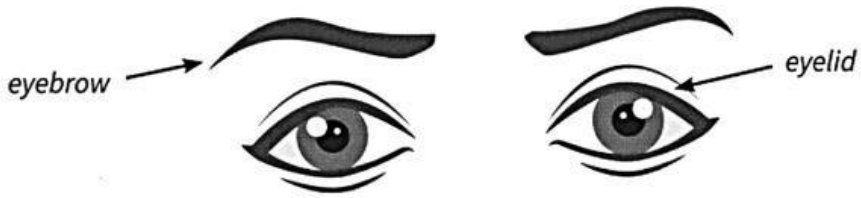
Eye colour change is riskiest cosmetic surgery

Eye idioms

The eyes are the basis of a large number of idioms. Note the idioms and their meanings in these paragraphs.



I **couldn't believe my eyes**[1] when I first saw her. She was so beautiful, I just **couldn't keep my eyes off**[2] her. I tried to **catch her eye**[3] to say hello.

Mia and I were good friends at first, but now we don't **see eye to eye**[7]. I know the fact that we stopped being friends **raised a few eyebrows**[8] at the time.

It all happened in the **blink of an eye**[12] and no one could do anything to prevent it. It was horrible. But the police officer standing nearby **didn't bat an eyelid**[13]. Then something **caught my eye**[14] which shocked me even more.

As a teacher myself, I know that teaching is not easy. You always have to **keep an eye on**[4] the students, but sometimes you just have to **turn a blind eye**[5] if they behave badly. If you want to be a teacher, you have to go into the profession **with your eyes open**[6].

Could you **run/cast your eye over**[9] this report and see if there are any spelling mistakes? My computer's **on the blink**[10] and the spell-checker refuses to work. These reports are important, and I always have to **have/keep one eye on**[11] how the boss will react to them if they look untidy.

Working in such a poor country **opened my eyes to**[15] how unjust the world is. It was indeed **a real eye-opener**[16].

[1] couldn't believe what I was seeing
[2] couldn't stop looking at her
[3] get her attention; make her look at me
[4] keep your attention on
[5] ignore behaviour which you know is wrong
[6] aware of all the problems there could be
[7] agree with each other
[8] surprised/shocked people
[9] have a quick look at
[10] beginning to break down and go wrong, probably because it is old (*to blink* means to close and open your eyes very quickly)
[11] observe carefully
[12] extremely short time
[13] didn't react at all
[14] made me look
[15] made me understand for the first time
[16] an event or situation that I unexpectedly learnt something from

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Write a suitable response to each of these remarks with an idiom. Use the keyword in brackets.

1 A: Oh! We're doing 58 and the speed limit is 50. There's a police car there!
  B: Don't worry, if it's just over the limit, they usually ..... . (BLIND)
2 A: There's Petra over there. I wonder if she's seen us?
  B: I don't know. Let's wave and see if we can ..... . (CATCH)
3 A: Are you and Sara not friends any more?
  B: No, not really, we just don't ..... . (SEE)
4 A: Is there something wrong with this photocopier?
  B: Yes, it's been ..... for a while now. (BLINK)
5 A: Was it an interesting experience working for Social Services?
  B: Yes, I learnt a lot of things. It was a real ..... . (OPEN)
6 A: Did she react in any way when you told her the awful news?
  B: No, she didn't ..... . (BAT)

Circle the correct word to complete each sentence.

1 If you want to be a professional athlete, you have to go into it with your eye / eyes open.
2 Will you cast your eye / eyes over this report? I have to hand it in tomorrow.
3 Erik is so crazy about Amina. Look at him! He can't keep his eye / eyes off her!
4 The events of last night really opened my eye / eyes to just how arrogant he really is.
5 I couldn't believe my eye / eyes when I saw what a mess they had made of the room.

Rewrite the underlined part of each sentence with an eye idiom.

1 An accident can happen so quickly you can't stop it.
2 His behaviour at the meeting surprised a few people.
3 You should take into consideration your chances of promotion when taking up a new job.
4 A very strange sight forced me to look as I was driving along the motorway yesterday.

Listen and complete the gaps.

Increasing numbers of people worldwide are_____ cosmetic surgery to enhance their looks. What prospective patients may not know is _____ to change the colour of one's eyes are the riskiest. Research conducted by the online _____ Overnight Glasses asserts that eye colour surgery comes with a 92 per cent _____ complications. Eye colour change tops the researchers' list of riskiest cosmetic procedures. Such operations include iris implants and laser _____ . There is also a procedure called keratopigmentation. This is a permanent eye colour change in which a special colourant is inserted into the eyes using _____ technology.

Earlier this year, the American Academy of Ophthalmology _____ against eye colour change procedures. Dr Ashley Brissette highlighted things that could go wrong. These include _____ , allergic reactions, infections, sensitivity to light, damage to the cornea that can lead to cloudiness or _____ , and ultimately blindness. She said: "Anything that we do with the eyes, we have to be very _____ ." The researchers said recovery time can be up to two months, and the _____ of surgery is $12,000. Ophthalmologist Nicole Bajic advised getting coloured contact lenses instead of going under _____ . She said this, "can give you the look you want without putting your eye health at risk".

LIVEWORKSHEETS