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## **Cleopatra's eye make-up had health benefits**

[http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1001/100108-eye\\_make-up.html](http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1001/100108-eye_make-up.html)

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8th January, 2010

# THE ARTICLE

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1001/100108-eye\\_make-up.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1001/100108-eye_make-up.html)

The heavy eye make-up used by ancient Egyptians may have been good for the eyes. This is according to a study by French scientists published in the journal Analytical Chemistry. The researchers found that the lead in the cosmetics helped fight off bacteria that cause eye infections. It did this by stimulating the cells in the immune system. The scientists, from the Louvre Museum and the CNRS research institute, analyzed the lead salts found in the make-up. Lead is usually a risk to health but the low levels in the make-up had health benefits. Lead researcher Philippe Walter said: "We knew ancient Greeks and Romans noted the make-up had medicinal properties, but we wanted to determine exactly how."

The make-up used by the ancient Egyptians helped darken the eyes and make them look sexier. It sometimes took many weeks to make the special mixture. The most famous "model" for the cosmetics was the Queen of Egypt Cleopatra. She used eye make-up to try to win the heart of the emperor Mark Anthony. The story of their love was made famous by the Shakespeare play 'Anthony and Cleopatra'. Fashion has changed little in the past 2,000 years. Women and men spend a fortune every year on making their eyes look more attractive. There is a multi-billion-dollar industry based on mascara, eyeliner, eye moisturizer and false eyelashes.

# WARM-UPS

**1. EYE MAKE-UP:** Walk around the class and talk to other students about eye make-up. Change partners often. Sit with your first partner(s) and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

*eye make-up / ancient Egyptians / cosmetics / bacteria / immune system / risks / sexy eyes / Cleopatra / love stories / spending a fortune / mascara / false eyelashes*

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

**3. COSMETICS:** What's best? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners and share what you wrote. Change again and share what you heard.

For...	Attractive	Not attractive
the eyes		
the lips		
the nails		
the cheeks		
the face		
the body		

**4. ATTRACTIVE:** Students A **strongly** believe cosmetics are not necessary to make someone look more attractive; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**5. SEXY:** Which of these are sexiest? Rate them and share your ratings with your partner: 10 = super sexy; 1 = not at all sexy; in fact, a real turn-off. Change partners and share your ratings again.

- eye make-up
- a smile
- intelligence
- tight-fitting clothes
- muscles
- a sense of humour
- a tall, slim body
- an accent

**6. ANCIENT EGYPTANS:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the Ancient Egyptians. Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1001/100108-eye\\_make-up.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1001/100108-eye_make-up.html)

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

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| a. A study by Egyptians found their ancient make-up was healthy.       | T / F |
| b. The chemical lead can reduce eye infections when used in cosmetics. | T / F |
| c. Low levels of lead makes the body's immune system fight bacteria.   | T / F |
| d. Ancient Greeks used make-up but ancient Romans didn't.              | T / F |
| e. Ancient Egyptians sometimes spent weeks making make-up.             | T / F |
| f. The Egyptian queen Cleopatra used to be a make-up model.            | T / F |
| g. Shakespeare wrote a well-known play called 'Cleopatra and Anthony'. | T / F |
| h. The eye make-up industry is worth millions of dollars.              | T / F |

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** Match the following synonyms from the article.

- |               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. make-up    | a. keep away      |
| 2. study      | b. more desirable |
| 3. fight off  | c. attempt        |
| 4. analyzed   | d. beautiful      |
| 5. exactly    | e. report         |
| 6. sexier     | f. lots of money  |
| 7. try        | g. investigated   |
| 8. a fortune  | h. cosmetics      |
| 9. attractive | i. artificial     |
| 10. false     | j. precisely      |

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

- |                                     |                               |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. heavy                            | a. how                        |
| 2. according to a                   | b. a fortune                  |
| 3. fight                            | c. eye make-up                |
| 4. Lead is usually a risk           | d. them look sexier           |
| 5. we wanted to determine exactly   | e. based on mascara           |
| 6. darken the eyes and make         | f. off bacteria               |
| 7. try to win the                   | g. changed little             |
| 8. Fashion has                      | h. to health                  |
| 9. spend                            | i. study by French scientists |
| 10. a multi-billion-dollar industry | j. heart of the emperor       |

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# WHILE READING / LISTENING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1001/100108-eye\\_make-up.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1001/100108-eye_make-up.html)

**GAP FILL:** Put the words into the gaps in the text.

The \_\_\_\_\_ eye make-up used by ancient Egyptians may have been good for the eyes. This is \_\_\_\_\_ to a study by French scientists published in the journal Analytical Chemistry. The researchers \_\_\_\_\_ that the lead in the cosmetics helped fight off bacteria that cause eye infections. It did this by stimulating the cells in the \_\_\_\_\_ system. The scientists, from the Louvre Museum and the CNRS research institute, \_\_\_\_\_ the lead salts found in the make-up. Lead is usually a risk to \_\_\_\_\_ but the low levels in the make-up had health \_\_\_\_\_. Lead researcher Philippe Walter said: "We knew ancient Greeks and Romans noted the make-up had medicinal properties, but we wanted to determine \_\_\_\_\_ how."

*benefits*  
*analyzed*  
*found*  
*health*  
*heavy*  
*exactly*  
*according*  
*immune*

The make-up used by the ancient Egyptians helped \_\_\_\_\_ the eyes and make them look \_\_\_\_\_. It sometimes took many weeks to make the special mixture. The most famous "model" for the cosmetics was the Queen of Egypt Cleopatra. She used eye make-up to try to \_\_\_\_\_ the heart of the emperor Mark Anthony. The story of their love was made \_\_\_\_\_ by the Shakespeare play 'Anthony and Cleopatra'. Fashion has changed \_\_\_\_\_ in the past 2,000 years. Women and men spend a \_\_\_\_\_ every year on making their eyes look more \_\_\_\_\_. There is a multi-billion-dollar industry based on mascara, eyeliner, eye moisturizer and \_\_\_\_\_ eyelashes.

*famous*  
*attractive*  
*little*  
*sexier*  
*darken*  
*false*  
*fortune*  
*win*

## LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1001/100108-eye\\_make-up.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1001/100108-eye_make-up.html)

The heavy eye make-up used by ancient Egyptians \_\_\_\_\_ for the eyes. This is according to a study by French scientists published in the journal Analytical Chemistry. The researchers \_\_\_\_\_ in the cosmetics \_\_\_\_\_ bacteria that cause eye infections. It did this by stimulating the cells in the immune system. The scientists, from the Louvre Museum and the CNRS research institute, analyzed the lead salts found in the make-up. Lead is usually \_\_\_\_\_ but the low levels in the make-up had health benefits. Lead researcher Philippe Walter said: “\_\_\_\_\_ Greeks and Romans noted the make-up had medicinal properties, but we \_\_\_\_\_ exactly how.”

The make-up used by the ancient Egyptians \_\_\_\_\_ eyes and make them look sexier. It sometimes \_\_\_\_\_ make the special mixture. The most famous “model” for the cosmetics was the Queen of Egypt Cleopatra. She used eye make-up to try \_\_\_\_\_ of the emperor Mark Anthony. The story of their love was made famous by the Shakespeare play ‘Anthony and Cleopatra’. Fashion \_\_\_\_\_ in the past 2,000 years. Women and men spend a fortune every year on \_\_\_\_\_ look more attractive. There is a multi-billion-dollar industry based on mascara, eyeliner, eye moisturizer and \_\_\_\_\_.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1001/100108-eye\\_make-up.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1001/100108-eye_make-up.html)

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

<b>eye</b>	<b>lashes</b>
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- 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"><li>• may</li><li>• cause</li><li>• cells</li><li>• analyzed</li><li>• low</li><li>• exactly</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• darken</li><li>• weeks</li><li>• win</li><li>• play</li><li>• fortune</li><li>• industry</li></ul>
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# STUDENT EYE MAKE-UP SURVEY

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1001/100108-eye\\_make-up.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1001/100108-eye_make-up.html)

Write five GOOD questions about eye make-up 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.



# EYE MAKE-UP DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'make-up'?
- c) What do you think about make-up?
- d) Do you think make-up really makes someone look better?
- e) What do you think of the idea of make-up that has health benefits?
- f) Do you think chemicals in make-up can harm the body?
- g) Are really expensive cosmetics much better than cheap ones?
- h) What is the best cosmetics company?
- i) Do people look better with or without cosmetics?
- j) Is decorating / painting our faces with cosmetics something from the times of cave people, and therefore outdated?

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# EYE MAKE-UP DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article?
- b) Do darkened eyes look sexier?
- c) What kind of eyes are sexiest for you?
- d) What do you know about Cleopatra's make-up?
- e) If you try to win someone's heart by using make-up, what happens when you take it off?
- f) Is it OK to put on make-up on a crowded train?
- g) What do you think make-up will be like 100 years from now?
- h) Do people spend too much money on cosmetics?
- i) What do you think of false eyelashes?
- j) What questions would you like to ask a cosmetics company boss?

# LANGUAGE – MULTIPLE CHOICE

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1001/100108-eye\\_make-up.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1001/100108-eye_make-up.html)

The heavy eye make-up (1) \_\_\_\_ by ancient Egyptians may have been good for the eyes. This is according (2) \_\_\_\_ a study by French scientists published in the journal Analytical Chemistry. The researchers found that the lead in the cosmetics helped fight (3) \_\_\_\_ bacteria that cause eye infections. It did this by stimulating the cells in the immune (4) \_\_\_\_\_. The scientists, from the Louvre Museum and the CNRS research institute, analyzed the lead salts found in the make-up. Lead is usually a (5) \_\_\_\_ to health but the low levels in the make-up had health benefits. Lead researcher Philippe Walter said: "We knew ancient Greeks and Romans noted the make-up had medicinal properties, but we wanted to determine (6) \_\_\_\_ how."

The make-up used by the ancient Egyptians helped (7) \_\_\_\_ the eyes and make them look sexier. It sometimes took many weeks to make the special (8) \_\_\_\_\_. The most famous "model" for the cosmetics was the Queen of Egypt Cleopatra. She used eye make-up to try to (9) \_\_\_\_ the heart of the emperor Mark Anthony. The story of their love was made famous by the Shakespeare play 'Anthony and Cleopatra'. Fashion has changed (10) \_\_\_\_ in the past 2,000 years. Women and men spend a fortune every year (11) \_\_\_\_ making their eyes look more attractive. There is a multi-billion-dollar industry based on mascara, eyeliner, eye moisturizer and (12) \_\_\_\_ eyelashes.

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

- |     |               |                 |               |             |
|-----|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|
| 1.  | (a) usage     | (b) used        | (c) using     | (d) uses    |
| 2.  | (a) at        | (b) by          | (c) to        | (d) of      |
| 3.  | (a) off       | (b) in          | (c) on        | (d) with    |
| 4.  | (a) systemize | (b) systematize | (c) systemic  | (d) system  |
| 5.  | (a) risks     | (b) risky       | (c) risk      | (d) riskier |
| 6.  | (a) exactly   | (b) exact       | (c) exactness | (d) exacts  |
| 7.  | (a) darkening | (b) dark        | (c) darkest   | (d) darken  |
| 8.  | (a) mixes     | (b) mixture     | (c) mixing    | (d) mix-up  |
| 9.  | (a) success   | (b) victory     | (c) beat      | (d) win     |
| 10. | (a) small     | (b) few         | (c) little    | (d) tiny    |
| 11. | (a) in        | (b) on          | (c) of        | (d) to      |
| 12. | (a) false     | (b) imitate     | (c) copy      | (d) pirated |

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# 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 eye make-up. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. COSMETICS:** Make a poster about cosmetics – the good and bad things. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. FORTUNE:** Write a magazine article about someone who spends a fortune on cosmetics. Include imaginary interviews with that person and someone who thinks cosmetics are a waste of money.

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. LETTER:** Write a letter to the boss of a cosmetics company. Ask him/her three questions about eye make-up. Give him/her three suggestions for new products. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE:

- a. F      b. T      c. T      d. F      e. T      f. F      g. F      h. F

## SYNONYM MATCH:

- |               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. make-up    | a. cosmetics      |
| 2. study      | b. report         |
| 3. fight off  | c. keep away      |
| 4. analyzed   | d. investigated   |
| 5. exactly    | e. precisely      |
| 6. sexier     | f. more desirable |
| 7. try        | g. attempt        |
| 8. a fortune  | h. lots of money  |
| 9. attractive | i. beautiful      |
| 10. false     | j. artificial     |

## PHRASE MATCH:

- |                                     |                               |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. heavy                            | a. eye make-up                |
| 2. according to a                   | b. study by French scientists |
| 3. fight                            | c. off bacteria               |
| 4. Lead is usually a risk           | d. to health                  |
| 5. we wanted to determine exactly   | e. how                        |
| 6. darken the eyes and make         | f. them look sexier           |
| 7. try to win the                   | g. heart of the emperor       |
| 8. Fashion has                      | h. changed little             |
| 9. spend                            | i. a fortune                  |
| 10. a multi-billion-dollar industry | j. based on mascara           |

## GAP FILL:

### Cleopatra's eye make-up had health benefits

The **heavy** eye make-up used by ancient Egyptians may have been good for the eyes. This is **according** to a study by French scientists published in the journal Analytical Chemistry. The researchers **found** that the lead in the cosmetics helped fight off bacteria that cause eye infections. It did this by stimulating the cells in the **immune** system. The scientists, from the Louvre Museum and the CNRS research institute, **analyzed** the lead salts found in the make-up. Lead is usually a risk to **health** but the low levels in the make-up had health **benefits**. Lead researcher Philippe Walter said: "We knew ancient Greeks and Romans noted the make-up had medicinal properties, but we wanted to determine **exactly** how."

The make-up used by the ancient Egyptians helped **darken** the eyes and make them look **sexier**. It sometimes took many weeks to make the special mixture. The most famous "model" for the cosmetics was the Queen of Egypt Cleopatra. She used eye make-up to try to **win** the heart of the emperor Mark Anthony. The story of their love was made **famous** by the Shakespeare play 'Anthony and Cleopatra'. Fashion has changed **little** in the past 2,000 years. Women and men spend a **fortune** every year on making their eyes look more **attractive**. There is a multi-billion-dollar industry based on mascara, eyeliner, eye moisturizer and **false** eyelashes.

## LANGUAGE WORK

- 1 - b    2 - c    3 - a    4 - d    5 - c    6 - a    7 - d    8 - b    9 - d    10 - c    11 - b    12 - a

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