

(11TH JULY, 2022)

BRAD PITT SAYS HE SUFFERS FROM FACIAL



Hollywood heart-throb Brad Pitt has revealed he suffers from facial blindness. This is a neurological disorder that causes people to find it difficult to recognize people's faces. In more serious cases, sufferers can draw a blank when seeing the face of a family member or even one's own face. The condition is called prosopagnosia. It is a little-known ailment that afflicts about 1 in 40 people. It often triggers anxiety as people feel embarrassed in social situations when they struggle to remember who people are. Sufferers tend to avoid situations in which they will meet people, and as a result become withdrawn. In extreme cases, they will be reluctant to leave their home.

Brad Pitt, 58, says he has not been officially diagnosed with prosopagnosia. He first spoke about it in 2013. He said nobody believed him when he could not recall their name. He worried that people thought he was being "aloof, inaccessible and self-absorbed". He said: "People hate me because they think I'm disrespecting them." He said he has used many strategies to get around his lack of recall. He asked acquaintances where he had met them before, but said that made the situation worse. He explained: "People were more offended....You get this thing, like, 'You're being egotistical. You're being conceited.'" He hopes speaking about facial blindness will raise awareness of it.

CHAT

HOLLYWOOD	1
FACIAL BLIND- NESS	2
ANXIETY	3
ALOOF	4
FACE	5
AILMENT	6
HEART-THROB	7

DISCUSSION

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'face'?
3. What do you know about Brad Pitt?
4. What do you know about facial blindness?
5. Are you good at remembering people's faces?
6. Are you good at remembering facts?
7. When was the last time you forgot someone's name?
8. Do you ever feel embarrassed in social situations?
9. Do you ever avoid social situations?
10. What advice do you have for Brad Pitt?

SPECIAL POINTS
OF INTEREST:

- Your own face
- 1 in 40 people
- In which
- You are being ...



RANKING

Rank these with your partner. Put the worst thing to forget at first.

- People's names
- Where you put your phone
- English words
- Appointments
- Homework
- Birthdays
- What day it is
- Passwords

Write your reasons to explain:

1- _____

2- _____

3- _____

VOCABULARY (PARAGRAPH 1)

He worried that people thought he was being "aloof, inaccessible and self-absorbed".

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 1) heart-throb | A. An illness that disrupts normal physical or mental functions. |
| 2) neurological | B. A man, usually a celebrity, whose good looks excite romantic feelings in other people. |
| 3) disorder | C. Fail to think of something. |
| 4) draw a blank | D. Caused pain or trouble to; affect adversely. |
| 5) afflict | E. Relating to the anatomy, functions, and disorders of the brain, nerves and the nervous system. |
| 6) withdrawn | F. Unwilling and hesitant. |
| 7) reluctant | G. Not wanting to communicate with other people. |

VOCABULARY (PARAGRAPH 2)



- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 1) diagnosed | A. Not friendly; cold and distant. |
| 2) aloof | B. Angry because you think someone insulted you. |
| 3) self-absorbed | C. Found out the nature of an illness or other problem by examining the symptoms. |
| 4) acquaintances | D. Only thinking about one's own feelings, interests, or situation. |
| 5) offended | E. Really, really absorbed in oneself; very self-centred. |
| 6) egotistical | F. People you know slightly, but who are not close friends. |
| 7) conceited | G. Excessively proud of oneself; vain. |

WRITE YOUR OWN QUESTIONS!

STUDENT'S QUESTIONS



- (a) _____
- (b) _____
- (c) _____
- (d) _____
- (e) _____

ROLE PLAY

It is a little-known ailment that afflicts about 1 in 40 people.

You think people's names are the worst things to forget. Tell the others three reasons why.

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____

You think passwords are the worst things to forget. Tell the others three reasons why.

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____

You think where you put your phone is the worst thing to forget. Tell the others three reasons why.

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____



WRITE WHAT YOU HEAR!



Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words.

face

blindness

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Y O U R D O O R W A Y T O T H E W O R L D

WRITING

Write about **Brad Pitt** for 10 minutes.


