

# Pretty Ugly

Can you spot any differences between the faces?



Look at the upside-down faces.

Turn the pictures the right way up.

Although the two faces are basically the same (they both have two eyes, one nose, etc.) they are unique. Our brain is trained to recognise fine differences. Here, however, we are presented with upside-down faces and we are not practiced in recognising these. Thus we do not immediately recognise even considerably abnormal features, so that distorted faces may be regarded as normal. This phenomenon was discovered in 1980. Because the researchers used a portrait of Margaret Thatcher to illustrate the effect, it is now called after her.