

COLOUR IDIOMS IN GREEK

Geniko Lykeio Neou Skopou

BLACK:

- Έχω μαύρα μεσάνυχτα - I have black midnights = I don't have a clue
- "Μαύρο φίδι που σ' έφαγε" - Black snake that ate you (You're in trouble)
- "Τον μαύρισα στο ξύλο" - I made him black in the wood (I beat him up)
- Μαύρο σκοτάδι" - Black darkness = Pitch black

A photograph of a cloudy sky over a stone wall and a paved plaza. The sky is filled with large, dark, grey clouds, with a hint of yellow light from the sun breaking through near the horizon. Below the sky is a low, grey stone wall. In the foreground, a paved plaza made of large, light-grey rectangular stones extends towards the wall.

GREY :

- "Γκρίζα πόλη" – "Grey city" (refers to unpleasant and hazy)
- "Γκρίζος ουρανός στην ψυχη" – "Grey sky" (hazy condition in soul)
- "Γκριζα ζωνη" – "Grey zone" (some forbidden part)

YELLOW

- "διαβάζει κίτρινο τύπο" – "he reads yellow newspaper" : someone is reading fake news
- "κίτρινη σαν το λεμόνι" – "yellow like a lemon" : someone turned pale from shock
- "κιτρίνισε από τον φόβο του" – "he become yellow from his fear" : he fears a lot




GREEN

- "έλεγε ιστορίες με πράσινα άλογα" - " he was saying stories with green horses" : someone is telling fake stories
- " πρασίνισε από τη ζήλια του" - " he turned green from his jealousy" : someone got really jealous
- " τα φρούτα είναι ακόμη πράσινα και δεν τρώγονται" - " the fruits are still green and can not be eaten" : the fruits are unripe

RED

- "πιάσε κόκκινο!" – "touch red", when two people say the same thing they touch a red object to avoid quarrelling
- "σου βγάζω κόκκινη κάρτα" – "i take out to you a red card", you will be expelled like in a football match
- "κόκκινη κλωστή δεμένη, στην ανέμη τυλιγμένη, δώσ' της κλώτσο να γυρίσει, παραμύθι ν' αρχινήσει" red thread tied, wrapped in the yarn, giving it a kick to turn, for the fairy tale to begin – We use it when we start narrating a fairy tale





BLUE

- "τον εκαναν μπλε μαρέ(ν)" – "they make him blue maren (navy blue)" :- They beat him very hard and now he is bruised up
- "οι πρίγκιπες ανήκουν στις γαλαζοαίματες οικογένειες" – the princes are members in blue-blooded families" : royal families
- "κάθε μπλε φεγγάρι" – "once in a blue moon" : once in a while

PINK

- "ζει στο ροζ συννεφάκι της" – "she lives in her pink cloud" : she lives in her own world
- "έχει ροδαλά μάγουλα" – "he has pink cheeks" : he is very healthy
- "τα βλέπει όλα ρόδινα" – "he sees all pink" : he is very optimistic





WHITE

- "άσπρο πάτο" – white glass bottom = consuming all the drink
- "ελπίζω να δω άσπρη μέρα" – i hope to see a white day = hoping to see a better day
- "άσπρισε από το φόβο του" – someone turned white from their fear