

Discovering all the possibilities of the TRIHUE palette requires more than doing the painting assignments well. Preparation for these discoveries is essential. Scan all of the items listed below prior to the initial engagement with paint and brush. Check off those items you discover during and at the completion of the exercise.

1. 100% color saturation is not paint squeezed from a tube.
2. Tints are created by adding water.
3. Yellow is lightest value. Difficult to distinguish % of saturation when viewed on a white ground.
4. Cyan & Magenta are darker than yellow and similar in value. Applying additional layers of color creates films which always darken the mix.
5. When two or more colors are layered, the resulting colors are always related and harmonious.
6. Toning does not occur until the third primary layer is added.
7. Grays result when all three layers are equal in % of saturation.
8. Complementary colors (note spelling) are opposites on the color wheel and create toned mixtures.
9. Complements are mixtures of a primary and secondary color, e.g. Green & Magenta.
10. The advantage of the trihue palette is that it is unlimited. For example, find the following:
 - a. Burnt Sienna.
 - b. Ochre.
 - c. Teal.
 - d. Purple.
 - e. Hooker's Green.
 - f. Ultramarine Blue.
11. Vanishing Boundaries occur where yellow surrounds an area of white paper. Subsequent layers of either Cyan or Magenta will produce this luminosity or vanishing boundary...automatically.
12. Matching any given color produced in this exercise can be done either on the palette or by layering films of varying percentages of the three hues.
13. Black can be created by mixing all three colors at 100% saturation. It is more expedient to use a prepared black when shading a given color.
14. Shading is similar to toning in that it reduces chroma. But, unlike a shade, a tone will not always darken. For example, adding yellow to purple will tone but not darken the mix.
15. There are three ways to reduce chroma: Tinting, Toning and Shading.
16. Colors surrounded by tones and shades will appear to have more chroma.
17. Looking at nature or an impressionist painting, what is the percentage of toning vs. full chroma?
18. Color relationship, as with a family, consists of two or more parents who are generally unrelated, producing mixtures which are related to both parents and their siblings.
19. The transparent nature of trihue watercolors guarantees color relatedness.
20. We live in a world of nature where all colors relate. When we fail to follow nature's lesson, we are truly color blind.

Post Painting Exercise

Match any dozen color tones created in the initial painting by mixing them on the palette and painting swatch. Paint an eight step value scale by first mixing it on the palette, followed by a glazed mixing.