

# Why is the Sky Blue?

## Gap fill

Listen to the story and fill in the blanks.

Why is the sky blue? That question can be answered with some basic \_\_\_\_\_ that helps us understand air and \_\_\_\_\_ .

If you look up into the air on a clear day, you might think there's \_\_\_\_\_ up there. But that would be wrong. Air contains a great number of things. It's mostly \_\_\_\_\_ , but there are other things like small pieces of \_\_\_\_\_ , water \_\_\_\_\_ , and \_\_\_\_\_ . All of these things together are called the atmosphere.

When light comes to earth from the sun, it moves through the atmosphere. When this light hits atmospheric gas, something special \_\_\_\_\_ . The blue light in the sun's white light is \_\_\_\_\_ from the other six colors.

Remember, white light contains seven colors which the \_\_\_\_\_ eye can see: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet.

The size of blue light is really small compared to the other colors. Because of its \_\_\_\_\_ size, it can go \_\_\_\_\_ a piece of gas. For a short moment, that piece of blue light hits the inside part of the gas and then \_\_\_\_\_ . But now it's moving in a different direction.

Now think about all the gas in the atmosphere. It's changing the direction of a lot of blue light which is \_\_\_\_\_ left, right and all around.

Eventually, it \_\_\_\_\_ earth. That's the blue we observe when we look at the sky.

So, why is the sky blue? \_\_\_\_\_ , it's not blue at all.

When we see blue, we're not looking at the sky. Instead, we are looking at blue light which has \_\_\_\_\_ with billions of bits of gas and traveled down to the earth's surface.

## Synonym match

Match the words or phrases.

- |              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| 1. basic     | a. broken      |
| 2. separated | b. dark blue   |
| 3. indigo    | c. hit         |
| 4. observe   | d. fundamental |
| 5. collide   | e. detect      |

## True or false

Choose the correct answer.

1. The sky is blue. T or F
2. The atmosphere is mostly gas. T or F
3. White light has six colors. T or F
4. Blue light hits the outside part of gas and then goes in a different direction. T or F
5. Air and light combine to make the sky seem blue. T or F

# Why is the Sky Blue?

## Anagrams

Move letters. Make a new word.

CSROCU

\_\_\_\_\_

RUASCFE

\_\_\_\_\_

CECNISE

\_\_\_\_\_

ODINIG

\_\_\_\_\_

TRID

\_\_\_\_\_

ROSVEBE

\_\_\_\_\_

## ESL discussion questions

Talk about the story

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1. What kind of story is this?
  2. What are some things in the atmosphere?
  3. What happens when sunlight comes to the atmosphere?
  4. How does blue light separate from white light?
  5. Why is the sky blue?
  6. Does this ESL listening story have a message? What is it?
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## Writing practice

Put the words in the correct order.

1. we / blue / the / we / sky / when / look / at / the / that's / observe  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. sky / we're / looking / at / when / not / see / the / blue / we  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. up / might / on / the / into / you / look / if / nothing / you / a / day / there's / think / air / clear / up / there  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. gas / now / all / the / the / think / atmosphere / / about / in  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. these / of / called / atmosphere / together / things / are / all / the  
\_\_\_\_\_