



READING

Scanning
Using a chart to
organize your notes

VOCABULARY

Adding suffixes to
change verbs into
nouns

WRITING

Writing complete
sentences

GRAMMAR

Count and
noncount nouns

Discussion point

Discuss these questions with a partner.

- 1 What colors do you see in the picture? Are there any colors you do not see?

I can see a lot of... I don't see any...

- 2 What is your favorite color? Why?

My favorite color is ... because ...

- 3 What do you think these idioms mean?

The idiom ... means ...

“to tell a white lie”

“to see red”

“to see things in black and white”

“to do something once in a blue moon”

“to give someone the green light”

“to be in a gray area”

Vocabulary preview

Complete these sentences. Circle the correct meanings of the words in bold.

- The **background** of a picture is _____ the main part.
a in front of b behind
- If you draw a **horizontal** line, you draw it _____ of the page.
a across the bottom b down the side
- When you **perceive** something, you _____ it.
a notice b say
- If you **restrict** something, you _____ it.
a limit b expand
- To **signal** someone, you might _____.
a move or make a sound b think about the person
- If something **symbolizes** something, it _____ it by a sign.
a defeats b represents
- Something **universal** affects _____ in the world.
a no one b everyone
- If you draw a **vertical** line, you draw it _____ of the page.
a across the bottom b down the side

READING 1 Is seeing really believing?

Before you read

Try these experiments. Which takes longer? Why? Discuss with a partner.

- Read the color words as quickly as you can. Time yourself.
- Say the colors as quickly as you can. Time yourself.

BLUE	YELLOW	ORANGE
GREEN	BLUE	BLUE
PURPLE	GREEN	ORANGE
ORANGE	YELLOW	GREEN
RED	YELLOW	BLUE
PURPLE	PURPLE	RED
RED	RED	PURPLE
BLUE	YELLOW	ORANGE

Global reading

1 Skim *Is seeing really believing?* Check (✓) what it is mainly about.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Color and personality | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Number puzzles |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Optical illusions | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Web design |

SCANNING

Scanning is searching a text to find specific information or key words, such as names, dates, or statistics. Like skimming (unit 2), you do not read every word. You also do not need to start at the beginning of a text. Instead, you can predict where you think the information is and start there.

2 Scan *Is seeing really believing?* Circle the color words.

Close reading

Read *Is seeing really believing?* Correct these false sentences.

- Color is created by our eyes.
- Illusion plays a role in how our brain perceives images.
- In the first illusion, the colors are different.
- Vision is created according to our past experiences.
- We all see the world in the same way.

IS SEEING REALLY BELIEVING?

¹ Tomatoes are red, the sky is blue, and bananas are yellow, right? Well, not exactly. Color does not really exist, at least not in a literal or universal sense. What exists is light. Light is real, but color is not. Color is simply created by and restricted to the brain. We know this because colors can look different in our minds.

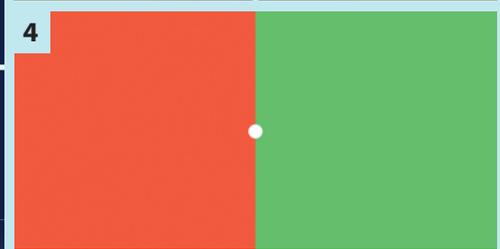
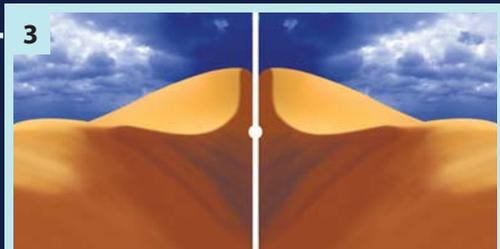
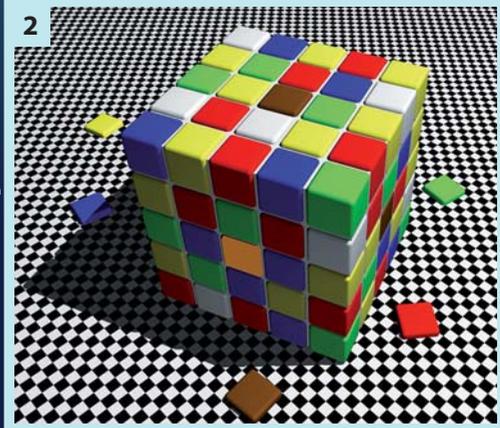
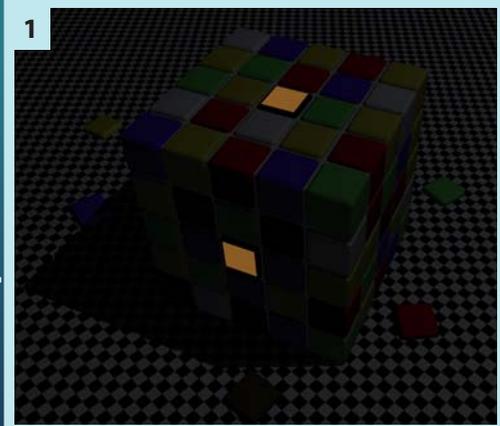
² We're told to trust our eyes, but our eyes just don't have that much to do with vision. We see much more with our brains, and it's easy to play tricks on the brain. We perceive these differences because the brain doesn't necessarily want to see the actual image. Rather, it wants to make sense of the image. The brain does this by looking at the surrounding context.

³ Look at the two tiles in picture 1. They are identical in color. Now look at what happens when we change their context in picture 2. In their new context, the horizontal and vertical lines look the same, but their colors look different. The context suggests that the dark brown tile on the top shows a poorly reflected surface under bright light. The bright orange tile on the side suggests a highly reflective surface in shadow. You see different colors now because your brain thinks they have a different meaning. This is an example of an optical illusion.

⁴ Color is created according to our past experiences. When you see something as an optical illusion, it is because your brain behaves as if the objects in the current images are real, in the same way as images you have seen previously.

⁵ Look at the scenes of the desert in picture 3. They have the same color composition of blues and yellows. Now stare at the dot in picture 4 for one minute. Look back at the desert scenes. The reason the colors now appear different is because your brain incorporates the recent history of red on the left and green on the right into the second image, at least for a short time.

⁶ This raises the question: Do you see what I see? The answer, in short, is no. Our experiences and histories in the world are different. In fact, none of us even sees the world as it really is, but rather as a meaning derived from our own unique experiences. Seeing is not, in fact, believing.



ACADEMIC KEYWORDS

derive	(v)	/dɪˈraɪv/
exist	(v)	/ɪgˈzɪst/
identical	(adj)	/aɪˈdentɪk(ə)l/

Developing critical thinking

Discuss these questions in a group.

1 Did the optical illusions work for you? Which was the most interesting?

Both / Neither of the optical illusions worked for me because ...

2 Describe a situation where you "couldn't believe your eyes"?

I couldn't believe my eyes when I saw ...

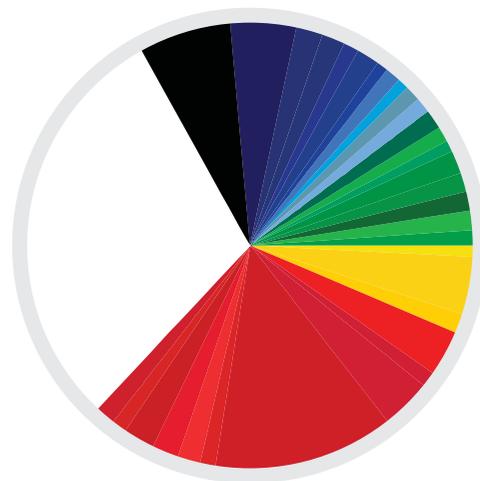
3 Do you think optical illusions are clever or silly? Why?

In my opinion, optical illusions are clever / silly because ...

READING 2 Colors and flags

Before you read

This pie chart shows the colors on all the countries' flags in the world. What color is most used on the flags? Why do you think this color is used so much? What colors are not very popular? What colors are on your country's flag? Discuss with a partner.



*The color that is most used in the pie chart is I think this is because ...
The colors ... are not very popular.
The colors on my country's flag are ...*

Global reading

Scan *Colors and flags*. Write the country or organization of these flags.

Close reading

1 Highlight and annotate *Colors and flags*, or take notes.

USING A CHART TO ORGANIZE YOUR NOTES

One way to organize the notes you take is to put certain information in charts. This can be especially useful when you are comparing or contrasting information. One of the easiest ways is to organize your notes in columns.

2 Complete the chart about colors in national flags using your annotations or notes. Some colors have two meanings.

	Meaning 1	Meaning 2
Black		
White		
Blue		
Red		
Green		
Yellow		
Red, white, and blue		
Green, gold, and red		
Black, white, green, and red		

3 Complete these sentences.

- The most common use of flags is to _____.
- Blue was chosen for the U.N. flag because it is _____.
- The Olympic™ flag colors were chosen because _____.
- In motor racing a black and white checked flag means _____.
- When rules are broken in Canadian football, the _____ flag is used.



1



2



3



4



5



6

Colors and flags

ACADEMIC KEYWORDS

appear	(v)	/ə'pɪr/
indicate	(v)	/'ɪndɪ,keɪt/
represent	(v)	/,reprɪ'zent/

¹ They decorate, communicate, and warn, but the most common use of flags is to symbolize the unity of a nation. The colors on flags are often highly symbolic as well. Black often represents strength and determination. White can represent peace and purity. Blue can mean freedom and prosperity. Red might represent blood and courage. Green can be the color of earth or agriculture. Yellow or gold often represent the sun and wealth. Of course, with so many countries in the world, individual colors may have different meanings entirely, and may depend on historical or cultural factors, or even how we perceive certain colors.

² Groups of colors can also have meaning. The most common three colors—red, white, and blue—represent freedom and revolution. These colors are on flags from the U.S., the U.K., Chile, Australia, Cuba, and many others. France's flag has three vertical stripes of blue, white, and red, while Russia's has the same colors but with three horizontal stripes. Another popular grouping is green, gold, and red, representing African unity and identity. Mali's flag has three vertical stripes of these colors. Many other African countries also use these three colors, such as Cameroon, Guinea, and Senegal.

³ There are other groupings of colors. For example, Colombia's flag has three vertical stripes. Yellow represents the metal gold, blue represents the sea, and red represents blood. These colors can also be found on the flags of Venezuela and Ecuador, Colombia's neighbors. And then there are the colors that represent Arab unity: black, white, green, and red. Each of these colors represents a different Arab dynasty, or era. The flag of the United Arab Emirates

consists of a red vertical stripe on the left side, with three horizontal stripes of green, white, and black. These four colors can be seen on many other flags, including Syria, Kuwait, and Jordan.



⁴ Since 1947, the flag of the United Nations has contained a white world map on a light blue background. These are the official colors of the U.N. Blue was chosen because it is "the opposite of red," which sometimes symbolizes blood. The Olympic™ flag was designed in 1914 and first flown in 1920. It has five rings of blue, yellow, black, green, and red on a white background. These colors were chosen because at least one of them appeared on the flag of every country of the world at that time.

⁵ Flags are used in many sports to signal and communicate. In Australia, yellow and red flags on the beach indicate swimming conditions. There are no universal standards, but in auto racing a green flag generally means start, yellow means caution, red means stop, and a black and white checked flag means the race is finished. American football uses a yellow flag when a rule is broken, while Canadian football uses an orange flag. Flags are not restricted to the field. Many sports teams have their own flags and fans wave them to show support for their favorite team.

Developing critical thinking

1 Discuss these questions in a group.

- 1 Which of the emotions in the box on the right do you feel when you see your country's flag? Why?

When I see my country's flag, I feel ... because ...

- 2 What else can be used on a flag to symbolize a country? Give examples.

Flags can also use ... to symbolize the country, such as ...

EMOTIONS

brave	happy
calm	interested
confident	proud

2 Think about the ideas from *Is seeing really believing?* and *Colors and flags* and discuss these questions in a group.

1 What do the colors in the box on the right make you think of?

*Black and white reminds me of...
Dark blue makes me think of...*

2 Did you all agree? Why or why not?

*We did / didn't agree about dark blue.
It makes me think of..., and it makes my partner think of...*

COLORS

- black and white
- bright yellow
- dark blue
- light brown
- pink



Vocabulary skill

ADDING SUFFIXES TO CHANGE VERBS INTO NOUNS

A suffix is a group of letters added to the end of a word to change its part of speech.

Here are some common suffixes that can change verbs into nouns:

- | | | | |
|-------|---------------------|-------|-------------------|
| -tion | create → creation | -ance | defy → defiance |
| -sion | admit → admission | -ence | exist → existence |
| -ment | commit → commitment | | |

It is best to consult a dictionary to determine the correct suffix.

1 Change these verbs into nouns by adding suffixes. You may need to make spelling changes. Then check your answers in a dictionary.

- | | | | |
|-----------|-------|------------|-------|
| 1 arrange | _____ | 4 inform | _____ |
| 2 appear | _____ | 5 depress | _____ |
| 3 depend | _____ | 6 restrict | _____ |

2 Change these nouns into verbs by removing the suffix. You may need to make spelling changes. Then check your answers in a dictionary.

- | | | | |
|---------------|-------|--------------|-------|
| 1 composition | _____ | 4 conclusion | _____ |
| 2 management | _____ | 5 indication | _____ |
| 3 preference | _____ | 6 allowance | _____ |

3 Make the verbs in the box into nouns by adding the correct suffix. Then complete these sentences with the nouns.

appoint assist compose confuse differ enjoy replace suggest

- 1 That woman needs help. Can someone please call for _____?
- 2 My old black ink printer broke. It is time for me to get a _____.
- 3 The old tiles have a beautiful color _____ on them.
- 4 I cannot decide what color to paint my room. Do you have a _____?
- 5 Lisa gets a lot of _____ from helping others.
- 6 What is the _____ between an optical and visual illusion?
- 7 There seems to be some _____ over the exact name of this color.
- 8 I am not well. I need to make an _____ to see a doctor.

WRITING Describing colors

You are going to learn about writing complete sentences, and count and noncount nouns. You are then going to use these to write a paragraph describing what colors symbolize in your culture.

Writing skill

WRITING COMPLETE SENTENCES

A fragment is a piece of a sentence. Fragments cannot stand on their own as a complete sentence. They are common in speaking but should be avoided in writing. Fragments can lack a subject or verb, or begin with words like: *before, after, because, since, unless, until, when, while, if, although.*

Fragments

Has five rings of blue, yellow, black, green, and red. (no subject)

Certain colors of flags in sports. (no verb)

Since they adopted the U.N flag in 1947.

If the U.N. wants to change its flag.

Sentences

The Olympic flag has five rings of blue, yellow, black, green, and red.

Certain colors of flags in sports are used to communicate.

Since they adopted the U.N flag in 1947, it has changed slightly.

It will not be easy if the U.N. wants to change its flag.

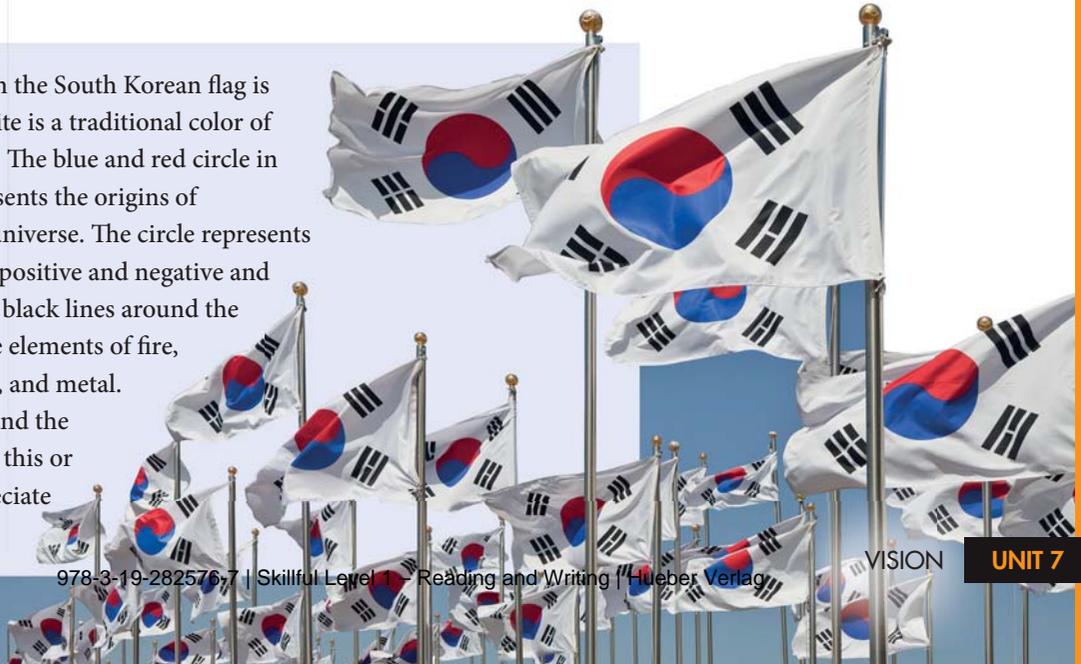
1 Read these items. Write F (fragment) or S (sentence).

- 1 After we got home last night. _____
- 2 Many flags in the Middle East contain the color green. _____
- 3 Yemen's flag is three horizontal stripes of red, white, and black. _____
- 4 Because I study English. _____
- 5 I cannot tell the difference between violet and purple. _____
- 6 The colors in the sunset were beautiful. _____
- 7 The color that I like the most. _____
- 8 When I wake up every morning. _____

2 There are four fragments in this paragraph. Rewrite the fragments as sentences.

The background on the South Korean flag is white. Because white is a traditional color of the Korean people. The blue and red circle in the center. It represents the origins of everything in the universe. The circle represents opposites. Such as positive and negative and night and day. The black lines around the circle represent the elements of fire, water, earth, wood, and metal.

After you understand the symbolism behind this or any flag. You appreciate it more.



Grammar

COUNT AND NONCOUNT NOUNS

Count nouns

Count nouns are nouns that we can count. They can be singular (e.g. *flag, color, box*) or plural (e.g. *flags, colors, boxes*).

Noncount nouns

Noncount nouns are nouns that we cannot count. They can only be singular (e.g. *freedom, peace, water*). Study these categories of noncount nouns:

Category	Examples
1 Liquids	coffee, milk, tea, oil, _____
2 Solids	bread, butter, meat, silver, _____
3 Small particles	flour, hair, sand, sugar, _____
4 Collective (group) nouns	furniture, food, luggage, _____
5 Abstract nouns	fun, health, honesty, peace, _____
6 Fields of study	chemistry, law, philosophy, _____
7 Natural phenomena	rain, sunshine, thunder, _____

- 1 Complete the grammar box above. Use the nouns in the box below. There are two nouns for each category.

Arabic cheese clothing engineering friendship gasoline
gold heat information money rice salt water weather

- 2 Read these sentences. Write **C** (count) or **N** (noncount) for the words in bold.

- If you want me to make **cookies** (___), please buy some **flour** (___), and **sugar** (___).
- The **weather** (___) was terrible on our **vacation** (___). There was **rain** (___) every **day** (___).
- Our **teacher** (___) said our **homework** (___) is not due until **Tuesday** (___).
- At my **university** (___) lots of **students** (___) study **economics** (___).
- Can you buy some **bread** (___), **cheese** (___), **fruit** (___), and **carrots** (___).
- This brown **furniture** (___) is not **wood** (___). It is some kind of cheap **plastic** (___).

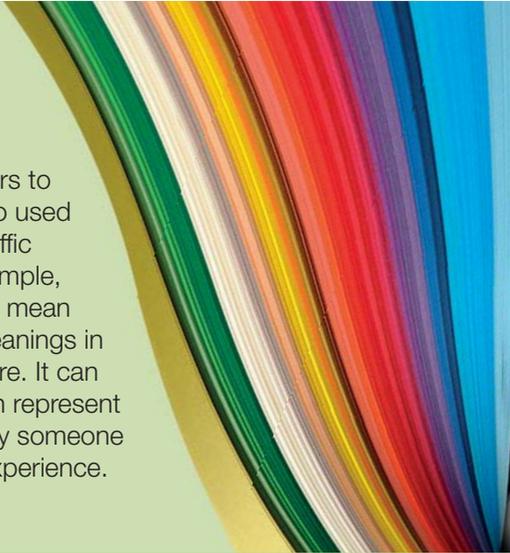
- 3 Circle the nouns. Then correct the sentences.

- It takes a lot of **patiences** to teach children.
- Iris never tells **lies**. She always tells the **truths**.
- I need some **advice** on finding a job where I can use my **Englishes**.
- The **informations** in these brochures is not accurate.
- That department store sells both food and **furnitures**.
- This meat needs **salts** and this sauce needs **pepper**.
- The color **red** can represent **bloods** and **courage**.
- The **chemicals** in the **waters** make it look orange.

WRITING TASK

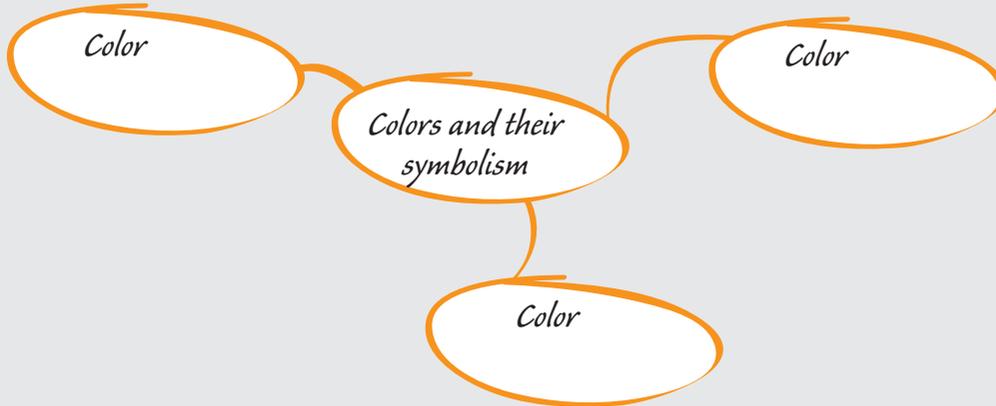
Read this paragraph. Underline the count nouns. Circle the noncount nouns. There is one sentence fragment. Make it a sentence.

Like many colors, yellow, blue, and green can have different meanings in different cultures. In my culture, yellow often means a lack of bravery. If you are afraid of something, you might be considered “yellow.” We also have an expression “yellow journalism.” This refers to journalism that is not always 100% true. Yellow is also used to mean slow down. Since it’s the middle color on traffic lights. The color blue can represent sadness. For example, the expressions “to feel blue” and “to have the blues” mean to feel very sad. The color green can have several meanings in my culture. It can symbolize spring, growth, and nature. It can represent recycling and environmentalism. It can even represent money because our currency is green. Also, if you say someone is “green” it means that they don’t have very much experience. I’m not sure why we say that!



BRAINSTORM

Choose three colors. What do they symbolize in your culture? Do they have more than one meaning? Are there expressions in your language or examples that can help illustrate the meaning? Complete the word map with your ideas.



PLAN

Plan a paragraph describing what the three colors symbolize in your culture. Look back at your brainstorm and write a topic sentence. Choose the most interesting information to include in your paragraph.

WRITE

Write your paragraph. Pay attention to your use of count and noncount nouns. Avoid fragments.

SHARE

Exchange paragraphs with a partner. Look at the checklist on page 109 and provide feedback to your partner.

REWRITE AND EDIT

Consider your partner’s comments and rewrite your paragraph.