TOTALLY TASTELESS

Wanna bet you can’t taste the difference between an apple, an onion, and a potato?

THE SETUP
Put on a blindfold and hold your nose. Have a friend put a small piece of apple, potato, or onion in the center of your tongue. Try to identify it just by taste. No chewing allowed. Now do the same thing with small pieces of the other two things. You will discover a mystery in your mouth.

INSIDER INFORMATION
Learning how tasteless you are may be hard to swallow. Your tongue is able to identify only four tastes: salt, sweet, sour, and bitter. The identifying organs, called taste buds, are not spread evenly over the tongue. The center, where you placed the test materials, has fewer taste buds than other parts of the tongue. What we think of as taste is really a combination of taste, smell, and texture or “mouth feel” of foods. This trick eliminates the smell and feel clues, and it leaves only the bitter taste of defeat. Another taste tricker to try--Eat an apple while you hold a cut pear under your nose.