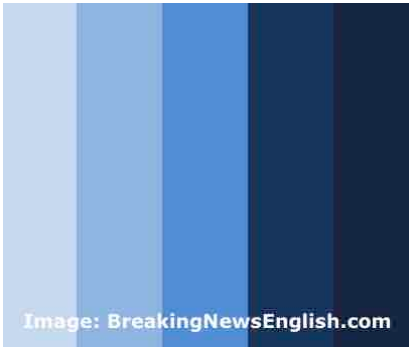


Study finds that blue is the most popular colour

9th July, 2022



Everyone has a favourite colour. We tend to stick with just one colour throughout our lives. A new study has found that the most common favourite colour is blue. The BBC in the U.K. looked at

how and why people like one colour more than another. There were two main findings in the research. One was that a majority of people around the world like the colour blue most. The other finding was that people change the colours they like as they get older. The researchers said our experiences in life change the way we feel about colour. In particular, people often like darker colours as they get older. The studies showed that dark yellowish-brown was the world's least liked colour.

The BBC looked into studies from two universities in the USA. They said blue has been a favourite since research began on colour in the 1800s. The researchers said most people's experiences of blue are positive. Many colours in nature that we love are blue, especially a blue sky, the sea and many flowers. A blue sky is enough to make many people very happy. The researchers say one of the only negative associations with blue was in the English language. In English, people say they "have the blues" or are "feeling blue," meaning they are sad. One factor in choosing a favourite colour was a sports team. Many people like the colour the team they support plays in.

Sources: bbc.com / popularmechanics.com / msn.com

Writing

Blue is the best colour. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

everyone / favourite / colour / BBC / research / majority / blue / experiences / brown universities / the 1800s / nature / sky / flowers / negative / happy / English / sports

True / False

- 1) People usually have the same favourite colour for all their life. T / F
- 2) The U.K. is the only country where blue isn't the favourite colour. T / F
- 3) People change their favourite colour the older they become. T / F
- 4) The world's least favourite colour is dark yellowish-brown. T / F
- 5) Blue has been a favourite colour since at least the 1800s. T / F
- 6) The article says many people have a negative experience of blue. T / F
- 7) The English language is unusual as it has negative links to blue. T / F
- 8) The article says most men chose the colours of their sports team. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. throughout | a. sufficient |
| 2. main | b. revealed |
| 3. majority | c. sad |
| 4. change | d. larger part |
| 5. showed | e. follow |
| 6. studies | f. for the whole of |
| 7. enough | g. links |
| 8. associations | h. alter |
| 9. blue | i. reports |
| 10. support | j. most important |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) What colours do you not like?
- c) How does a blue sky make you feel?
- d) How do colourful flowers make you feel?
- e) Why is the colour blue associated with sadness in English?
- f) How often do you 'have the blues'?
- g) What blue things do you like and dislike?
- h) What questions would you like to ask the researchers?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. We tend to stick | a. associations with blue |
| 2. There were two main | b. we feel |
| 3. a majority | c. brown |
| 4. our experiences in life change the way | d. in nature |
| 5. dark yellowish- | e. plays in |
| 6. since research began on colour | f. findings in the research |
| 7. Many colours | g. in the 1800 |
| 8. enough to make | h. of people |
| 9. one of the only negative | i. many people very happy |
| 10. the colour the team they support | j. with just one colour |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think of the colour blue?
- What are your favourite colours, and why?
- What colour would you choose as your national colour?
- Has your favourite colour changed over the years?
- Do you prefer darker or lighter colours?
- What colour clothes do you like?
- How does colour affect your mood?
- What do you think of dark yellowish-brown?

Spelling

- We tend to stick with just one uolorc
- There were two main nidginsf
- a motarjij of people
- our cernsexieep in life change
- In pclrauiart, people often like darker colours
- dark ywlolaihs-brown
- since hresrcae began
- yieallpsec a blue sky
- A blue sky is uenhog
- vnageeit associations
- "have the blues" or are "elgfnei blue"
- the team they usrppto

Answers – Synonym Match

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

Role Play

Role A – Blue

You think blue is the best colour. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their colours. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): pink, white or brown.

Role B – Pink

You think pink is the best colour. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their colours. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): blue, white or brown.

Role C – White

You think white is the best colour. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their colours. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): pink, blue or brown.

Role D – Brown

You think brown is the best colour. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their colours. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): pink, white or blue.

Speaking – Colours

Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| • Blue | • Red |
| • Yellow | • White |
| • Pink | • Orange |
| • Green | • Brown |

Answers – True False

1	T	2	F	3	T	4	T	5	T	6	F	7	T	8	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.