sky, should be considered dangerous. An object may also be silhouetted if it is against the background of another colour. For concealment, choose an uneven background such as a hedge, bush, trees or broken ground.

c. **Texture** (see [Fig 1-10](#)). If an object has a texture that contrasts with its surroundings it is clearly visible. The surface of a mess tin and white skin contrast violently with most backgrounds and need to be disguised to assist concealment.



**Fig 1-10 - Why things are seen. Shape, Silhouette and Texture**

d. **Shadow** (see [Fig 1-11](#)). In sunlight, an object casts a shadow which gives away its presence. For concealment, keep in the shade if possible. The shade affords cover and there are no 'tell-tale' shadows. Remember that as the sun moves, so do the shadows.



**Fig 1-11 - Why things are seen. Shadow**

- e. **Spacing** (see [Fig 1-12](#)). Natural objects are never regularly spaced. Regular spacing means man-made objects. For concealment avoid regular spacing.



**Fig 1-12 - Why things are seen. Spacing**

- f. **Movement** (see [Fig 1-13](#)). The eye is attracted to movement; especially sudden movement for concealment, movement has to be slow and cautious.



**Fig 1-13 - Why things are seen. Movement**

0102. *Confirm by practice.*

## C. CONSOLIDATION

### Conclusion

#### 01115. End of Lesson Drill.

- a. Questions from the squad on the lesson.
- b. *Confirm by questions and practice.*
- c. **Normal safety precautions.**
- d. Pack kit.
- e. Summary. To include the following:
  - (1) The importance of knowing why things are seen and what to do to assist in concealment.
  - (2) During this lesson you have been taught why things are seen using the naked eye. Later on in your training you will learn that there are various optical aids which will also assist you in observing.
- f. A forecast of the squad's next lesson in this subject.