



1- COLOUR

People can see in white and just one other colour: some are born with the ability to see cyan (known as the *Cyaneans*), others magenta (the *Magentans*), others still yellow (the *Yellovians*), while the rest see only in white and black (the *Blackians*). Each group has a very different perception of the world. There are things in every colour, but we can only see those objects that match our colour vision; the other colours are invisible to us and we see right through them.

The *Yellovians* are the only ones capable of seeing lemons, and the sea is practically invisible to everyone but the *Cyaneans*. Consequently, three-quarters of the population can only see bits of fish and a few reflections of colours floating about in thin air. There are things that exist for us solely as concepts. If you can see blue, you have no idea what blood or strawberries look like; all you know is what they feel, smell and taste like. Each group is condemned to seeing in just one colour. The esoteric means something very different for each colour group. The *Cyaneans* fantasise about seeing the sun, while everyone else dreams of contemplating the sky in bright daylight.

The colour dark brown is essential to social integration. Because it is obtained by mixing all the primary colours, brown is the only colour that the whole of humanity is capable of perceiving. But each colour vision group sees a part of it. The *Yellovians*, for example, only see the yellow hues.

Every object manufactured by humans is brown. The main characters in films usually have very dark skins, as do singers, politicians and other public figures. The only way people with pale skins can be seen is if they get a tan or dress in brown. To prevent people with pale skins taking advantage of their invisibility and leaving the house with no clothes on and no body hair, the world is dotted with sprinklers that spray brown paint.

In general, people have a preference for the things they can see, as they make us feel more secure. Pets are chosen not by breed but by colour. Brown is the colour that unites us and it is popularly believed that brown eyes are the most attractive. Consequently, stains are approved of and poo is a very common topic of conversation. It is the most widely used subject of discussion with people we have just met, as everyone can see it and there is no reason for misunderstandings. Talking about the weather is very bad manners. If, for example, a *Yellovian* were to say to a *Blackian* "It's a very nice day, isn't it?", the *Blackian* would have no idea how to reply. How can he if

he is unable to say whether it is sunny or not? In lifts, one commonly hears conversations along the lines of this one:

“Good morning, neighbour. How is your poo?”

“Well, today it came out in little balls. What about yours?”

“Nothing as yet...”

“Good luck, then.”

“Thank you.”

In general, people get together and live in communities where there is at least one person from each vision group. That way, when they walk down the street, they can warn each other about objects they might otherwise bump into and can read notes to the others that are not written in their colour vision.

Job segregation is inevitable. The *Magentans* make the best surgeons, whereas the *Cyaneans* have a predisposition towards osteopathy because, being blind to pale skin and blood, they have a perfect view of the skeletons of a large proportion of the population. In hairdressers', they need workers from every vision group. Gardeners, on the other hand, cannot be *Magentans* because although they can make out some flowers, they are unable to see the leaves. For most, cooking is magic. The *Cyaneans* are blind to red meat but when they place it in a pan, all of a sudden, as it cooks, they can see it.

The various vision groups differ in many of their traditions, aspects of folklore and even their leisure activities. The *Magentans* and *Yellowvians* are the only ones who look forward to a visit from Santa Claus. The parents in the other vision groups refuse to allow a naked old man bring gifts to their children. The animals in zoos are divided on the basis of their colour, and though most films are shot in white and brown, some directors reserve the right to make their films in their colour vision.

The intolerance of other vision groups and of what cannot be perceived has dragged the world into a number of colour wars. In the past, segregation was common and the vision groups lived in ghettos, avoiding all contact with people of another colour. To sow terror and chaos, on occasions they would attack other ghettos by covering them in paint in a colour that the residents could not see. Unfortunately, even today there are still some who prefer to distance themselves from anything they cannot perceive. They live in isolation and only have contact with people of the same colour. The most radical among them even stop using or eating what they cannot see.



2- IDENTICALS

We are all born exactly alike: we have the same face, the same colour skin, the same level of intelligence. The only differences between people of our own gender are age and character.

The only things that allow us to differentiate ourselves from everyone else are our clothes, make-up and hairdo. Consequently, only a very small minority of people buy mass-produced clothing. By and large, people prefer to make their own clothing or to commission it from a designer, dressmaker or tailor. Showing your wardrobe to someone else is an incredibly intimate act, as you are offering that person the ability to recognise you among a crowd.

Hair-dressing and make-up are highly experimental. The term 'good-looking' does not exist; what matters is standing out from everyone else. Make-up and wigs are used on every part of the body. In addition, plastic surgery is very common, its purpose being to create distinctive features such as huge noses, horns, bumps or lumps. The need to distinguish oneself from others has led to a fashion for amputation. There are two types: minor amputations in which parts of the body that have a limited function are removed, such as the small finger, the upper lip or the ear; and major amputations, which call for greater commitment and involve mutilating parts of the body that are fundamental to our physiology. Amputations of this nature are typical of the idols of the masses. Singers and actors' need to create a brand for themselves has led them to have a foot or arm cut off or to remove a chunk of their face. Some have even had the amputated part re-implanted elsewhere on their body. Less invasive procedures include dental work to deform teeth or tattoos of freckles.

Despite the efforts made by most people to stand out from the rest, mistakes over identity are common. Hence, nobody greets anyone else on the street.

There are some people who do not want to stand out. These are not just the shy but also the thieves and forgers. Those who step into the shoes of lovers, for example, temporarily usurp another's identity in order to commit rape. As all DNA samples are identical, it is impossible to determine the identity of the attacker. Consequently, friends and lovers usually have agreed systems of words between them. If it is you, answer "ant" when I tell you "I love you".

Identification documents do not have photographs but chips. Before this technology was developed, tattoos were used. In the early days, children were tattooed on their foreheads, but it soon became clear that the fashion for fringes made quick recognition of people difficult and so tattoos were moved to the nose. This was not a very reliable method because all that was required to make the tattoo disappear was to cover it up with another tattoo or to undergo an illegal laser procedure.

As we all have the same physical and intellectual capabilities, making an impression in a particular field calls for perseverance and extreme practice. In the world of music, a very high value is placed on the lyrics and, as we all have the same voice, it is common to force it in order to achieve a different tone or even to use devices that distort it.

The Olympic Games are dreadfully boring. They almost always end in numerous draws.

The saying about the survival of the fittest is an old and hackneyed joke.



3- BODY

The parts of the body have no assigned place. While you sleep, your body transforms: the arrangement of your limbs and other external features changes and your organs reposition themselves, adapting to each new configuration.

You might wake up one morning with an eye in your bellybutton and your mouth in your ankle. If your arms emerge from your knees, it will be a bit difficult to eat, but with one eye at your Adam's apple and the other at the nape of your neck you will have 360° vision. A changing body demands both intellectual and physical versatility and flexibility.

Disability is a variable and temporary concept. People who are blind, deaf, paralysed or have some permanently damaged sense have the advantage that their other faculties are more developed. Many work as body psychologists, a profession that involves helping others to develop their dexterity and to adapt to the loss of bodily control.

Prostheses are very common and are constructed in such a way that they can be used in a versatile manner. Everyone has a wide range of sticks, walking frames, mobility scooters and other devices with wheels. People have lots of cushions in their homes, and furniture is not only adjustable but also has lots of supports for the various parts of the body. Door knobs and switches are always placed at floor level so that they can be reached regardless of one's physical configuration.

People generally live in communities so that they can assist one another. Some couples and friends use what are called 'complementary harnesses', ropes used to tie two or more people together, thereby enabling them to share each other's motor capabilities. Thus, it is possible for one person to carry another if their legs are in a position that makes them useless, or they can help each other to pick things up.

Intellectual capacities and leadership are especially valued. The professions where it is necessary to use one's mind offer the most stable employment. It does not matter what body you wake up with, as you can always instruct others to do things for you. Most people have a number of professions that call for different types of skills. It is common, for example, to be a hairdresser/footballer/foot model/radio presenter. Thus, on the days when you can use your hands, you work as a hairdresser; on other days, you play football or allow others to photograph your feet. You spend the rest of the time presenting the news on the radio.

Leisure is mainly focused on intellectual pursuits. Whatever your body is like, you almost always have an eye or an ear positioned somewhere that will allow you to enjoy a good film or a record. Physical activities are much loved but people rarely have an appropriate bodily configuration.

There are two philosophies in sport. Firstly, there are those who advocate forming teams with lots of players so that you have a large number of substitutes. In this way, on the day of the big match, the team is chosen from among those who have the most suitable bodily arrangement. Others, however, are in favour of a type of purist approach to sport based on training any bodily arrangement to compete and accepting chance. In this case, if a long-distance runner wakes up with one leg on his head and another on his bottom, he will have to drag himself as fast as he can around the track. In the case of team sports, the weaknesses of some can be compensated for through collaboration.

Some configurations are valued more than others. Sometimes it is possible to carry out almost supernatural feats. An athlete with all four limbs in the same place will be able to run twice as fast, and a pianist who finds his extremities have all emerged from his arms will be able to play pieces composed for twenty digits.



4- LANGUAGE

Antihomonymy is a doctrine that has a growing band of followers among people yearning for a simpler world, people who look back with longing at those years when 'apple' and 'blackberry' were fruit and nothing more. None of these people want to give up their mobile phone; they just want them to be edible. They want each word to refer to one thing. Thus, when eating cornflakes, they would not have to worry that they were committing an act of cannibalism and eating the flakes of a hard patch on someone's foot. Antihomonymy advocates a way of life that embraces a number of disparate concepts.

Antihomonymy requires responsibility and concentration. Before leaving the house, you have to make sure you have got your 'survival kit', a lighter, a billiard cue and a container with sea water in it. Without these objects, antihomonymy interaction is impossible. If you want to wave goodbye to someone, you need to be able to make a small wave. If you want your secretary to increase the lighting in your office and at the same time tell her her diet is working and she looks lighter, how else are you going to indicate this if not with a lighter? The other items are no less important. If you need to join a queue, you have to have a cue to hand. And a cue is also useful in case you ever need to defend yourself by hitting someone over the head.

But it isn't all about carrying the right things with you. Commitment is an essential part of it. Sometimes, an antihomonymy life is impractical. Dental braces are made of pearls and constantly need replacing. Violinists are obliged to use a dicky bow to play their instrument. And doctors must carry shingles in their bag to diagnose shingles. And as if that were not enough, banks can only be situated alongside rivers and hence are subject to flooding. And the wise must not only be erudite: they must also carry a pot of sage around with them wherever they go.

The scientific community is worried that this new ideology represents a backward step. If heels are given the task of healing, what role will doctors play? Will they be forced to use heels as their only surgical instrument? Will physical therapists inevitably be frustrated by seeing people concerned about their health hurt their back by just wearing heels?

The antihomonymy movement is becoming politicised and is keen to extend its philosophy beyond the personal sphere. A team of experts is working in the Taiwanese capital Taipei to develop a bond that will also serve as a digital currency. At the same time, companies in the country are making a bid to establish a cluster in tie manufacturing.

Antihomonymy has been applauded by pacifists and feminists. This new philosophy of life encourages people to control their anger. If you are mad at someone, you will also go mad and might be sent to a psychiatric hospital, so you have to be sure that it is worth the risk. Antihomonymy requires a cultivated society that masters language and tropes. This is why this philosophy is against pulling out any cultivated element and believes that body hair is beautiful. Depilation is an anti-aesthetic practice and so beards, moustaches, whiskers and hairy legs are highly approved of.

Antihomonymy philosophy has managed to divide the world of the arts and literature. Its detractors defend the poetic applications of homonymy and the word games made possible by polysemy; its advocates, however, point to the fact that this new approach serves a higher goal, which is to eradicate spelling mistakes.

Antihomonymy is not just an English-speaking phenomenon but is a philosophy embraced by every language and accent. Slang and local accents are no longer regional characteristics and have instead become ways of life. People who support the movement behave differently according to the language they are using. Bilingualism is no longer just a blessing but also a physical burden, since people who speak more than one language must also carry more than one survival kit.

Antihomonymy is a worldwide revolution that is giving rise to new ways of life and sociocultural stances. To give a few examples, the sale of tropical fruit, specifically mangoes (*mangos*), has rocketed among Spanish antihomonymy circles, especially among locksmiths and carpenters, who must constantly change door handles (*mangos*) because they rot. France has seen the rise of a phenomenon known as the 'literature diet': every book (*livre*) written in French that aspires to be seen as literature associated with the antihomonymy movement must weigh a pound (*livre*). In German-speaking countries, the health authorities, which do not support this philosophy, fear for the health of the antihomonymy community, as every time a member gets on a train (*zug*), they take a puff (*zug*) on a cigarette.



5- SHAPE

Things that are the same shape swap places. One day we might wake up to find some other kind of sphere in our eye socket. It's a lot of fun when we have balls rather than eyeballs because not only can we see, we can also close our eyes and use our lungs as racquets for playing tennis. It takes time to get used to seeing with spheres such as the Earth. The movement of the planet's rotation can make you feel quite dizzy. When this occurs, some people fear for their privacy and do not like the fact that the entire planet is witness to their lives.

In space, the planets may transform into lemons, oranges, mandarins, grapefruit or limes. As a result, the Milky Way has become known as the Citric Way. During the space race, NASA decided to send chimpanzees into space with no prior thought to the fact that the Moon becomes banana-like in shape during its waxing and waning phases.

There are pros and cons to a changing world. It is magical when grains of sand on a beach turn into glitter or confetti. If our veins turn into rivers, we no longer need to drink, and we can eat the fish inside us. But of course, there are some drawbacks: it is quite uncomfortable and smelly, for example, when roads turn into intestines or when there are sheep in the sky instead of clouds. It is unquestionably more stimulating when clouds transform into brains.

Elephants are terrible at mathematics because when the figure 8 turns into a peanut, they eat up their own equations. A piece of spaghetti can transform into a grey hair or vice versa. Consequently, in a world in which things that have the same shape swap place, most people dye their hair. To adapt to a habitat that is constantly transforming, you have to be extremely careful, especially when eating. A triangular piece of pizza could turn into a nacho or a piece of cheese, but also into a pyramid. Everyone knows it is important to be on the alert before chewing on a pyramid. You have to wait for your teeth to turn into more hardwearing rectangles such as iron ingots or steel plates. Sometimes life can become easier: why not wait for your dental canines to become slices of pizza?



6- PROPERTY

Everything is privately-owned. Streets belong to individual investors or to major companies. To walk outside your home, you have to pay rent to use the pavement. Consequently, it is very important to plan your route and timings and, if possible, to share the walk with someone else so that one of you can carry the other and you can divide the costs between you.

The notion of the gift does not exist, so when you go to have a meal at some friends' house and you don't want to spend a lot of money, you take your own food, chinaware and cutlery and even your chair. Parents keep a record of all the services they provide to their children so that their offspring can refund them once they reach adulthood or can return to them the hours invested in feeding and looking after them. As most people cannot afford to pay back parental loans, they usually take their parents into their home and there are virtually no old people's centres.

The privatisation and extreme commercialisation of absolutely everything mean that we receive a payment for the assets we produce. As our body gives off heat, it is cheaper to go for a drink in winter because bar owners save on the heating. Premises that have the most customers are also the cheapest because the cost of the electricity and rental for the place is divided between more people. Price lists do not exist, as charges vary according to the level of daylight, the season of the year and the number of people in the establishment. One way of saving on oxygen is to take your own plants with you.

The cost of living is so high that the philosophy of DIY has been widely embraced. Those who cannot afford to go to the cinema rent tapes in which a person describes the film or even recreates it using puppets. People with little money read and write their own books, invent their own musical instruments, listen to their own music and create their own plays.

Everything can be rented. People commonly rent phones by the hour and establish timetables for when they can be contacted. Televisions, video cameras, household appliances and other objects produced after extensive research and development are prohibitively expensive, so those who do buy them generally rent them out when they are not using them. The selfie is the most common type of photograph, but it is usually taken at home for viewing alone. If you want to take a portrait shot of others, you must pay image rights to the owner of the location and to the person in the photograph. Payment is divided into instalments: the first payment is made when the photograph

is taken, followed by slightly smaller payments every time the shot is viewed. Of course, if the subject wants to see the photograph, they must also pay you author's rights as the creator of the image.

Normally, you only talk about yourself. Gossiping is too expensive. There are authors' rights to be paid on the anecdotes and opinions of others, as well as on the knowledge that you have gained through other people.

Education barely exists because you have to pay a fortune in rights to learn how to write. Studying mathematics involves paying a fee to everyone involved in its development, remunerating the Arabs for their invention of numbers, as well as the descendants of Pythagoras and countless scientists throughout history. Only the extremely rich can afford this luxury, and knowledge is controlled by vast corporations specialising in particular sectors. People with an inquiring mind carry out rudimentary research and, if they are lucky, succeed in rediscovering theories that have already been invented.



7- FUNCTION

Everything needs to have a function. Non-productivity is illegal. There are no beautiful or decorative objects, and art and contemplation are subject to prosecution.

At the age of 18, you undergo a physical functionality assessment in which specialist medics ensure that every part of your body fulfils a purpose. If it does not, it is removed. Those opposed to this have set up schools where students are taught to grip objects with their feet and to develop mobility in their ears, and where experiments are conducted concerning the possible uses of the appendix. The usual procedure for functionality assessments is to carry out a test in which the subject is given the opportunity to demonstrate the utility of every part of his body. Only a small percentage of the population manages to retain some of the parts that are commonly extracted. In general, all body hair apart from the eyebrows, lashes and nasal hair is removed. Wisdom teeth are extracted, followed by the appendix. The muscles in the ear are cut out and all the toes except for the big toe, which helps us keep our balance, are amputated. Men's nipples are also removed. People who lose their mobility following an accident must undergo an operation in which the parts of the body that no longer serve a purpose are amputated. Similarly, blind people's eyes are removed, as are the vocal cords of the mute.

Patterns and garments are versatile in design since they have to suit every sector of the population that has undergone amputations. "Less is more" is not a lifestyle but a law. Sequins, lace, embroidery and beads are illegal. Hairdressers are prosecuted under the law, as are tattooists, florists, jewellers and make-up artists.

However, compulsory functionality is not exclusive to objects, as it is also applied to our actions. It is imperative to calculate the number of hours of sleep our body needs and to comply with them to the letter. The word 'boredom' does not exist and it is essential to keep busy all day. Fiction is not allowed by law, and books and films are documentaries or offer some kind of practical information. There must be a purpose to conversations, as there is no concept of leisure. No-one goes out for a stroll and people never embrace or hold hands. Sex is for the sole purpose of reproduction, so only people of childbearing age are allowed by law to engage in it, and the population of the Earth is rising dangerously day by day. The latest scientific studies cover research into a drug that will suppress people's libido in order to prevent the most widespread criminal act, sex.



8- HOLES

Holes disappear. When the ground is dug out, it regenerates and the wounds heal over spontaneously. There are no underground car parks and no metros; and ants and worms live on the surface of the soil. Natural holes gradually close with usage. Which is why there are no active volcanoes.

Animals and plants die at a very early age because their pores and orifices seal up spontaneously. As it is physically impossible to dig, seeds cannot be sown and the concept of agriculture does not exist. Technological development is feeble because any technique that requires the use of nails, perforations or moulds is unviable. The most common building materials are clay, wood, magnets and glue. There are no doors or windows and people live in wooden cubicles that are closed and sealed entirely with glue. Everyone has an axe that they use to enter and leave buildings by making temporary openings that then close after a few seconds.

Among humans, as in other living beings, ageing means that every cavity in the body gradually shrinks in size. To delay ageing, many people regularly subject themselves to urine drainage and to a process popularly known as poo extraction. It is usual for people to feed themselves by means of a surgical operation. Food is transformed by hand into purée and then directly inserted into the stomach. This reduces the patient's use of their orifices, thereby prolonging the usefulness of these openings as well as extending the person's life. Surgeons are trained to work fast. During most procedures, the incisions close before the operation is completed and the flesh must be cut again where the scar has formed.

Most people try in one way or another to ration their resources. Lots of people do yoga as a way to gain increased control over their breathing. Stressful situations are avoided and very little sport is played. Sign language is usually used as a means of communication to avoid wearing out one's mouth. Ear plugs are generally worn so as not to waste the eardrum by listening to unwanted noise or conversation. Most people walk about with their eyes closed and use a white stick because they are mindful that they only have a limited time during which they can keep their eyes open. They only use their eyesight when it is absolutely essential, when they want to see their loved ones or to view the landscape. With regard to sex, vaginal penetration takes place mainly for the purpose of reproduction.

Death occurs when one or more of the vital orifices is irreversibly blocked and there is no time to take the individual to hospital for the necessary surgery. The second cause of death occurs as a consequence of taking part in what are commonly known as vital orgies. During these encounters, people have sex, they talk, they eat and they listen to music until one of their orifices collapses and they die. These orgies are performed by people who are reaching the end of their life and they do not wish to live it by having to constantly subject themselves to surgical operations, and by those who do not believe in repressing the body and who prefer to live for a short time but to the full.

Making clothing is complicated. The eyes of needles constantly close up and must be reopened time and time again in order to carry on working. In addition, the various pieces of fabric do not remain stitched together for very long. The small holes created by the needle gradually close until they cut through the thread, as a result of which the garment falls apart. In addition, the holes in clothing where the head and arms go through gradually close. Inevitably, you are either trapped in your own clothing or your clothes end up in pieces, leaving you completely naked. Consequently, most people wear togas or saris or use very long reels of fabric that they wrap around their bodies in the manner of mummies.

Sewing is not the work of designers. Sewing is a form of meditation and a ritual that is a reminder of the transience of existence.



9- TIME

We are unable to perceive the effects of the passing of time. We do not see other people age, just ourselves. Everyone else looks to us to be the same age as when we first met them.

People rarely introduce their parents to their friends: because you still look like a baby to your mother and father, they cannot help but pick you up and talk to you as if you have no understanding of anything. All they see is that their baby is wearing make-up and wearing adult's clothing that is too baggy. Contact with people from earlier times also makes us imitate past behaviour, so being near your parents can make you start to drool or even shit yourself.

Some families decide to give their children up for temporary adoption as a way to avoid seeing them forever as babies. They relinquish the opportunity to bring them up in the hope that they will create an adult bond in the future. To achieve this, these parents must abstain from seeing, hearing, touching and smelling the baby once the umbilical cord has been cut. This immediate separation means that parents and their offspring do not know each other and can meet up again once the child has come of age. There are parents who are unable to give up their babies and instead join networks of parents that operate on the edge of the law. Children-swapping goes on these associations. Parents bring up their biological child for two years and then hand him over to another family that is capable of seeing him as a two-year-old toddler. In exchange, the parents receive a two-year-old that they then look after till that child reaches the age of four. At the end of this period, they pass the child onto a new family and adopt a different child aged four. Thanks to this process, each family has the opportunity to have children and to forge a relationship with them according to their age. All the members of the network get together periodically so that they do not lose touch with their temporary children.

Weddings and other family gatherings are often chaotic. At a wedding, for example, some witness a marriage between an adult and a baby, others see a child and a teenager marrying, and in most instances the family sees the best man as a small boy. Contact with so many different stages of life can mean that the grandmother takes it into her head to get up onto the table, that the bride's mother belches without compunction and that the guests pull each other's hair out.

The influence of childhood friends can make a politician stick his finger up his nose while giving a speech, or a university professor forget everything she knows and start skipping with a rope. That is why friendships do not last long. For most people, it is important to meet new folk who can see them as they really are. In order to keep your partner or friends for many years, you must also keep your figure. If you put on weight, you will need much bigger clothing, but they will see your garments as huge; and if you lose weight, they will think your clothing is too tight. It is quite common for writers that do not know us to be employed to describe us to help our near and dear ones imagine what we currently look like.

Given that we see photographs as if they were up-to-date images, there is no need to renew identity papers. Regardless of when the photos were taken, everyone sees the individual in the portrait just as they do in person, in other words the same age as they were on the day they first met.

Actors never appear in more than one film and they are always unknown. This is the only way to ensure that the public is seeing them for the first time. If you are familiar with one of the actors, it becomes very difficult to follow the plot. If we come across a film starring a childhood friend, we are unlikely to be convinced by a four-year-old boy playing a surgeon or a barber.

The most common burials are of babies and very young people. It is extremely unusual to go to the funeral of an old person because if you are able to see and touch their wrinkles, it means you have only just met them.