

The Meaning of Colors

出處:105 嘉義縣國小英語朗讀

Colors have a great impact on our daily lives. Yet, few people know that colors have different meanings from one country to another or that the same color may even have different meanings within the same country.

In the Western world, for example, the color red usually means love. Red hearts and red roses are usually used to show love for loved ones. However, red can also mean that someone is very angry. In Taiwan, the color red is usually a symbol of good luck. Children in Taiwan look forward to receiving red envelopes during the Lunar New Year.

Green is related to nature. If you have a green thumb, it means you are good at gardening. However, if you say someone is a green-eyed monster it means he or she is very jealous of others. In Taiwan, wearing a green hat means someone might be cheated in a relationship.

In some Asian countries, such as China and Thailand, the color yellow makes people think of emperors and good fortune, while the same color brings to mind death and doom in Syria. In the West, yellow has traditionally been related to cowardice. For example, a yellow-belly is a word used in American slang to describe someone who is a coward.

The color pink makes people think about pretty young girls because girls often dress themselves from head-to-toe in pink. Interestingly, there is a pink jail in Texas. The color pink makes all the prisoners feel uncomfortable and ashamed. Therefore, no one wants to go back to the pink jail again.

It might be surprising that colors have different meanings both between and within countries. We should all know more about the different meanings behind the various colors and how they affect our daily lives.