## YOU'LL NEED:

a little imagination

## TRY THIS!

1. The words in the sentence below are half covered, so you can only see part of the letters. Try reading what it says!

## VOUDDDAIN_DL_VCTDICVC


2. Look at the solution at the back of the card!

## WHAT HAPPENS?

You probably read this sentence: "YOUR BRAIN PLAYS TRICKS". The solution might be a surprise, you will say: "But that doesn't mean anything!" True: It is just a jumble of letters. The experiment shows that apart from your solution, there were other possibilities.

## WHY IS THAT?

Your brain reads this alphabet soup as "YOUR BRAIN PLAYS TRICKS", because this makes sense. You only see part of each letter, so you only have part of the necessary information. Your brain compares this visible part with the letters it has on record. It tries to find out what the covered part might look like. Your brain looks for a pattern: Which word might contain all these letters?
Then it completes the missing parts of the letters. In a way your brain tries to make sense of the words. So it makes a known word out of the letter parts.

## WHAT DO I NEED THIS FOR?

Very often you only have little information and you need to complete the rest yourself: For example when someone doesn't speak clearly, when you see something from afar, when you "skim" across a text while reading. If the brain wouldn't "add" the missing bits, it would often take you a lot longer to understand something.

## BY THE WAY:

You can try to find a sentence yourself and exchange some letters. In the table you will find those letters which are the same in the upper part.

## Solution:

$C \leftrightarrow G$
$E \leftrightarrow F$
$H \leftrightarrow U$
$1 \leftrightarrow J$ or $L$
$R \leftrightarrow P$ or $B$
$0 \leftrightarrow Q$
$X \leftrightarrow Y$

