

Daniel Dennett, *Content and Consciousness*, Chapter 17, "The Nature of Images and the Introspective Trap."

In this brief chapter Dennett argues that there are no such things as mental images. (This is a familiar philosophical strategy; it's easier to explain things if they don't exist. Dennett also believes that consciousness is an illusion.) I don't understand this. Either he means something by "mental images" that is different from what I would mean by the phrase, or else his mind is wired up differently than mine. If this makes sense to you, please explain it to me. In particular:

- Summarize his arguments. To what extent do you agree with him?
- I think that he makes some good points about visual perception. Try them out on yourself. For example, when you remember a scene, how much of what you remember is visual and how much of it is descriptive?