

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

COLORS / EMOTIONS

ENGLISH IDIOM – ARE YOU GREEN WITH ENVY?

- Watch the **YouTube** video (3:14) and fill in the missing words.



Easy English Conversation presents . . . “Are you green with envy?” In English, when you say that you are green with envy, it has a **(1)** _____ meaning. “Envy” is a noun. The adjective is “envious.” “Envious” means “jealous.” And “jealous” means that you **(2)** _____ something that another person has. For example, maybe your friend has lots of money, and **(3)** _____ cars, and a big, beautiful home. And maybe you don’t have these things, but you want them very much! When this happens, you can say, “I’m green with envy.” Of course, it’s **(4)** _____ a good feeling when you feel green with envy! Very **(5)** _____, people use this **(6)** _____ as a kind of joke. They might say, “Did you see Mary’s new sports car? I’m green with envy!” They might just mean that they are happy for Mary. Maybe. Like in many other **(7)** _____, people can use colors to talk about how they feel. For example, black can mean a person feels **(8)** _____. Red can mean that a person feels **(9)** _____. It’s easy to understand these colors and how they have special meanings. But where does the idiom “green with envy” come from? Why green? It comes from William Shakespeare, who lived in England, hundreds of years ago. In his writing, he called envy a “green-eyed monster.” A green-eyed monster? Well, like I said, envy isn’t a good **(10)** _____. It can feel like a monster sometimes!

FUN FACT: Hundreds of millions of years ago, most plants were probably
(A) purple / (B) green / (C) yellow

Aim Listening and Reading practice / Learning an Idiom

Level Intermediate

Video 3 minutes 14 seconds

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=94w-jE6tYBo>

ANSWER KEY

(1) bad, (2) want, (3) expensive, (4) never, (5) often, (6) idiom,
(7) languages, (8) sad, (9) angry, (10) feeling

FUN FACT: Most plants were probably (A) **purple**

ACTIVITY NOTES

1.

As a fun way to get things started, begin your **Colors** or **Emotions** lesson by asking your learners how they might feel when they are “green with envy.” Mention that everyone, sometimes, can feel “green with envy.” Tell them that they will watch a video that explains the meaning.

2.

Distribute the attached YouTube Idiom Worksheet and play the video. Be sure to stop the video when you hear the bell and see the words “Fun Fact!” (2:09)

3.

Consider playing the video a second time as your learners fill in the missing words. Note that *Closed Captioning** is available, so you may want to turn this function on, the second time, to help your students. Again, as above, stop the video when you hear the bell and see the words, “Fun Fact!”

4.

Have your learners take a guess at the color of most plants hundreds of millions of years ago. Continue the video to find out the answer (purple).

5.

Continue the lesson by discussing what makes you and your students green with envy. You may want to assign writing homework directly related to this idiom; you can find this at: <https://www.allthingstopics.com/idiom-quiz-green-with-envy.html>

** This Closed Captioning function can be found in the bottom bar of the YouTube video. It has been added to the video directly from the script and contains no transcription errors (such as misspellings) that can often occur (when closed captioning is automated).*