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The word "grey" (or "gray," in American English) is a versatile term that encompasses various meanings, connotations, and uses across linguistic Origins\*\*Etymology: The word "grey" derives from the Old English "grg," which is related to similar words in other Germanic languages (e.g., German "grau," Dutch "grijs"). The root pertains to color and has been used in the English language for centuries, highlighting the continuity of its relevance in describing hues. 2. \*\*Color Theory\*\*Hue & Value: Grey is a neutral color, created by combining black and white. This quality gives it various shades, from light greys (close to white) to dark greys (close to black). Color Wheel: In color theory, grey is often placed between black and white, serving as a transitional Resonance: Grey often evokes feelings of neutrality, ambiguity, ambiguity, ambiguity, ambiguity, ambiguity, and affecting the perception of surrounding colors. and indecision. It can represent a lack of emotional intensity or passion. People might associate grey with feelings of calmness or sadness, as it is often seen as a subdued color. Personality Interpretations: In personality assessments, individuals who prefer grey might be perceived as balanced, thoughtful, and less inclined towards extremes. 4. \*\*Cultural Connotations\*\*Connotations of Ambiguity: Grey is frequently associated with ambiguity and indecision, as opposed to the clear dichotomies represent complexity in human behavior and choices. Symbolism in Culture: In many cultures grey can symbolize wisdom and age (as seen in grey hair) but can also be associated with dreariness or monotony. Different contexts can change its connotation dramatically.5. \*\*Artistic Perspectives\*\*Use in Art: Artists utilize grey to create contrast and depth in their works. It can serve as a background that allows other colors to pop or can be used to create mood and atmosphere. Modern Interpretations: In contemporary art and design, grey has gained popularity as a sophisticated, understated choice, often associated with modern aesthetics and minimalism. 6. \*\*Modern Usage and Variations\*\*Cultural References: The term "grey" has achieved cultural status in various media, such as "Fifty Shades of Grey," which plays on the themes of complexity and nuance in human relationships. Technical Usage: In technology and design, "grey" often refers to grey-scale images or designs, emphasizing its relevance in modern digital contexts. 7. \*\*Contrast with Other Colors\*\*Black and White: The contrast between grey, black, and white highlights the nuances of morality and clarity. While black and white represent absolutes, grey embodies the complexity inherent in many human experiences. Interaction with Color: Grey can affect and alter the perception of other colors. For instance, a vibrant color next to grey might seem more vivid, while a dull color can appear even less vibrant. 8. \*\*Philosophical Implications\*\*Ethical and Moral Discussions: The concept of "grey morality" suggests a rejection of binary thinking in ethics, acknowledging the complex nature of human actions that often cannot be classified strictly as right or wrong. Conclusion The word "grey" is rich with meaning and significance that extends beyond its basic definition as a color. It symbolizes complexity, ambiguity, maturity, and wisdom, serving as a bridge between extremes. Its psychological, artistic, and cultural implications reveal how deeply embedded the concept of grey invites contemplation about the subtleties of life. The spelling 'gray' is mostly used in the United States. 'Gray' is used for a color, while specific names and terms use 'grey.' "Gray" are both correct spellings of the word for the neutral or achromatic colora color without color" between black and white, like a cloud-covered sky, ashes, or lead. Used for centuries, both "gray" and "grey" come from the Old English word grau are related to the Dutch word grauwand the German word grau. The main distinction between the two spellings is simply a matter of geographical custom. While both spellings are commonly used throughout the English-speaking world, the use of "gray" in the United States versus "grey" in the United States versus "grey" in the use of "gray" and "grey" that should be observed. The spelling "gray" (with an a) is more common in American English. Therefore, if you are writing for an American audience, use "gray" when you mean the color wordand has always been. But because of the widespread adoption of the American spelling in the United States, the number of instances of the British spelling in English-language texts started declining in the 1880s. What it comes down to is that if you're writing for a British audienceor in a location that uses British spellings of words, such as Canada or Australiayou should use the U.K. spelling. "Gray" and "grey" are flexible. For the purposes of these examples, we'll use the American "gray," but know that "grey" can take its place. When used as a noun, it typically refers to a shade of the color itself, as in, The walls were painted an ominous shade of gray or "a fight between the Blue and the Gray" in the American Civil War. As an adjective, it can describe an object or person as being without interest or character, as in, They marched onward, as a line of gray, faceless men. Used as a verb, it can refer to the aging process, as in, Davids hair began graying when he was a teenager. Though the use of "gray" and "grey" is still often confused and debated, as long as they are used in reference to the color, they can actually be used interchangeably anywhere in the English-speaking world. So, if you write, The Queen wore a gray dress, in London, you might be considered a rebel, simpleton, or tourist, but you would not be wrong. A simple trick for remembering this is that gray is typically used in England. Though you can use either "gray" or "grey" in your daily writing and get by, there are a handful of instances where they are not interchangeable. When getting specific with color, "gray" and "grey" can be used to denote different shades or hues, with "gray" being a simple mixture of black and white and "grey" can be used to denote different shades or hues, with "gray" being a simple mixture of black and white and "grey" can be used to denote different shades or hues, with "gray" being a simple mixture of black and white and "grey" can be used to denote different shades or hues, with "gray" being a simple mixture of black and white and "grey" can be used to denote different shades or hues, with "gray" being a simple mixture of black and white and "grey" can be used to denote different shades or hues, with "gray" being a simple mixture of black and white and "grey" can be used to denote different shades or hues, with "gray" being a simple mixture of black and white and "grey" can be used to denote different shades or hues, with "gray" being a simple mixture of black and white and "grey" can be used to denote different shades or hues, with "gray" being a simple mixture of black and white and "grey" can be used to denote different shades or hues, with "gray" being a simple mixture of black and white and "grey" can be used to denote different shades or hues, with "gray" being a simple mixture of black and "gray" bl using both "gray" and "grey." Still, that is a very specific case. The following are more straightforward instances where the "a and e cannot be mixed:In proper names: If someones last name is Grey, it cannot be spelled Gray. For example, the popular Earl Grey tea is named after Charles Grey, the second Earl of Grey and prime minister of the United Kingdom from 1830 to 1834. The dog breed: The dog breed "greyhound" can never be spelled grayhound. The same is true for the Greyhound bus service company, which is named for the dog breed. As a measure of energy: Last but certainly not least (especially to physicists) is the scientific measure of energy called the "gray." One gray is equal to about one joule of energy radiated by the ionization of one kilogram of matter. The gray replaced the rad as a standard measuring unit of radiation energy in 1975. One gray is equal to 100 rads, and it can only be spelled with an "a." So, why are some words like gray and grey customarily spelled differently in America than in Great Britain? Why, for example, does color become colour, organize become organise, and liter becomes litre? In most cases, Noah Webster, of Merriam-Webster dictionary fame, is to blame. Until the 18th century, people on neither side of the Atlantic were too concerned with how words were spelled. Since only the most educated few learned to write at all, the spoken word was much more important to them than any type of proper spelling. In 1775, British lexicographer Samuel Johnson published his A Dictionary of the English Language. While the groundbreaking work took a few decades to catch on, the British eventually began working toward uniform spelling standards. By the time Johnsons Dictionary had gathered momentum, Americans were considering a revolt against British colonial rule. After winning their hard-fought independence, it only seemed natural that Americans should have their own spellings, too. Noah Webster led the movement. As an independence, it only seemed natural that Americans should be federal; be national, he wrote in a 1789 essay urging spelling reform, for if we do not respect ourselves, we may be assured that other nations will not respect us. Webster wanted the American version to be free of the clamor of pedantry he thought marked the English language. In part, this required removing the unnecessary usually silentletters in words such as colour, catalogue, and programme. Webster made these spellings official in 1806 when he published the first American dictionary, A Compendious Dictionary of the English Language. Grey vs Gray Learn the correct spelling and usage in English. Understanding the difference between grey vs gray is essential for English learners. Although both words refer to the same color between black and white, their usage depends on regional preferences. This blog will help you master the difference easily. Improve your English by exploring more confusing words in our Confused Words category. A color between black and white, with equal parts of lightness and darkness. It symbolizes neutrality, balance, and calmness. The same color as grey, representing neutrality, modesty, and formality. It holds identical meaning but differs in spellings like greye and graye. By the 18th century, grey became standard in Britain, while American dictionaries, led by Noah Webster, fixed gray as the U.S. form. Grey and gray are different spellings of the same color. Grey is preferred in the UKPreferred in the UKPrefe publications Pronunciation/re//re/FormalitySlightly more formal Considered modern Context Used in American literature Grey and Gray Learn when to use each spelling correctly in English. Refers to the shade between black and white. Amina wore a beautiful grey dress to the event. The sky looked grey before the rain started. Represents neutrality, aging, or dullness. The story had a grey tone, filled with sadness. His grey hair showed signs of wisdom. Refers to the same shade as grey. Ahmed painted his car gray for a sleek look. The gray clouds covered the entire sky. Used in metaphors to represent uncertainty or ambiguity. Life isnt just black and white; there are gray areas. The gray mood of the movie left everyone thoughtful. Used in academic writing, professional documents, and literature (grey in the UK, gray in the USA). Common in casual conversations, text messages, and personal notes in both variants. The dog breed greyhound is always spelled with e. The tea Earl Grey also uses e, named after British Prime Minister Charles Grey. The fish species is called grayling, always with a. In physics, the gray is a standard unit measuring radiation absorption. Brand and cultural names keep their chosen spelling. Examples: Grey Goose vodka, the TV series Greys Anatomy, and the novel Fifty Shades of Grey. Answer choices Which spelling is correct: grey or gray? Both spellings are correct. Gray is preferred in American English, while grey is the standard in British English. For example: The walls were painted light gray in London, but light gray in Lond countries grey is standard. Do Americans spell it gray or grey? Americans almost always spell the color as gray. For example: The cloudy sky looked dark grey. Is grey or gray used in Canada and Australia? Canada and Australia generally follow British English, so grey is more common. However, gray sometimes appears because of U.S. influence in media and technology. Is it grey hair, while in the U.S. you would say She has gray hair? Both are correct, depending on region. In Britain you would say She has grey hair, while in the U.S. you would say She has grey hair? Both are correct, depending on region. In Britain you would say She has grey hair? Both are correct, depending on region in the U.S. you would say She has grey hair? When should I use grey and when should I use gray? Use gray if you are writing for an American audience, and grey if you are writing for British or Commonwealth readers. The most important rule is to stay consistent within one piece of writing. You May Also Like Previous article Intermediate color between black and whiteFor other uses of "Grey" and "Gray", see Grey (disambiguation). For different varieties of grey and their names, see Shades of grey. GreyClockwise, from top left: a longhaired cat; Whistler; volcanic eruption; fog; Buddhist monks Color coordinatesHex triplet#808080sRGBB (r, g, b)(128, 128, 128) HSV (h, s, v)(0, 0%, 50%) CIELChuv (L, C, h) (54, 0, 0)SourceHTML/CSS[1]B: Normalized to [0255] (byte)H: Normalized to [0100] (hundred)Grey or gray is an intermediate color of a cloud-covered sky, of ash, and of lead.[3]The first recorded use of grey as a color name in the English language was in 700AD.[4] Grey is the dominant spelling in European and Commonwealth English, while gray is more common in America, surveys show that grey is the color most commonly associated with neutrality, conformity, boredom, uncertainty, old age, indifference, and humility. Only one percent of respondents chose it as their favorite color.[7]Grey comes from the Middle English grai or grei, from the Old English gr, and is related to the Dutch grauw and German grau.[8] There are certain cognates outside Germanic languages; terms such as Spanish gris, Italian grigio and Medieval Latin griseus are considered Germanic loanwords.[9] The first recorded use of grey as a color name in the English language was in 700 AD.[4]The distinction between grey and gray spellings in usual Commonwealth and American English respectively developed c. the 20th century.[9]In antiquity and the Middle Ages, grey was the color of undyed wool, and thus was the color most commonly worn by peasants and the poor. It was also the color worn by Cistercian monks and friars of the Franciscan and Capuchin orders as a symbol of their vows of humility and poverty. Franciscan friars in England and Scotland were commonly known as the grey friars, and that name is now attached to many places in Great Britain. During the Renaissance and the Baroque, grey began to play an important role in fashion and art. Black became the most popular color of the nobility, particularly in Italy, France, and Spain, and grey and white were harmonious with it. Grey was also frequently used for the drawing of oil paintings, a technique called grisaille. The painting would first be composed in grey and white, and then the colors, made with thin transparent glazes, would be added on top. The grisaille beneath would provide the shading, visible through the layers of color. Sometimes, the grisaille beneath would provide the shading, visible through the layers of color. Sometimes, the grisaille beneath would provide the shading, visible through the layers of color. background color for gold and for skin tones. It became the most common background for the portraits of Rembrandt van Rijn and for many of the paintings of El Greco, who used it to highlight the faces and costumes of the central figures. The palette of Rembrandt was composed almost entirely of somber colors. He composed his warm greys out of black pigments made from charcoal or burnt animal bones, mixed with lead white or a white made of lime, which he warmed with a little red lake color from cochineal or madder. In one painting, the portrait of Margaretha de Geer (1661), one part of a grey wall in the background is painted with a layer of dark brown over a layer of orange, red, and yellow earths, mixed with ivory black and some lead white. Over this he put an additional layer of glaze made of mixture of blue smalt, red ochre, and yellow lake. Using these ingredients and many others, he made greys which had, according to art historian Philip Ball, "an incredible subtlety of pigmentation".[10] The warm, dark and rich greys and browns served to emphasize the golden light on the faces in the paintings. Grey became a highly fashionable color in the 18th century, both for women's dresses and for men's waistcoats and coats. It looked particularly luminous coloring the silk and satin fabrics worn by the nobility and wealthy. Brazilian princesses Leopoldina and Isabel (seated) wearing grey gowns, c. 1855Women's fashion in the 19th century was dominated by Paris, while men's fashion was set by London. The grey business suit appeared in the mid-19th century in London; light grey in summer, dark the factories and workshops of Paris in the 19th century was usually grey. This gave them the name of grisettes was also given to the lower class of Parisian prostitutes. Grey also became a common color for military uniforms; in an age of rifles with longer range, soldiers in grey were less visible as targets than those in blue or red. Grey was the color of the uniforms of the Confederate Army during the American Civil War, and of the Prussian Army for active service wear from 1910 onwards. Several artists of the mid-19th century used tones of green-grey and blue grey to give harmony to his landscapes, and James McNeill Whistler created a special grey for the background of the portrait of his mother, and for his own self-portrait. Whistler's arrangement of tones of grey had an effect on the world of music, on the French composer Claude Debussy. In 1894, Debussy wrote to violinist Eugne Ysae describing his Nocturnes as "an experiment in the combinations that can be obtained from one colour what a study in grey would be in painting".[11]In the late 1930s, grey became a symbol of industrialization and war. It was the dominant color of Pablo Picasso's celebrated painting about the horrors of the Spanish Civil War, Guernica.[12]After the war, the grey business suit became a metaphor for uniformity of thought, popularized in such books as The Man in the Gray Flannel Suit (1955), which became a successful film in 1956.[13] Storm clouds towards Clare Island, IrelandThe whiteness or darkness of clouds is a function of their depth. Small, fluffy white clouds in summer look white because the sunlight is being scattered by the tiny water droplets they contain, and that white light cannot penetrate through the cloud, and is reflected off the top. Clouds look darkest grey during thunderstorms, when they can be as much as 20,000 to 30,000 to 30, feet high. Stratiform clouds are a layer of clouds that covers the entire sky, and which have a depth of between a few hundred to a few thousand feet thick. The thicker the clouds, the darker they appear from below, because little of the sunlight is able to pass through. From above, in an airplane, the same clouds look perfectly white, but from the ground the sky looks gloomy and grey.[14]French politician Christine LagardeCanadian actor Donald SutherlandThe color of a person's hair is created by the pigment melanin, found in the core of each hair. Melanin is also responsible for the color of the skin and of the eyes. There are only two types of pigment: dark (eumelanin) or light (phaeomelanin). Combined in various combinations, these pigments create all natural hair colors. Melanin itself is the product of a specialized cell, the melanocyte injects melanin into the hair cells, which contain the protein keratin and which makes up our hair, skin, and nails. As long as the melanocytes continue injecting melanin into the hair retains its original color. At a certain age, however, which varies from person to person, the amount of melanin injected is reduced and eventually stops. The hair, without pigment, turns grey and eventually white. The reason for this decline of production of melanocytes is uncertain. In the February 2005 issue of Science, a team of Harvard scientists suggested that the cause was the failure of the melanocyte stem cells to maintain the production of the essential pigments, due to age or genetic factors, after a certain period of time. For some people, the breakdown comes in their twenties mixing black and white in various proportions. They added a little red to make a warmer grey, or a little blue for a cooler grey. Artists could also make a grey by mixing two complementary colors, such as orange and azure. Today the grey on televisions, computer displays, and telephones is usually created using the RGB color model. Red, green, and blue light combined at full intensity on the black screen makes white; by lowering the intensity, it is possible to create all the different shades of grey. In printing, grey is usually obtained with the CMYK color model. By using black ink at a lower density than the one needed to print black, all the shades of grey can be created. Grey can also be formed by mixing cyan, magenta, and yellow in a specific proportion, each at a low or moderate density. Usually, both methods are combined. Most greys have a cool or a warm cast to them, as the human eye can detect even a minute amount of yellow, orange, or red will create a "warm grey". Adding a small amount of yellow, orange, or red will create a "warm grey". Adding a small amount of yellow, orange, or red will create a "warm grey". Adding a small amount of yellow, orange, or red will create a "warm grey". of green, cyan, blue, or violet will form a "cool grey".[17] When no color is added, the color is "neutral grey", or simply "grey". Images consisting wholly of black, white and greys are called monochrome, black-and-white, or greyscale. Warm greyCool greyMixed with blueRGB modelGrey values result when R = G = B, for the color (R, G, B) (0 < R, G, B < 1). CMYK modelGrey values are produced by C = M = Y = 0; 0 < K < 1, for the color (C, M, Y, K). Lightness is adjusted by varying K. In theory, any mixture where C = M = Y is neutral, but in practice such mixtures are often a muddy brown. HSL and HSV models. produced by S = 0; 0 < (L or V) < 1; (hue (H) is undefined), for the color (H, S, V). HTML color NameSampleHex triplet(rendered by hex triplet)gainsboro#DCDCDClightgray#A9A9A9grey#808080dimgray#78899slategray#77899slategray#778899slategray#77899slategray#77899slategray#77899slategray#77899slategray#77899slategray#77899slategray#77899slategray#77899slategray#7789slategray#7789slategray#7789slategray#7789slategray#77899slategray#7789slategray#7 are several tones of grey available for use with HTML and Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) as named colors, while 254 true greys are available by specification of a hex triplet for the RGB value. All are spelled gray, using the spelling was inherited from the X11 color list. Internet Explorer's Trident browser engine does not recognize grey and renders it green. Another anomaly is that gray is in fact much darkgray; this is because of a conflict with the original HTML grey and the X11 grey, which is closer to HTML's silver. The three slategray colors are not themselves on the greyscale, but are slightly saturated toward cyan (green + blue). Since there are an even (256, including black and white) number of unsaturated tones of grey, there are two grey tones straddling the midpoint in the 8-bit greyscale. The color name gray has been assigned the lighter of the two shades (128, also known as #808080), due to rounding up. Until the 19th century, artists traditionally created grey by simply combining black and white. Rembrandt Van Rijn, for instance, usually used lead white and either carbon black or ivory black, along with touches of either blues or reds to cool or warm the grey. In the early 19th century, a new grey, Payne's grey, appeared on the market. Payne's grey is a dark blue-grey, a mixture of ultramarine and black or of ultramarine and sienna. It is named after William Payne, a British artist who painted watercolors in the late 18th century. The first recorded use of Payne's grey as a color name in English was in 1835.[18]Grey is a very common color for animals, birds, and fish, ranging in size from whales to mice. It provides a natural camouflage and allows them to blend with their surroundings. The substance that composes the brain is sometimes referred to as grey matter, or "the little grey cells", so the color grey is associated with things intellectual. However, the living human brain is actually pink in color; it only turns grey when dead. Grey goo is a hypothetical end-of-the-world scenario, also known as ecophagy: out-of-control self-replicating nanobots consume all living matter on Earth while building more of themselves. [19] In sound engineering, grey noise is random noise subjected to an equal-loudness contour, such as an inverted A-weighting curve, over a given range of frequencies, giving the listener the perception that it is equally loud at all frequencies. In the Christian religion, grey is the color of ashes, and so a biblical symbol of mourning and repentance, described as sackcloth and modesty, grey is worn by friars of the Order of Friars Minor Capuchin and Franciscan order as well as monks of the Cistercian order.[20] Grey cassocks are worn by clergy of the Brazilian Catholic Apostolic Church. Buddhist monks and priests in China also often wear grey. Grey is rarely used as a color by political parties, largely because of its common association with conformity, boredom and indecision. An example of a political party using grey as a color are the German Grey Panthers. The term "grey power" or "the grey vote" is sometimes used to describe the influence of older voters as a voting bloc. In the United States, older people are more likely to vote, and usually vote to protect certain social benefits, such as Social Security.[21][22]Greys is a term sometimes used pejoratively by environmental measures and supposedly prefer the grey of concrete and cement. During the American Civil War, the soldiers of the Confederate Army wore grey uniforms. At the beginning of the war, the armies of the North and of the South had very similar uniforms; some Confederate units wore blue, and some Union units wore grey. There was confusion, and sometimes soldiers fired by mistake at soldiers of their own army. On June 6, 1861, the Confederate government issued regulations standardizing the army uniform and establishing cadet grey as the uniform color. This was (and still is) the color of the uniform of cadets at the Virginia Military Academy at West Point, and cadets at the Virginia Military Institute, which produced many officers for the Confederacy. The new uniforms were designed by Nicola Marschall, a German-American artist, who also designed the original Confederate flag. He closely followed the design of contemporary French and Austrian military uniforms. [23] Grey was not chosen for its camouflage value; this benefit was not appreciated for several more decades. The South lacked a major dye industry, though, and grey dyes were inexpensive and easy to manufacture While some units had uniforms colored with good-quality dyes, which were a solid bluish-grey, others had uniforms colored with vegetable dyes made from sumac or logwood, which quickly faded in sunshine to the yellowish color of butternut squash. The German Army wore grey uniforms from 1907 until 1945, during both the First World War and Second World War. The color chosen was a grey-green called field grey (German: feldgrau). It was chosen because it was less visible at a distance than the previous German uniforms, which were Prussian blue. It was one of the first uniform colors to be chosen for its camouflage value, important in the new age of smokeless powder and more accurate rifles and machine guns. It gave the German Army also began using grey uniforms on the First World War, when the French soldiers were dressed in blue jackets and red trousers. The Finnish Army also began using grey uniforms on the German Army were field grey, as were some uniforms of the Swedish army. The formal dress (M/83) of the Finnish Army is grey. The Army of Chile wears field grey today. During the 19th century, women's fashions were largely dictated by Paris, while London set fashions for men. The intent of a business suit was above all to show seriousness, and to show one's position in business and society. Over the course of the century, bright colors disappeared from men's fashion, and were largely replaced by the lounge suit, a less formal version of evening dress, which was also usually black or charcoal grey. In the 1930s the English suit style was called the drape suit, with wide shoulders and a nipped waist, usually dark or light grey. After World War II, the style changed to a slimmer fit called the continental cut, but the color remained grey. [24]In baseball, grey is the color typically used for road uniforms. This came about because in the 19th and early 20th century, away teams did not normally have access to laundry facilities on the road, thus stains were not noticeable on the Wational Hockey League features steel grey as its primary color and its current alternate uniforms are steel grey. New Caledonia national football teams have worn grey home shirts and the color is featured on its football badge. Georgetown University's basketball teams traditionally wear grey uniforms at home. In gay slang, a grey queen is a gay person who works for the financial services industry. This term originates from the fact that in the 1950s, people who worked in this profession often wore grey flannel suits.[25]The city of Kouvola, mostly known for its greyscale environment, in Kymenlaakso, FinlandIn America and Europe, grey is one of the least popular colors; In a European survey, only one percent of men said it was their favorite color, and thirteen percent called it their least favorite color; the response from women was almost the same. According to one author, "grey is too weak to be considered masculine, but too menacing to be considered a feminine color. It is neither warm nor cold, neither material or spiritual. With grey, nothing seems to be decided."[26] It also denotes undefinedness and ambiguity, as in a grey area. Grey is the color most commonly associated in many cultures with the elderly and old age, because of the association with grey hair; it symbolizes the wisdom and dignity that come with experience and age. The New York Times is sometimes called The Grey Lady because of its long history and esteemed position in American journalism. [27]Grey is the color most often associated in Europe and America with modesty. [26] The dictionary definition of grey at Wiktionary Shades of greyBlackBlack and white EigengrauLists of colorsVin gris (grey wine in French) White "W3C TR CSS3 Color Module, HTML4 color keywords". Archived from the original on November 30, 2010. Webster's New World Dictionary of the American Language, Third College Edition. Shorter Oxford English Dictionary, 5th edition, 2002. a b Maerz and Paul A Dictionary of Color New York: 1930 McGraw-Hill Page 196 Osmond, Candace. "Gray or Grey Are Both Correct?", Grammarist. Retrieved on July 8, 2023. "Gray vs. 'Grey': What is the Difference?", Merriam-Webster. Retrieved on July 8, 2023. Heller, Eva, Psychologie de la Couleur, p. 224-242 Webster's New World Dictionary of the American Language, 1964. ab Douglas, Harper. "gray (adj.)". 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Learn how to spell the color based on the different English variants and shades. Gray vs. Grey English Popularity Gray or grey is a color that is neither black nor white. It falls on the color palette somewhere between black and white. The color grey is a color that is neither black nor white. It falls on the color palette somewhere between black and white. The color grey is a color that is neither black nor white. often used to complement a brighter one. Gray may also be considered a silvery color. Many people enjoy the color gray, considering the beautiful grey sphisticated. Others are less tolerant of the color gray hair or grey hair is often a synonym for great age. While men and women have used various hair-coloring agents to cover the aged color of their hair, going gray or going grey to preserve the natural color of ones hair is becoming more and more common. Many people confuse gray or going grey to preserve the natural color of their hair, going gray or going grey to preserve the natural color of ones hair is becoming more and more common. Many people confuse gray or going grey to preserve the natural color of ones hair is becoming more and more common. Many people confuse gray or going grey to preserve the natural color of ones hair is becoming more and more common. Many people confuse gray or going grey to preserve the natural color of ones hair is becoming more and more common. Many people confuse gray or going grey to preserve the natural color of ones hair is becoming more and more common. Many people confuse gray or going gray world. The color gray or grey may be used as an adjective, noun, or verb. As an English language noun, you can say that the hair is graying. Most English speakers consider both as acceptable spellings. However, it is best to use the spelling with your audience in mind. Here are some examples of how to choose the right word. When grey or gray are used as proper nouns, then you shouldnt interchange them. For example, Earl Grey Tea cant be Earl Grey and prime minister of the UK. Hes also the person which the tea was named after. The same is true with Sophia Grey and other names. However, if its a more general term like gray matter or grey matter or grey matter, the correct version in the English-speaking world is either. Most of the time, you can interchange grey and gray for the British or American version. That means common spellings are suitable for British and American English and their audiences. However, gray is the preferred spelling for the American audience. If you are writing for a British audience, the spelling of grey is more suitable. Its also widely used in Australia, Canada, and other English-speaking countries. The word gray as a unit of measurement uses the letter A to measure the radiation absorption. One gray is equivalent to around a joule of energy. This measurement is radiated by the ionization of a kilogram of matter. One of the most uncommon differences between grey and gray is their shade. According to George Field, gray is cooler and has a shade of blue. But Field reserves the spelling grey to be more on the neutral shade. Theres a type of fish called grayling, which always uses A, so it cannot be greyling. The African Grey Parrot uses the letter for its spelling. Greyhound is a dog breed that you should spell with an e. Understanding how theres a difference between gray and grey requires knowledge of their origins. Both spellings originate from the Dutch word grauw, the Old English word grg, and the German word grau. Over time, many versions of the term emerged, the first coming from the Middle English poem of the thirteenth century was translated using the word greye. Greye is the spelling found in the poem of William Langland, entitled Piers Plowman. Grey became more prominent in the eighteenth century until the twentieth century until the twentieth century. Despite this, the English dictionaries still followed gray, the lexicographer Samuel Johnson suggested. Here are some examples of gray in daily writing. I pressure washed my deck because the wood was turning gray. Ryan Gosling shared a rare insight into fatherhood revealing that one of the reasons he chose to do The Gray Man and Barbie was his daughters. [The News]My fav colors used to be orange and black but now its gray and green. Gray hair is an inevitable part of aging, so yourself. going to see more as time marches on. Melanin is the pigment that gives color to the hair and skin, explained stylist Helen Reavey, founder of hair care brand Act + Acre. [Huffpost]Consider these examples of grey used in British English.I colored my hair black because it was getting grey. The crate comes in 4 different colors: Ash, Grey, Charcoal, and Pine. [Five Barks]. My home if filled with colours of grey, white, and brown. That waterslightly used but not fully soiled grey water. And in an increasingly drought-stricken world, it may be the best tool to have in your water conservation toolbox. [Modern Farmer]. Crayola spells the colour gray with an A. Hair is either gray or grey, depending on your preferred spelling or the English variant youre using. Canadian English and other English variants use grey. Only the American word distinction uses gray. Speaking of gray or grey, another confusing word with two spellings is color and colour. Use color for the American spelling, and use colour for the British spelling. The subtle difference between grey and gray lies in the audience. When referring to the color, spell gray for your American audience and grey for British and other audiences. But if youre using proper nouns and names, follow the correct spelling, such as Greyhound, Fifty Shades of Grey, and greyling. homesitemapA-Z confused words gray or grey? The Quick Answer "Gray" and "grey" are used in the US and UK, but, to play it safe, do the following: If you're following US writing conventions, write "gray." In the US, "gray" is far more popular than "grey," and this has been the case since at least the early 19th century. As a result, many Americans consider "grey" to be a spelling mistake. Outside the US, "grey" (which has been around for nearly 1,300 years) still dominates. The word "gray/grey" can be used as a noun, an adjective, or a verb. For example: Noun: This shade of gray is almost white. Adjective: I like the gray doors. Verb: The clouds gray as they get heavier. The guidance on spelling does not change when a different part of speech is used. In other words, those following British conventions would to okay to use "grey" in the examples above. Both "gray" and "grey" derive from the English word "grg," which included the letter. This letter, which is no longer used, is known as an "ash" (or sometimes an "sc"). It represented a diphthong (a sliding vowel). As you can see, an "ash" is formed by joining the letters "a" and "e," but some replaced it with just "e," but some replaced it with just "e," but some replaced it with just "a." By the eighteenth century, "grey" was the more common spelling, despite the efforts of English dictionaries to adhere to famous lexicographer Samuel Johnson's preferred spelling, but Americans prefer "gray," and the British prefer "gray," of interest, "grey" is still an effort spelling, but Americans prefer "gray," and the British prefer "gray," and accepted variant in the US (evidence from the US corpus), and "gray" is becoming increasingly popular outside the US. To ensure you don't annoy your readers, stick the following: "gray" "grey" Most of the time, the spelling guidance above is fine. For example, writers are safe to follow their local convention with terms like the following: gray/grey whale gray/grey matter gray/grey squirrel However, there are some terms that demand a specific spelling, and these must be remembered. For example: Earl Grey tea greyhound (breed of dog) Grey Poupon mustard Grey Goose vodka Grey's Anatomy (a TV drama) "Fifty Shades of Grey" (an erotic novel E. L. James) grayling (type of game fish) gray (a unit of radiation dose, abbreviated Gy) Watch a video showing 10 big differences between British English (BrE) and American English (AmE). video lesson Are you a visual learner? Do you prefer video to text? Here is a list of all our grammar videos. You might also like... Help us improve... Was something wrong? Use #gm to find us quicker. Create a QR code. Gray and grey are both common spellings for the various neutral shades of color between black and white. Gray is more frequent in American English, and grey more common in Canada, the UK, and elsewhere. This pattern extends to specialized terms such as animal species (gray/grey whale) and scientific designations (gray/grey matter). It's all a bit... cloudy. The color, or really series of colors, that range between black and white can be spelled gray or grey. Both spellings are seen frequently in American English, while grey is preferred in Canada, the UK, and elsewhere. Both derive from the Old English grg. Fifteen-year-old Jo had a decided mouth, a comical nose, and sharp, gray eyes, which appeared to see everything, and were by turns fierce, funny, or thoughtful. Louisa May Alcott (US), Little Women, 1868-9 He was a tall, lean man of fifty, with a drooping moustache and grey hair. W. Somerset Maugham (UK), The Moon and Sixpence, 1919 'Grey' vs. 'Gray' Beyond Color The variance in spelling carries over to animal names and other specialized terms that apply the word, such as gray/grey whale, gray/grey squirrel, and gray/grey matter. Despite the American preference for gray, the spelling grey retains a healthy presence in a lot of cultural references known to Americans, appearing in brand names like Grey Poupon (mustard) and Grey Goose (vodka), both of which originated in France. The titles Greys Anatomy (a TV drama) and Fifty Shades of Grey (an erotic novel series by a British writer, E. L. James) have spellings that play on the names of characters named Grey in those works. The slender breed of dog known for its racing abilities is called a greyhound, and its name is consistently spelled that way. But the name's etymology does not pin that grey on its color; it derives from an Old English word, grghund, the first part of which is distinct from grg and shares ancestry with a Norse word for a female dog.

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