Willem van Osnabrugge

The human eye (and brain) perceives an object's color not based on its actual color, but on how it compares to the surrounding colors. **Colors behind A and B are identical !!!**

Therefore you can't trust your eyes, when trying to paint what you see.
You need to check your blend with a "color checker" or smear on a laminated photograph you are copying.

How to match any color with 5 oil paints.

- Titanium White
- Pyrrole Rubine Red
- Burnt Umber
- Cadmium Yellow
- French Ultramarine Blue

Value= lightness/darkness
Chroma= color saturation

Let's assume we want to match a skin color in a specific spot.

Procedure:
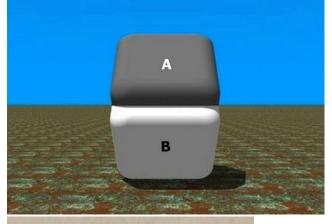If you don't know where to begin, just start with a bit of all 5 colors.
First priority: adjust Value (and don't worry too much about the color).
- lighten with yellow or white
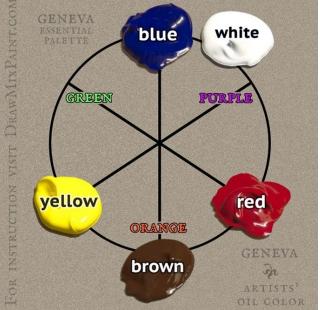**- darken with blue or brown**
Once Value is close ask "is mine more **blue**, purple, **red**, orange, **yellow** or green".
Then adjust with opposite oil color from the wheel. E.g. mine is too green, then add some red. This might take a few times.
If color mix becomes too dark, adjust Value again as explained above.
Color is too gray means color is too blue.
Color is too brown means color is too orange.

When matching strong colors, start by mixing and "overshoot" in Chroma, then later dull it down with the complementary color.

Beware of using white when mixing yellowish or orangish colors. While white may be necessary, it often is not needed in these Hues. And, once added, it can not be removed.

A rich Black is made by mixing equal parts of French Ultramarine Blue and Burn Umber.