

Black Magic

The Effect:

The host asks the mind reader to step outside so that the mind reader cannot hear anything in the room.

The host then asks an audience member to choose an object in the room. After the object is chosen the host explains to the audience that his/her partner can read minds and will be able to pick out the correct object.

The mind reader is then called back into the room. The host tells the mind reader who chose the object. The mind reader stares at the audience member and concentrates.

The host begins to give the mind reader options. The host names off objects in the room and asks the mind reader if that is the correct object. For example:

Host: "Is it that chair in the corner?"

Mind Reader: "No!"

Host: "Is it that person's green hat?"

Mind Reader: "No!"

Host: "Is it that clock?"

Mind Reader: "No!"

Host: "Is it that person's black shirt?"

Mind Reader: "No!"

Host: "Is it that book?"

Mind Reader: "Yes!"

The audience is blown away that the mind reader was able to guess the correct object.

The Secret:

This is called black magic because the chosen object is the one right after the black object.

In the above example you can see that the chosen object was a book. Before the host offered the mind reader the book as one of the objects, he/she offered a "black" shirt as one of the objects. Since the object was black the mind reader knew that the next object would be the "chosen object".