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## Level 6 – 13th July, 2021

# Why we see faces everywhere we look

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**
https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210713-happy-faces.html

## Contents



**Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).**


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# THE ARTICLE

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210713-happy-faces.html

If you have ever imagined a face in an inanimate object, your brain is engaged in a process called pareidolia. This is the tendency to see a pattern or meaning in something, where actually there is nothing there. Seeing faces in everyday objects is a common experience. Many of us perceive a smiley face in the clouds, in the froth of a cappuccino, or in an object as mundane as an electrical plug socket. Scientists from the University of Sydney in Australia conducted a study to investigate whether our brain processes these illusory faces in the same way it does with real human faces. Their research suggests there are some similarities in how we recognise both human and "false" faces.

In the study, 17 volunteers looked at a series of illusory and human faces. They had to rate the strength of emotional attachment they felt upon seeing each one. The researchers' conclusion was that the same neural circuitry was involved in determining what was or wasn't a real face. Psychologist David Alais said: "We know these objects are not truly faces, yet the perception of a face lingers." He added: "We end up with...a parallel experience that the object is both a compelling face and an object." Mr Alais said the brain sees two things at once, and that we focus more on the image of a face than the fact it is an object. He added: "The first impression of a face does not give way to the second perception of an object."

Sources: https://www.**sciencealert.com**/here-s-why-we-tend-to-see-faces-everywhere-we-look
https://www.**theguardian.com**/australia-news/2021/jul/07/so-happy-to-see-you-our-brains-respond-emotionally-to-faces-we-find-in-inanimate-objects-study-reveals
https://**royalsocietypublishing.org**/doi/10.1098/rspb.2021.0966

# WARM-UPS

**1. HAPPY FACES:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about happy faces. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

> imagine / face / inanimate / process / tendency / smiley / clouds / investigate / false / volunteers / human / emotional / conclusion / perception / object / brain / object

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. SMILIES:** Students A **strongly** believe people should put smilies everywhere; Students B **strongly** believe otherwise. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. IMAGINATION:** Why does our brain imagine these things? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

| | Why? | Do You? |
|---|---|---|
| Happy faces | | |
| Food | | |
| Your bed | | |
| Travel | | |
| Being famous | | |
| The sea | | |

**5. PROCESS:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "process". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

**6. FACIAL EXPRESSIONS:** Rank these with your partner. Put the most interesting facial expressions at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Happiness
- Surprise
- Disgust
- Anger
- Sadness
- Fear
- Awe
- Hatred

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

**Paragraph 1**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | inanimate | a. | Not real. |
| 2. | engaged | b. | Not alive, especially not in the manner of animals and humans. |
| 3. | tendency | c. | Become aware or conscious of something; come to realize or understand. |
| 4. | common | d. | Participated or become involved in. |
| 5. | perceive | e. | Happening, found, or done often; prevalent. |
| 6. | froth | f. | An inclination toward a particular characteristic or type of behavior. |
| 7. | illusory | g. | A mass of small bubbles at the top of liquid. |

**Paragraph 2**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 8. | attachment | h. | Affection, fondness, or sympathy for someone or something. |
| 9. | neural | i. | A graphical representation of someone or something. |
| 10. | psychologist | j. | Relating to a nerve or the nervous system. |
| 11. | lingers | k. | Creating interest, attention, or admiration in a powerfully irresistible way. |
| 12. | parallel | l. | Someone who studies or works with the human mind and its functions. |
| 13. | compelling | m. | Stays in a place longer than necessary because of a reluctance to leave. |
| 14. | impression | n. | Occurring or existing at the same time or in a similar way. |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210713-happy-faces.html

## 1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

1. Pareidolia is the brain seeing images in inanimate objects. **T / F**
2. The article says seeing faces in everyday objects is not so common. **T / F**
3. The article says many of us see smiley faces in coffee froth. **T / F**
4. Scientists say we recognise real and "false" faces in similar ways. **T / F**
5. Researchers conducted their tests on 170 people. **T / F**
6. The brain used a different neural circuitry when looking at false faces. **T / F**
7. A psychologist says we have a parallel experience with false faces. **T / F**
8. The psychologist says the image of a false face lingers in our mind. **T / F**

## 2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

| | |
|---|---|
| **1. imagined** | a. fake |
| **2. pattern** | b. look into |
| **3. common** | c. image |
| **4. investigate** | d. design |
| **5. illusory** | e. sequence |
| **6. series** | f. awareness |
| **7. attachment** | g. visualised |
| **8. perception** | h. stays |
| **9. lingers** | i. normal |
| **10. impression** | j. affection |

## 3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. imagined a face in | a. on the image |
| 2. Seeing faces in everyday | b. in the same way |
| 3. an electrical plug | c. and human faces |
| 4. our brain processes these illusory faces | d. lingers |
| 5. Their research suggests there | e. an inanimate object |
| 6. volunteers looked at a series of illusory | f. socket |
| 7. rate the strength of emotional | g. or wasn't a real face |
| 8. determining what was | h. are some similarities |
| 9. the perception of a face | i. attachment |
| 10. we focus more | j. objects |

# GAP FILL

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210713-happy-faces.html

If you have ever imagined a face in an (1) _____ object, your brain is engaged in a (2) _____ called pareidolia. This is the tendency to see a (3) _____ or meaning in something, where actually there is nothing there. Seeing faces in everyday objects is a (4) _____ experience. Many of us perceive a smiley face in the clouds, in the (5) _____ of a cappuccino, or in an object as mundane as an electrical plug socket. Scientists from the University of Sydney in Australia conducted a study to (6) _____ whether our brain processes these illusory faces in the same (7) _____ it does with real human faces. Their research suggests there are some similarities in how we recognise both human and "(8) _____" faces.

*inanimate*

*pattern*

*investigate*

*process*

*false*

*froth*

*way*

*common*

In the study, 17 volunteers looked at a (9) _____ of illusory and human faces. They had to rate the (10) _____ of emotional attachment they felt upon seeing each one. The researchers' conclusion was that the same (11) _____ circuitry was involved in determining what was or wasn't a real face. Psychologist David Alais said: "We know these objects are not (12) _____ faces, yet the perception of a face lingers." He added: "We end up with...a (13) _____ experience that the object is both a compelling face and an object." Mr Alais said the brain sees two things at (14) _____, and that we focus more on the image of a face than the (15) _____ it is an object. He added: "The first impression of a face does not give (16) _____ to the second perception of an object."

*neural*

*parallel*

*way*

*series*

*fact*

*truly*

*strength*

*once*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210713-happy-faces.html

1) If you have ever imagined a face in _____
   a. an animate object
   b. inner animate object
   c. an inanimate object
   d. an inanimate objects
2) Many of us perceive a smiley face in the clouds, in the _____ cappuccino
   a. forth of a
   b. froth of a
   c. firth of a
   d. faith of a
3) or in an object as mundane as an electrical _____
   a. plug socket
   b. plugged socket
   c. plugs socket
   d. plug sock it
4) conducted a study to investigate whether our brain processes _____
   a. these illusion faces
   b. these illusory farces
   c. these illusory faces
   d. these ill usury farces
5) there are some similarities in how we recognise both human _____
   a. and falls faces
   b. and farce faces
   c. and fierce faces
   d. and false faces
6) In the study, 17 volunteers looked at a series of _____ faces
   a. illusory and humanly
   b. illusory and humans
   c. illusory and human
   d. illusory and humans
7) The researchers' conclusion was that the _____
   a. same neuro-circuitry
   b. same know-all circuitry
   c. same new rail circuitry
   d. same neural circuitry
8) We know these objects are not truly faces, yet the perception of _____
   a. a fay slingers
   b. afar slingers
   c. a farce lingers
   d. a face lingers
9) and that we focus more on the image of a face than the fact it _____
   a. is an object
   b. is an objects
   c. is an objected
   d. is an objection
10) The first impression of a face does not give way to the second _____ object
   a. purser suction of an
   b. perception of an
   c. purr section of an
   d. purse action of an

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210713-happy-faces.html

If you have ever (1) _____ in an inanimate object, your brain is engaged in a process called pareidolia. This (2) _____ to see a pattern or meaning in something, where actually there is nothing there. Seeing faces in everyday objects is (3) _____. Many of us perceive a smiley face in the clouds, in the froth of a cappuccino, or in an (4) _____ as an electrical plug socket. Scientists from the University of Sydney in Australia conducted a study to investigate whether (5) _____ these illusory faces in the same way it does with real human faces. Their research suggests there are some similarities in how we recognise both (6) _____ faces.

In the study, 17 volunteers looked at a (7) _____ and human faces. They had to (8) _____ of emotional attachment they felt upon seeing each one. The researchers' conclusion was that the same neural circuitry was (9) _____ what was or wasn't a real face. Psychologist David Alais said: "We know these objects are not truly faces, (10) _____ of a face lingers." He added: "We end up with...a parallel experience that the object is both (11) _____ and an object." Mr Alais said the brain sees two things at once, and that we focus more on the image of a face than the fact it is an object. He added: "The (12) _____ a face does not give way to the second perception of an object."

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210713-happy-faces.html

1. What does pareidolia mean we have a tendency to do?

2. What does the article say seeing faces in everyday objects is?

3. In which part of a cappuccino do we see smiley faces in?

4. What object does the article refer to as being mundane?

5. What does the research say there are similarities in?

6. How many volunteers took part in the study?

7. What did volunteers have to rate the strength of when looking at faces?

8. What circuitry was the same when the volunteers looked at faces?

9. What did the researchers say lingers?

10. How many things did researchers say we see at once?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210713-happy-faces.html

1) What does pareidolia mean we have a tendency to see?
a) spots
b) a pattern in something
c) stars
d) a tendency

2) What does the article say seeing faces in everyday objects is?
a) captivating
b) amusing
c) perceptive
d) a common experience

3) In which part of a cappuccino do we see smiley faces in?
a) the froth
b) the milk
c) the bottom
d) the cup

4) What object does the article refer to as being mundane?
a) clouds
b) coffee froth
c) an electrical plug socket
d) everyday objects

5) What does the research say there are similarities in?
a) human and "false" faces
b) how we recognise human and "false" faces
c) recognition and "false" faces
d) perception and human faces

6) How many volunteers took part in the study?
a) 77
b) 70
c) 17
d) 7

7) What did volunteers have to rate the strength of when looking at faces?
a) neural circuitry
b) glue
c) perceptions
d) emotional attachment

8) What circuitry was the same when the volunteers looked at faces?
a) neural circuitry
b) electrical circuitry
c) amazing circuitry
d) difficult circuitry

9) What did the researchers say lingers?
a) perception of a face
b) a smell
c) thoughts
d) dreams

10) How many things did researchers say we see at once?
a) three
b) two
c) many
d) countless things

# ROLE PLAY

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210713-happy-faces.html

**Role A – Happiness**

You think happiness is the most interesting facial expression. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their expressions. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): surprise, awe or disgust.

**Role B – Surprise**

You think surprise is the most interesting facial expression. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their expressions. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): happiness, awe or disgust.

**Role C – Awe**

You think awe is the most interesting facial expression. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their expressions. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): surprise, happiness or disgust.

**Role D – Disgust**

You think disgust is the most interesting facial expression. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their expressions. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): surprise, awe or happiness.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210713-happy-faces.html

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms … for the words 'happy' and 'face'.

| **happy** | **face** |
|---|---|
| | |

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning…?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

| | |
|---|---|
| • imagined<br>• nothing<br>• clouds<br>• plug<br>• investigate<br>• similarities | • 17<br>• strength<br>• truly<br>• end<br>• both<br>• second |

# HAPPY FACES SURVEY

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210713-happy-faces.html

Write five GOOD questions about happy faces in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.
When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

| | STUDENT 1 _____ | STUDENT 2 _____ | STUDENT 3 _____ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Q.1. | | | |
| Q.2. | | | |
| Q.3. | | | |
| Q.4. | | | |
| Q.5. | | | |

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

# HAPPY FACES DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'happy'?
3. Do you see faces in inanimate objects?
4. What do you think when you see faces in things?
5. What do you think of smiley faces?
6. What other things do you see in inanimate objects?
7. What does a smiley face represent?
8. What do you think of this research?
9. How often do you draw happy faces?
10. What makes you happy?

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# HAPPY FACES DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'face'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. Does looking at a happy face change your mood?
15. Who is the happiest person you know?
16. Why do cartoons and drawings show inanimate things with happy faces?
17. What makes a happy face look happy?
18. Should people always look happy in photographs?
19. What would make you happier?
20. What questions would you like to ask the researchers?

# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

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# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210713-happy-faces.html

If you have ever imagined a face in an (1) _____ object, your brain is engaged in a process called pareidolia. This is the (2) _____ to see a pattern or meaning in something, where actually there is nothing there. Seeing faces in everyday objects is a (3) _____ experience. Many of us perceive a smiley face in the clouds, in the froth of a cappuccino, or in an object as (4) _____ as an electrical plug socket. Scientists from the University of Sydney in Australia conducted a study to investigate whether our brain processes these illusory faces in the same way it (5) _____ with real human faces. Their research suggests there are some (6) _____ in how we recognise both human and "false" faces.

In the study, 17 volunteers looked at a (7) _____ of illusory and human faces. They had to rate the strength of emotional attachment they felt (8) _____ seeing each one. The researchers' conclusion was that the same neural (9) _____ was involved in determining what was or wasn't a real face. Psychologist David Alais said: "We know these objects are not truly faces, yet the perception of a face lingers." He added: "We end (10) _____ with...a parallel experience that the object is both a compelling face and an object." Mr Alais said the brain sees two things at once, and that we focus (11) _____ on the image of a face than the fact it is an object. He added: "The first impression of a face does not give (12) _____ to the second perception of an object."

**Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.**

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | (a) | unanimous | (b) | inanimate | (c) | uniform | (d) | oxymoron |
| 2. | (a) | tends | (b) | tendency | (c) | tender | (d) | tend |
| 3. | (a) | commons | (b) | commoner | (c) | commonly | (d) | common |
| 4. | (a) | migraine | (b) | mundane | (c) | movement | (d) | manmade |
| 5. | (a) | takes | (b) | does | (c) | has | (d) | be |
| 6. | (a) | smiles | (b) | similes | (c) | similarities | (d) | same |
| 7. | (a) | serious | (b) | services | (c) | series | (d) | cereals |
| 8. | (a) | unto | (b) | until | (c) | upon | (d) | under |
| 9. | (a) | calamity | (b) | cattery | (c) | cutlery | (d) | circuitry |
| 10. | (a) | up | (b) | on | (c) | of | (d) | down |
| 11. | (a) | more | (b) | much | (c) | many | (d) | some |
| 12. | (a) | bay | (b) | lay | (c) | way | (d) | may |

# SPELLING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210713-happy-faces.html

## Paragraph 1

1. an tnimienaa object
2. your brain is egaendg in a process
3. the ncndeyet to see a pattern
4. Many of us eercipve a smiley face
5. an electrical plug sekcto
6. these srylolui faces

## Paragraph 2

7. 17 urnevstole
8. rate the strength of oomtainel attachment
9. the same neural tyircuric
10. the perception of a face inslegr
11. a cnlpgelmoi face
12. The first mipsroensi of a face

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210713-happy-faces.html

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

( ) from the University of Sydney in Australia conducted a study to investigate whether our brain

( ) there. Seeing faces in everyday objects is a common experience. Many of us perceive a smiley face in the clouds, in the froth of a

( ) pareidolia. This is the tendency to see a pattern or meaning in something, where actually there is nothing

( ) conclusion was that the same neural circuitry was involved in determining what was or wasn't a real

( ***1*** ) If you have ever imagined a face in an inanimate object, your brain is engaged in a process called

( ) cappuccino, or in an object as mundane as an electrical plug socket. Scientists

( ) In the study, 17 volunteers looked at a series of illusory and human faces. They had to rate

( ) suggests there are some similarities in how we recognise both human and "false" faces.

( ) lingers." He added: "We end up with...a parallel experience that the object is both a compelling face and an

( ) processes these illusory faces in the same way it does with real human faces. Their research

( ) face. Psychologist David Alais said: "We know these objects are not truly faces, yet the perception of a face

( ) object." Mr Alais said the brain sees two things at once, and that we focus more on the image of a face than the fact it is an object. He added:

( ) "The first impression of a face does not give way to the second perception of an object."

( ) the strength of emotional attachment they felt upon seeing each one. The researchers'

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210713-happy-faces.html

1. a object . in face Imagined inanimate an

2. see pattern . tendency a is the to This

3. is in faces Seeing a objects experience . common

4. illusory Investigate faces . brain whether processes these our

5. some there are Their research suggests similarities .

6. of series faces . looked at illusory a Volunteers

7. rate strength to the attachment . They had of

8. these not objects We faces . know truly are

9. two once . sees The things at brain

10. more the a on image of Focus face .

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210713-happy-faces.html

If you have ever *imagined / ingrained* a face in an inanimate object, your brain is engaged in a process called pareidolia. This is the *tend / tendency* to see a pattern or meaning *at / in* something, where actually there is nothing *now / there*. Seeing faces in everyday objects is a *commonly / common* experience. Many of us perceive a smiley face in the clouds, in the *froth / forth* of a cappuccino, or in an object as mundane as an electrical plug socket. Scientists from the University of Sydney in Australia *conducted / contracted* a study to investigate whether our brain processes these illusory faces *on / in* the same way it does with *real / reality* human faces. Their research suggests there are some *similarities / similar* in how we recognise both human and "false" faces.

In the study, 17 volunteers looked at a *series / serious* of illusory and human faces. They had to rate the *strong / strength* of emotional attachment they felt upon *seeing / seen* each one. The researchers' conclusion was that the same *neural / neutral* circuitry was involved in determining what was or wasn't a real *fact / face*. Psychologist David Alais said: "We know these objects are not *truth / truly* faces, yet the perception of a face lingers." He added: "We end *down / up* with...a parallel experience that the object is both a *compelling / compel* face and an object." Mr Alais said the brain sees two things at once, and that we focus more on the image of a face than the fact *it / this* is an object. He added: "The first impression of a face does not give way to the second perception of an *object / subject*."

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210713-happy-faces.html

_f y__ h_v_ _v_r _m_g_n_d _ f_c_ _n _n _n_n_m_t_ _bj_ct, y__r br__n _s _ng_g_d _n _ pr_c_ss c_ll_d p_r__d_l__. Th_s _s th_ t_nd_ncy t_ s__ _ p_tt_rn _r m__n_ng _n s_m_th_ng, wh_r_ _ct__lly th_r_ _s n_th_ng th_r_. S___ng f_c_s _n _v_ryd_y _bj_cts _s _ c_mm_n _xp_r__nc_. M_ny _f _s p_rc__v_ _ sm_l_y f_c_ _n th_ cl__ds, _n th_ fr_th _f _ c_pp_cc_n_, _r _n _n _bj_ct _s m_nd_n_ _s _n _l_ctr_c_l pl_g s_ck_t. Sc__nt_sts fr_m th_ _n_v_rs_ty _f Sydn_y _n __str_l__ c_nd_ct_d _ st_dy t_ _nv_st_g_t_ wh_th_r __r br__n pr_c_ss_s th_s_ _ll_s_ry f_c_s _n th_ s_m_ w_y _t d__s w_th r__l h_m_n f_c_s. Th__r r_s__rch s_gg_sts th_r_ _r_ s_m_ s_m_l_r_t__s _n h_w w_ r_c_gn_s_ b_th h_m_n _nd "f_ls_" f_c_s.

_n th_ st_dy, 17 v_l_nt__rs l__k_d _t _ s_r__s _f _ll_s_ry _nd h_m_n f_c_s. Th_y h_d t_ r_t_ th_ str_ngth _f _m_t__n_l _tt_chm_nt th_y f_lt _p_n s___ng __ch _n_. Th_ r_s__rch_rs' c_ncl_s__n w_s th_t th_ s_m_ n__r_l c_rc__try w_s _nv_lv_d _n d_t_rm_n_ng wh_t w_s _r w_sn't _ r__l f_c_. Psych_l_g_st D_v_d _l__s s__d: "W_ kn_w th_s_ _bj_cts _r_ n_t tr_ly f_c_s, y_t th_ p_rc_pt__n _f _ f_c_ l_ng_rs." H_ _dd_d: "W_ _nd _p w_th..._ p_r_ll_l _xp_r__nc_ th_t th_ _bj_ct _s b_th _ c_mp_ll_ng f_c_ _nd _n _bj_ct." Mr _l__s s__d th_ br__n s__s tw_ th_ngs _t _nc_, _nd th_t w_ f_c_s m_r_ _n th_ _m_g_ _f _ f_c_ th_n th_ f_ct _t _s _n _bj_ct. H_ _dd_d: "Th_ f_rst _mpr_ss__n _f _ f_c_ d__s n_t g_v_ w_y t_ th_ s_c_nd p_rc_pt__n _f _n _bj_ct."

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210713-happy-faces.html

if you have ever imagined a face in an inanimate object your brain is engaged in a process called pareidolia this is the tendency to see a pattern or meaning in something where actually there is nothing there seeing faces in everyday objects is a common experience many of us perceive a smiley face in the clouds in the froth of a cappuccino or in an object as mundane as an electrical plug socket scientists from the university of sydney in australia conducted a study to investigate whether our brain processes these illusory faces in the same way it does with real human faces their research suggests there are some similarities in how we recognise both human and false faces

in the study 17 volunteers looked at a series of illusory and human faces they had to rate the strength of emotional attachment they felt upon seeing each one the researchers conclusion was that the same neural circuitry was involved in determining what was or wasnt a real face psychologist david alais said we know these objects are not truly faces yet the perception of a face lingers he added we end up witha parallel experience that the object is both a compelling face and an object mr alais said the brain sees two things at once and that we focus more on the image of a face than the fact it is an object he added the first impression of a face does not give way to the second perception of an object

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210713-happy-faces.html

Ifyouhaveeverimaginedafaceinaninanimateobject,yourbrainisenga
gedinaprocesscalledpareidolia.Thisisthetendencytoseeapatternorm
eaninginsomething,whereactuallythereisnothingthere.Seeingfacesi
neverydayobjectsisacommonexperience.Manyofusperceiveasmiley
faceintheclouds,inthefrothofacappuccino,orinanobjectasmundanea
sanelectricalplugsocket.ScientistsfromtheUniversityofSydneyinAus
traliaconductedastudytoinvestigatewhetherourbrainprocessesthes
eillusoryfacesinthesamewayitdoeswithrealhumanfaces.Theirresear
chsuggeststherearesomesimilaritiesinhowwerecognisebothhuman
and"false"faces.Inthestudy17volunteerslookedataseriesofillusorya
ndhumanfaces.Theyhadtoratethestrengthofemotionalattachmentt
heyfeltuponseeingeachone.Theresearchers'conclusionwasthatthes
ameneuralcircuitrywasinvolvedindeterminingwhatwasorwasn'tarea
lface.PsychologistDavidAlaissaid:"Weknowtheseobjectsarenottruly
faces,yettheperceptionofafacelingers."Headded:"Weendupwith...a
parallelexperiencethattheobjectisbothacompellingfaceandanobject
."MrAlaissaidthebrainseestwothingsatonce,andthatwefocusmoreon
theimageofafacethanthefactitisanobject.Headded:"Thefirstimpress
ionofafacedoesnotgivewaytothesecondperceptionofanobject."

# FREE WRITING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210713-happy-faces.html

Write about **happy faces** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

# ACADEMIC WRITING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210713-happy-faces.html

We need to see more happy faces everywhere. Discuss.

# HOMEWORK

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. HAPPY FACES:** Make a poster about happy faces. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. RESEARCH INTO HAPPY FACES:** Write a magazine article about more research being done on happy faces. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to an expert on happy faces. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your opinions on happy faces. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | b | 2. | d | 3. | f | 4. | e | 5. | c | 6. | g | 7. | a |
| 8. | h | 9. | j | 10. | l | 11. | m | 12. | n | 13. | k | 14. | i |

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | T | 2 | F | 3 | T | 4 | T | 5 | F | 6 | F | 7 | T | 8 | T |

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. g | 2. d | 3. i | 4. b | 5. a |
| 6. e | 7. j | 8. f | 9. h | 10. c |

### COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. See a pattern or meaning in something
2. A common experience
3. The froth
4. An electrical plug socket
5. How we recognise human and "false" faces
6. Seventeen
7. Emotional attachment
8. Neural circuitry
9. Perception of a face
10. Two

### WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. Imagined a face in an inanimate object.
2. This is the tendency to see a pattern.
3. Seeing faces in objects is a common experience.
4. Investigate whether our brain processes these illusory faces.
5. Their research suggests there are some similarities.
6. Volunteers looked at a series of illusory faces.
7. They had to rate the strength of attachment.
8. We know these objects are not truly faces.
9. The brain sees two things at once.
10. Focus more on the image of a face.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | b | 2. | d | 3. | a | 4. | c | 5. | b | 6. | c | 7. | d | 8. | a | 9. | a | 10. | b |

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)