



Homework: Lesson 3

Colour Mixing

This week's homework is to use the three primary colours - blue, yellow and red - to mix a variety of different colours. The exercise is designed to highlight the importance of correct colour mixing. I recommend squirting a little paint into one area of your palette, then mixing in another. Add a touch of water to the mixing area to 'activate' the paint.

The following are your primary colours which you will need to complete the colour mixing exercise. I will be using SAA Artists' Watercolours, which I would recommend; however please feel free to use a brand of your choice.



French Ultramarine Blue



Yellow Ochre



Alizarin Crimson

The key to great mixing is practise, practise, practise! The best advice is to always mix more colour than you think you will need; there's nothing worse than running out of a colour half way through a task! Remember to regularly add a touch of water to the mix - it's very easy to mix your paint too thick.

Now, why not have a go mixing the following colours? See the next page for advice on which ones to mix for each colour.



Orange



Green



Brown



Purple

To get your orange, you'll need to mix a Yellow Ochre with Alizarin Crimson. For green, mix French Ultramarine Blue and Yellow Ochre. Brown can be achieved by mixing all three primaries together. Finally, the purple is a combination of Alizarin Crimson and French Ultramarine Blue.

Remember, mixing is all about experimenting; don't be afraid to try new things!

My advice is to use a scrap piece of paper and doodle; here's one I made earlier!



A couple of final tips! Remember that adding a little blue to a mix will darken it. In order to mix a thicker colour, work with more paint and less water. Thicker paint is useful for detailed work.

Finally, have fun! Mixing isn't too taxing, and can even be relaxing; so experiment a little!

Remember to be on the lookout for next week's homework and happy painting!

Matthew Palmer

