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Level 3 – 9th July, 2022

Study finds that blue is the most popular colour

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220609-the-colour-blue.html>

Contents

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	15
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	16
Vocabulary	4	Spelling	17
Before Reading / Listening	5	Put The Text Back Together	18
Gap Fill	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	19
Match The Sentences And Listen	7	Circle The Correct Word	20
Listening Gap Fill	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	21
Comprehension Questions	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	22
Multiple Choice - Quiz	10	Put A Slash (/) Where The Spaces Are	23
Role Play	11	Free Writing	24
After Reading / Listening	12	Academic Writing	25
Student Survey	13	Homework	26
Discussion (20 Questions)	14	Answers	27

Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220609-the-colour-blue.html>

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: <https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20220601-what-your-favourite-colour-says-about-you>
<https://www.popularmechanics.com/science/a40207932/why-blue-is-probably-your-favorite-color/>
<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/technology/blue-is-probably-your-favorite-color-heres-why-according-to-science/ar-AAY9c7t>

WARM-UPS

1. THE COLOUR BLUE: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about the colour blue. 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?

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

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

3. BLUE: Students A **strongly** believe blue is the best colour; Students B **strongly** believe red is. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. THE COLOUR(S) OF: What are the colours of the things in the table? Why? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What colour(s)	Why
Nature		
Technology		
Love		
Old age		
Music		
Food		

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

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

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

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 1. tend to | a. Keep doing' liking or using something you have done for a long time. |
| 2. stick | b. Happening, found, or done often or everywhere. |
| 3. throughout | c. Regularly or frequently behave in a particular way. |
| 4. common | d. The bigger number of. |
| 5. main | e. Most important. |
| 6. majority | f. Smallest in amount. |
| 7. least | g. From the beginning to end of an event or period of time. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 8. positive | h. Be actively interested in and concerned for the success of a sports team. |
| 9. nature | i. Connections or links. |
| 10. especially | j. A feeling of sadness. |
| 11. association | k. Having all good things. |
| 12. blue | l. All the things in the physical world, including plants, animals, the landscape, and other features and products of the earth. |
| 13. factor | m. Something that helps to bring a result. |
| 14. support | n. Used to focus on or think about one person or thing over all others. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220609-the-colour-blue.html>

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

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**

2. 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 |

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

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 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 |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220609-the-colour-blue.html>

Everyone has a favourite colour. We (1) _____ to stick with just one colour throughout our lives. A new study has found that the most (2) _____ 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 (3) _____ findings in the research. One was that a (4) _____ of people around the world like the colour blue most. The other finding was that people change the colours they like as they get (5) _____. The researchers said our experiences in life change the (6) _____ we feel about colour. In particular, people often like darker colours as they get older. The studies showed that (7) _____ yellowish-brown was the world's (8) _____ liked colour.

common
older
tend
dark
majority
least
main
way

The BBC looked into studies from two universities in the USA. They said blue has been a favourite (9) _____ research began on colour in the 1800s. The researchers said most people's experiences of blue are (10) _____. Many colours in nature that we love are blue, (11) _____ a blue sky, the sea and many flowers. A blue sky is (12) _____ to make many people very happy. The researchers say one of the only (13) _____ associations with blue was in the English language. In English, people say they "have the (14) _____" or are "feeling blue," meaning they are sad. One (15) _____ in choosing a favourite colour was a sports team. Many people like the colour the team they (16) _____ plays in.

especially
blues
since
negative
support
positive
factor
enough

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220609-the-colour-blue.html>

- 1) Everyone has a favourite colour. We tend to stick _____
 - a. with just one
 - b. with jars twin
 - c. with juice tin
 - d. with jesting
- 2) The BBC in the U.K. looked at how and why people like one colour _____
 - a. more than on other
 - b. more than another
 - c. more than and other
 - d. more than an others
- 3) One was that a majority of people around the world like the _____
 - a. colour blue moss
 - b. colour blue moats
 - c. colour blue most
 - d. colour blue must
- 4) we feel about colour. In particular, people often _____
 - a. like darken colours
 - b. like darker colours
 - c. like dark car colours
 - d. like dark e-colours
- 5) dark yellowish-brown was the world's _____
 - a. lost liked colour
 - b. last liked colour
 - c. lest liked colour
 - d. least liked colour
- 6) They said blue has been a favourite since research began on colour _____
 - a. in them 1800s
 - b. in the 1800s
 - c. in then 1800s
 - d. inner 1800s
- 7) colours in nature that we love are blue, _____ sky
 - a. especially the blue
 - b. especial light blue
 - c. especially a blue
 - d. as special a blue
- 8) A blue sky is enough to make many _____
 - a. people very happily
 - b. people very hippy
 - c. people very happy
 - d. people very hoppy
- 9) they "have the blues" or are "feeling blue," meaning _____
 - a. they are sadly
 - b. they are sad
 - c. they are sadden
 - d. they a sad
- 10) Many people like the colour the team they _____
 - a. support plays on
 - b. support plays when
 - c. support plays in
 - d. support plays sin

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220609-the-colour-blue.html>

Everyone has a favourite colour. We (1) _____ with just one colour throughout our lives. A new study has found that (2) _____ 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 (3) _____ 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 (4) _____. The researchers said our experiences in life change the way we feel about colour. In particular, people (5) _____ colours as they get older. The studies showed that dark yellowish-brown was the (6) _____ colour.

The BBC (7) _____ 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 (8) _____. Many colours in nature that we love are blue, especially a blue sky, the sea and many flowers. A blue (9) _____ 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 "(10) _____" or are "feeling blue," meaning they are sad. One (11) _____ a favourite colour was a sports team. Many people like the colour the team they (12) _____.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220609-the-colour-blue.html>

1. What do we tend to stick with throughout our lives?
2. How many main findings in the research did the BBC find?
3. Where did the majority of people like the colour blue most?
4. What kinds of colours do people like as they get older?
5. What was the least-liked colour in the world?
6. When did research into colour begin?
7. What three blue things in nature does the article say people like?
8. What language had a negative association with the colour blue?
9. What does "feel blue" mean?
10. What is one factor behind why people choose a favourite colour?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220609-the-colour-blue.html>

- 1) What do we tend to stick with throughout our lives?
 - a) painting
 - b) pain
 - c) colour blindness
 - d) our favourite colour
- 2) How many main findings in the research did the BBC find?
 - a) three
 - b) two
 - c) one
 - d) four
- 3) Where did the majority of people like the colour blue most?
 - a) in the USA
 - b) the Pacific Ocean
 - c) around the world
 - d) in South America
- 4) What kinds of colours do people like as they get older?
 - a) darker colours
 - b) primary colours
 - c) pastel colours
 - d) vibrant colours
- 5) What was the least-liked colour in the world?
 - a) bluish grey
 - b) pink
 - c) dark yellowish-brown
 - d) greeny-yellow
- 6) When did research into colour begin?
 - a) the 1860s
 - b) the 1800s
 - c) the 1890s
 - d) the 1870s
- 7) What three blue things in nature does the article say people like?
 - a) the sea, rivers and blueberries
 - b) the sky, rocks and jewels
 - c) blueberries, blue cheese and tomatoes
 - d) the sky, sea and flowers
- 8) What language had a negative association with the colour blue?
 - a) English
 - b) Spanish
 - c) Xhosa
 - d) Thai
- 9) What does "feel blue" mean?
 - a) feel great
 - b) feel mad
 - c) feel sad
 - d) feel bad
- 10) What is one factor behind why people choose a favourite colour?
 - a) school
 - b) sports teams
 - c) music
 - d) furniture

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220609-the-colour-blue.html>

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.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220609-the-colour-blue.html>

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

colour	blue

- 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:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• tend• another• majority• older• particular• dark	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• since• positive• especially• only• feeling• team
---	---

THE COLOUR BLUE SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220609-the-colour-blue.html>

Write five GOOD questions about the colour blue 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.

THE COLOUR BLUE 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 'colour'?
3. What do you think of the colour blue?
4. What are your favourite colours, and why?
5. What colour would you choose as your national colour?
6. Has your favourite colour changed over the years?
7. Do you prefer darker or lighter colours?
8. What colour clothes do you like?
9. How does colour affect your mood?
10. What do you think of dark yellowish-brown?

Study finds that blue is the most popular colour – 9th July, 2022
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THE COLOUR BLUE 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 'blue'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What colours do you not like?
15. How does a blue sky make you feel?
16. How do colourful flowers make you feel?
17. Why is the colour blue associated with sadness in English?
18. How often do you 'have the blues'?
19. What blue things do you like and dislike?
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/2206/220609-the-colour-blue.html>

Everyone has a favourite colour. We (1) _____ to stick with just one colour throughout our lives. A new study has found that the most (2) _____ favourite colour is blue. The BBC in the U.K. looked at how and why people like one colour (3) _____ than another. There were two main findings in the research. One was that a majority (4) _____ 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 (5) _____ 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 (6) _____ liked colour.

The BBC looked (7) _____ studies from two universities in the USA. They said blue has been a favourite since research began (8) _____ colour in the 1800s. The researchers said most people's experiences of blue are positive. Many colours in nature that we love (9) _____ 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 (10) _____ blue was in the English language. In English, people say they "have the (11) _____ " 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 (12) _____.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|-------------|--------------|------------|
| 1. | (a) lend | (b) mend | (c) fend | (d) tend |
| 2. | (a) commoner | (b) commons | (c) commonly | (d) common |
| 3. | (a) much | (b) more | (c) many | (d) most |
| 4. | (a) on | (b) at | (c) of | (d) to |
| 5. | (a) the | (b) how | (c) so | (d) on |
| 6. | (a) least | (b) last | (c) lost | (d) lest |
| 7. | (a) as to | (b) onto | (c) unto | (d) into |
| 8. | (a) on | (b) at | (c) in | (d) of |
| 9. | (a) be | (b) are | (c) was | (d) being |
| 10. | (a) to | (b) at | (c) with | (d) by |
| 11. | (a) blue | (b) bluish | (c) blues | (d) bluey |
| 12. | (a) on | (b) in | (c) over | (d) under |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220609-the-colour-blue.html>

Paragraph 1

1. We tend to stick with just one uolorc
2. There were two main nidginsf
3. a motarjiy of people
4. our cernsexieep in life change
5. In pclaiuart, people often like darker colours
6. dark ywlleihs-brown

Paragraph 2

7. since hresrae began
8. yieallpsec a blue sky
9. A blue sky is uenhog
10. vnageeit associations
11. "have the blues" or are "elgfnei blue"
12. the team they usrppto

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220609-the-colour-blue.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () of people around the world like the colour blue most. The other finding was that people change
- () began on colour in the 1800s. The researchers said most people's experiences of blue are
- () older. The studies showed that dark yellowish-brown was the world's least liked colour.
- () life change the way we feel about colour. In particular, people often like darker colours as they get
- () 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.
- () found that the most common favourite colour is blue. The BBC in the U.K. looked at how and
- () sky is enough to make many people very happy. The researchers say one of the only negative
- () why people like one colour more than another. There were two main findings in the research. One was that a majority
- (**1**) Everyone has a favourite colour. We tend to stick with just one colour throughout our lives. A new study has
- () the colours they like as they get older. The researchers said our experiences in
- () positive. Many colours in nature that we love are blue, especially a blue sky, the sea and many flowers. A blue
- () The BBC looked into studies from two universities in the USA. They said blue has been a favourite since research
- () associations with blue was in the English language. In English, people say they "have the

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220609-the-colour-blue.html>

1. tend to just We colour . with stick one
2. more than one people colour Why like another .
3. other that finding was people The change .
4. feel the about we Experiences colour . change way
5. get older . People as colours they darker like
6. BBC two universities . into looked from The studies
7. colour Since in 1800s . began research the on
8. colours love nature we are in blue . Many
9. happy . enough skies Blue make people to are
10. colour . factor a choosing in favourite One

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220609-the-colour-blue.html>

Everyone has a favourite colour. We *tend / mend* to stick with just one colour throughout our lives. A new study has found that the most *commonly / common* favourite colour is blue. The BBC in the U.K. looked at *what / how* and why people like one colour more than *other / another*. There were two main findings in the research. One was that a majority *of / to* people around the world like the colour blue *must / most*. The other finding was that people change the colours they like as they get *oldest / older*. The researchers said our experiences in life *change / chance* the way we feel about colour. In particular, people often like darker colours *as / was* they get older. The studies showed that dark yellowish-brown was the world's *least / lost* liked colour.

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

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/2206/220609-the-colour-blue.html>

_v_ry_n_ h_s _ f_v__r_t_ c_l__r. W_ t_nd t_ st_ck
w_th j_st _n_ c_l__r thr__gh__t __r l_v_s. _ n_w
st_dy h_s f__nd th_t th_ m_st c_mmn f_v__r_t_
c_l__r _s bl___. Th_ BBC _n th_ _K. l__k_d _t h_w
_nd why p__pl_ l_k_ _n_ c_l__r m_r_ th_n _n_th_r.
Th_r_ w_r_ tw_ m__n f_nd_ngs _n th_ r_s__rch. _n_
w_s th_t _ m_j_r_ty _f p__pl_ _r__nd th_ w_rld l_k_
th_ c_l__r bl__ m_st. Th_ _th_r f_nd_ng w_s th_t
p__pl_ ch_ng_ th_ c_l__rs th_y l_k_ _s th_y g_t
_ld_r. Th_ r_s__rch_rs s__d __r _xp_r__nc_s _n l_f_
ch_ng_ th_ w_y w_ f__l _b__t c_l__r. _n p_rt_c_l_r,
p__pl_ _ft_n l_k_ d_rk_r c_l__rs _s th_y g_t _ld_r.
Th_ st_d__s sh_w_d th_t d_rk y_ll_w_sh-br_w_n w_s th_
w_rld's l__st l_k_d c_l__r.

Th_ BBC l__k_d _nt_ st_d__s fr_m tw_ _n_v_rs_t__s
n th _S_. Th_y s__d bl__ h_s b__n _ f_v__r_t_
s_nc_ r_s__rch b_g_n _n c_l__r _n th_ 1800s. Th_
r_s__rch_rs s__d m_st p__pl_'s _xp_r__nc_s _f bl__ _r_
p_s_t_v_. M_ny c_l__rs _n n_t_r_ th_t w_ l_v_ _r_
bl__, _sp_c__lly _ bl__ sky, th_ s__ _nd m_ny
fl_w_rs. _ bl__ sky _s _n__gh t_ m_k_ m_ny p__pl_
v_ry h_ppy. Th_ r_s__rch_rs s_y _n_ _f th_ _nly
n_g_t_v_ _ss_c__t__ns w_th bl__ w_s _n th_ _ngl_sh
l_ng__g_. _n _ngl_sh, p__pl_ s_y th_y "h_v_ th_
bl__s" _r _r_ "f__l_ng bl__, " m__nng th_y _r_ s_d.
n f_ct_r _n ch__s_ng _ f_v__r_t_ c_l__r w_s _
sp_rts t__m. M_ny p__pl_ l_k_ th_ c_l__r th_ t__m
th_y s_pp_rt pl_ys _n.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220609-the-colour-blue.html>

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 uk 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 yellowishbrown was the worlds 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 peoples 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

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220609-the-colour-blue.html>

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 colour they like as they get older. The researchers said our experiences in life change the way we feel about colour. In particular, people often liked 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 sport team. Many people like the colour of the team they support plays in.

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. THE COLOUR BLUE: Make a poster about the colour blue. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. NATIONAL COLOUR: Write a magazine article about all countries having an official national colour. 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 the colour blue. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your opinions on the colour blue. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

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

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- Our favourite colour
- Two
- Around the world
- Darker colours
- Dark yellowish-brown
- The 1880s
- The sky, sea and flowers
- English
- Feel sad
- Sports teams

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

- We tend to stick with just one colour.
- Why people like one colour more than another.
- The other finding was that people change.
- Experiences change the way we feel about colour.
- People like darker colours as they get older.
- The BBC looked into studies from two universities.
- Since research began on colour in the 1800s.
- Many colours in nature we love are blue.
- Blue skies are enough to make people happy.
- One factor in choosing a favourite colour.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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