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Level 2

Blue most common eye colour in Britain

2nd September, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1409/140902-blue-eyes-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0 and 1 (easier) and the 26–page Level 3 (harder).

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1409/140902-blue-eyes-2.html>

Scientists made a map of the eye colour of people in Britain. They said the most common colour is blue. Thousands of years ago, British people's eyes were brown. The researchers found that 48 per cent of British people have blue eyes, 30 per cent have green eyes and 22 per cent have brown. The area around Edinburgh is where most people have blue eyes. Over half (57 per cent) of those in and around Edinburgh have blue eyes. The southwest of England has the fewest blue-eyed people - just 35 per cent. The scientists do not know why some regions of Britain have a lot of blue-eyed people.

The lead researcher of the study said the number of blue-eyed people is increasing because people think they are more attractive. People with blue eyes are more successful at finding a partner. He says having blue eyes is like a peacock's tail. A colourful tail will get a peacock more mates. The researcher says people are attracted to the sparkle in blue eyes. Light sparkles in blue eyes. Darker eyes generally have less sparkle. Another scientist explains why blue eyes are popular. He said: "There is something attractive about blue eyes, maybe because they used to be so rare."

Sources: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2738224/Is-rise-blue-eyes-attractive-Scientists-believe-colour-dominant-like-peacocks-tail.html#ixzz3Bwq8Kpa7>
<http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/blue-eyes-are-more-common-any-other-colour-britain-1463258>
<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/scots-are-ol-blue-eyes-says-study.25122864>

MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1409/140902-blue-eyes-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. a map of the eye | a. years ago |
| 2. They said the most common | b. of England |
| 3. Thousands of | c. of Britain have a lot |
| 4. the fewest blue- | d. not know why |
| 5. The scientists do | e. colour of people in Britain |
| 6. those in and | f. eyed people |
| 7. The southwest | g. colour is blue |
| 8. some regions | h. around Edinburgh |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. The lead researcher | a. like a peacock's tail |
| 2. the number of blue-eyed people | b. at finding a partner |
| 3. people think they | c. sparkle in blue eyes |
| 4. more successful | d. less sparkle |
| 5. having blue eyes is | e. is increasing |
| 6. people are attracted to the | f. be so rare |
| 7. Darker eyes generally have | g. of the study |
| 8. they used to | h. are more attractive |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1409/140902-blue-eyes-2.html>

Scientists (1) _____ eye colour of people in Britain. They said the most common colour is blue. (2) _____, British people's eyes were brown. The researchers found that 48 per cent of British people have blue eyes, 30 per cent have green eyes and 22 per cent have brown. The area around Edinburgh (3) _____ have blue eyes. Over half (57 per cent) (4) _____ Edinburgh have blue eyes. The southwest of England (5) _____ blue-eyed people - just 35 per cent. The scientists do not know why (6) _____ have a lot of blue-eyed people.

The (7) _____ the study said the number of blue-eyed people is increasing because people think they are more attractive. People with blue eyes (8) _____ at finding a partner. He says having blue eyes is like a peacock's tail. A (9) _____ a peacock more mates. The researcher says people are attracted to the (10) _____. Light sparkles in blue eyes. Darker eyes (11) _____ sparkle. Another scientist explains why blue eyes are popular. He said: "There is something attractive about blue eyes, maybe because they (12) _____."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1409/140902-blue-eyes-2.html>

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)
