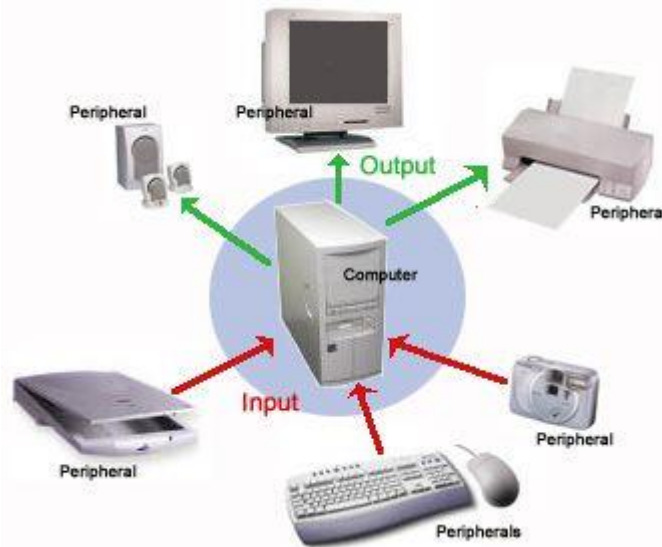


Understanding concepts – Continued

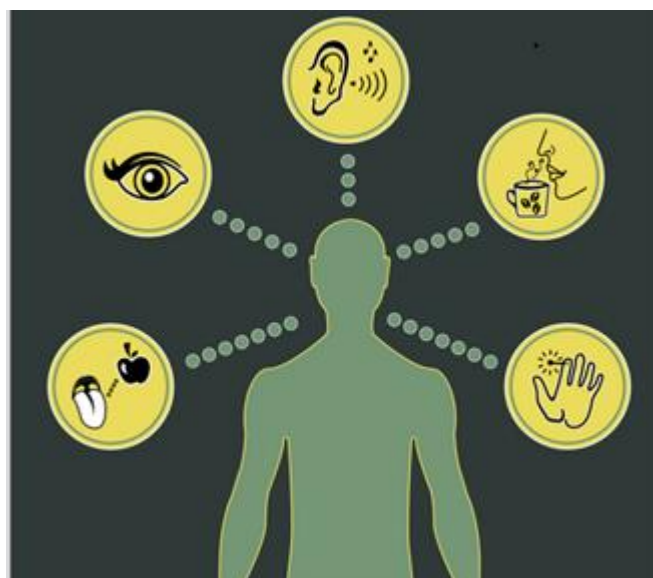
Analogy of a computer to understand Element of Matter (Rupa - රූප)

We all use computers for day to day activities including work, education, entertainment. To get our desired work done via a computer we use several “input” devices such as key board, mouse, touch screen, Scanners etc. Specific signals that sent via those input devices will be processed by the computer and sent to the “output” devices - speakers, LCD display, printer etc for appropriate



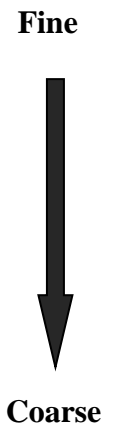
How mind works can be explained from the above analogy. Mind uses five senses - ear, eyes, nose, tongue and body as its “input” devices. Then process it and identify it as a sound, vision, smell, taste or tactile sensation. This awareness is called consciousness (or more specifically resultant consciousness - විපාක සිත්). We may take further actions based on the awareness – e.g look at that object closely, run away in case of a danger. Those acts too are consciousness (more accurately resultant consciousness - ක්‍රියා සිත්)

Five Senses are
the input devices
to our mind



We seek the help of external objects to provide the sensation via our five senses.

Sense	Object
Sight	A reflection of light from the object we see has to reach our eyes. This specific light particles are capture only by eyes. Though we can see the object, we cannot see the light waves traveling from the object to one's eye. Those particles are very fine.
Hear	Sound should reach the ear as a form of air wave particles. Again those particles that travel through the air cannot be seen. Fine particles but not fine as light waves responsible for sight.
Smell	Particles should reach the nose through air. Those particles are not fine as the air wave particles that provide hearing.
Taste	Foot has to touch our tongue and dissolve with saliva to provide the sensation. Coarse and can be seen to some extent
Touch	Object has to touch the body. Can be seen usually and coarse.



Those object that are subject to our sensors, are made out of some form of particles with different intensity. Some of them are fine and some are coarse. In addition to above well-known 5 senses, mind itself is the 6th sense. There are very finer particles that subject to the mind and it's called "Dhamma". If you can see those particles you a mind reader.

Those particles are called Element of Matter or Rupa (රූප).

There are **twenty eight (28) such material phenomena.**

1. Earth element
2. Water element
3. Fire Element
4. Air element
5. Eye Sensitivity
6. Ear Sensitivity
7. Nose Sensitivity
8. Tongue Sensitivity
9. Body Sensitivity
10. Visible form
11. Sound
12. Smell
13. Taste
14. Femininity
15. Masculinity
16. Heart Base
17. Life Faculty
18. Nutriment
19. Space element
20. Body intimation
21. Vocal intimation
22. Lightness
23. Malleability
24. Wieldiness
25. Producing
26. Continuity
27. Decay
28. Impermanence